

199 REPORTER

INVER GROVE HEIGHTS SCHOOLS | BACK-TO-SCHOOL 2021-22

Online Option Returns for 21-22 & District Finalizes Plan for Funds

This summer, Inver Grove Heights Schools staff have worked to prepare for the 2021-2022 school year, no matter what it might look like. Part of our focus has been on exploring the potential of the district's online-only learning option, 199 Online, for 2021-2022. Staff have also been developing a strategic plan for Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER III) funds that the district will receive over the next three years to address the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

199 Online for 2021-2022

Although we intend to be fully in-person next school year, ISD 199 was approved as an official Online Learning Provider this summer and offered families the option to enroll in 199 Online for the 2021-2022 school year. Enough families enrolled to support the full-time online learning option for students in kindergarten through 12th grade. Because the district is now an official Online Learning Provider, the instructional design of 199 Online will be different than it was during the 2020-2021 school year when all schools were allowed to offer an online option on a temporary basis. To learn more about 199 Online for the upcoming school year, visit tinyurl.com/199OnlineOverview.

If you have questions about 199 Online enrollment, please contact the enrollment office for your child's grade level:

- Elementary enrollment (Kindergarten - Grade 5): 651-306-7825
- Middle school enrollment (Grades 6-8): 651-306-7825
- High school enrollment (Grades 9-12): 651-306-7007

Plans for ESSER III Funds

Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief (ESSER III) funds have been allocated for schools across the nation to reduce the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic. ISD 199 worked on a 3-year plan based on staff and family feedback that will strategically use the ESSER III funds to meet the school community's expectations while setting up the district for success after funding ends in September 2024. We determined that ESSER III funds will be used for:

- **Health & Safety Mitigation:** The district will use ESSER III funds to continue prevention and mitigation strategies in order to safely open and operate schools for in-person learning.

- **Student & Family Success Coaches:** The COVID-19 pandemic has had unprecedented effects on our community and the world. Student and family success coaches will build relationships with students, families, and staff to meet their additional needs as they readjust to school and life after the most extreme events of the pandemic.
- **Learning Partners:** Learning partners will work alongside teachers to determine and support student needs to accelerate learning.
- **199 Online Staffing:** During the 2020-2021 school year, many students found success with an online-only learning format and many families took comfort in their child learning online to safeguard their family's health. After ISD 199 was approved as an Online Learning Provider this summer, 199 Online gathered enough commitments from families to support the online option for the upcoming school year. ESSER III funding has been set aside for 199 Online staffing to ensure that all of our students are fully supported, whether they attend online or in person.
- **Staff Professional Development:** Some of the greatest support we can provide for students is professional development support for teachers. When teachers have the most updated information and strategies, they can use teaching methods in their classrooms that most effectively engage, support, and challenge students.

The district continues to monitor COVID-19 guidance and information from the Minnesota Department of Health and the Minnesota Department of Education. Health and safety information for the start of the upcoming school year has been emailed to families and is available at www.isd199.org/covid19. Please enjoy the rest of your summer as we look forward to coming back together in September!

Regards,



Dave Bernhardson
Superintendent

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199 REPORTER

Inver Grove Heights Schools

2990 80th Street East
Inver Grove Heights, MN 55076
651-306-7800
www.isd199.org

Monday-Friday, 7:30 AM - 4:30 PM

The 199 Reporter is a quarterly publication that is mailed to every household in School District 199 to keep all of our community members informed about district news.

If you have questions about this publication, please contact:

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Simley Alum Qualifies for Return to Special Olympics USA Games



In 2018, Simley High School alumnus Charlie Rea competed in the Special Olympics USA Games as part of Team Minnesota. He qualified for a spot on the eight-person bocce ball team after winning gold in the qualifier. At the 2018 USA Games, he earned bronze in the singles event, 4th place in the traditional doubles event, and gold during the Team Bocce event.

Charlie was recently selected to compete on Team Minnesota again. He will return to the Special Olympics USA Games for 2022 after qualifying in Track and Field. The games will be held in Orlando, Florida, June 5-12, 2022. Congratulations, Charlie!

Middle School Summer Academy Ignites Learning



Middle School Summer Academy builds the academic and social emotional skills of qualifying students to prepare them for the next school year. In the past few years, Middle School Summer Academy has put a focus on whole-student development and student engagement.

The Summer Academy schedule for middle school has been refined to give students every opportunity for success. The school day begins and ends in the cafeteria so that every student has access to a free, nutritious breakfast and lunch. Between 2nd and 3rd period, students have 25 minutes of Mindfulness Time. Depending on their needs, they can choose to burn off energy outside or in the gym, or they can choose to recharge with a book or computer time. After Mindfulness Time, students return to class ready to learn.

Teachers include mindfulness strategies in their lessons to help students develop their social emotional skills and stay focused in the classroom. They also use interactive lessons to get kids energized and engaged. This summer, middle school students built rockets in their science classes. After their teacher, Amanda Cook, attached engines to each rocket, students took the rockets outside to see them in action. Each student was able to launch their own rocket. Some students tried to catch their rocket as it fell back to Earth and some filmed the launch on their phones to rewatch later and show their friends. Each launch brought a chorus of "oohs" and "aahs" with it, engaging the whole class in a memorable lesson.

Staff Say Farewell to the Class of 2021 at the Senior Recognition



In recent years, Simley High School seniors have had a chance to walk through their elementary, middle, and high schools in their caps and gowns to say one final goodbye to all of the teachers and staff. It has become a tradition that some seniors look forward to even more than their graduation ceremony.

In lieu of a senior walkthrough this year, Simley held a Senior Recognition Event for the Class of 2021. The event provided a safe way for staff to celebrate graduating seniors and their success. Visit ISD 199's Facebook page, www.facebook.com/isd199, to see photos from the Senior Recognition Event, graduation, and more. Thank you to everyone who attended the event! Congratulations, Class of 2021!

CONNECT WITH US

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 linkedin.com/school/isd199

GET INVOLVED

ISD 199 is seeking community members for district-level committees and advisory councils. Provide perspective and feedback on decisions to help the school district move forward. If interested, please visit www.isd199.org/community/give and, in the sidebar, click "Committee Signup."

Inver Grove Heights Schools does not discriminate in employment or in any of its programs and activities, including vocational opportunities, on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, status with regard to public assistance, familial status, membership or activity in a commission, disability, sexual orientation, or age. Inver Grove Heights Schools provides equal access to designated youth groups. Student-related inquiries about non-discrimination policies should be sent to Abel Riodique at 2990 80th Street East in Inver Grove Heights, RiodiqueA@isd199.org, or 651-306-7828. More information is available at www.isd199.org/nondiscrimination.

Elementary Summer Academy Sparks A Love of Reading & New Interests



Each summer, elementary students increase their literacy at Summer Academy's Lit Camp. The reading curriculum transforms school into a summer camp. Students solidify their learning with summer camp activities like

listening to stories around a tissue paper campfire, reading independently in their "bunks," and creating skits to summarize their learning. This summer, students had even more opportunities to grow their literacy skills and discover new interests at Summer Academy.

During the last period of each day, Summer Academy holds enrichment classes to encourage students to try new activities and learn about new topics. Some classes play baseball and basketball games outside to get active, some play coding games to learn about algorithms, some use toothpicks and putty to test out their engineering skills by building

the tallest structure that they can, and much more. Classes rotate through a number of different enrichment options led by teachers who are passionate about their subject. Each enrichment class allows students to explore new interests and find out what they like in order to increase engagement in school and foster more learning.

This summer, students also had more opportunities to grow their love of reading and learning thanks to the generosity of some community organizations. The Dakota County Library gave Summer Academy 400 books for students as part of its Summer Reading program. Students were able to bring their books home to build on their reading skills with their families and practice even after Summer Academy ended.

Summer Academy was also able to host the Great Bike Giveaway near the end of the program, thanks to The MN ReCyclery. The MN ReCyclery repaired and donated more than 30 bikes to get students and families outside and active this summer. Thank you to the Dakota County Library and The MN ReCyclery!

Simley Announces New Assistant Principal



Simley High School is pleased to announce Matthew Drugg as its newest assistant principal. Mr. Drugg comes to ISD 199 from Eagle Ridge Middle School in Savage, Minnesota, where he was the dean of students. He has nearly 15 years of experience in secondary education. He earned his bachelor's degree in secondary education and his master's in special education. He also earned an Educational Specialist degree in Educational Leadership from Concordia University in St. Paul.

Before becoming the dean of students, Mr. Drugg spent more than a decade in the classroom as a special education teacher. As a teacher and an administrator, his focus has been on student support and data-driven decision-making. His leadership in all of his positions has resulted in increased engagement, fewer referrals, and more effective support for students and families, even at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Mr. Drugg will take over for former assistant principal Sam Van Hefty who has accepted a position elsewhere. Best of luck to Mr. Van Hefty, and welcome, Mr. Drugg!

TRIDISTRICT CAPS STUDENTS USE THEIR LEARNING TO GIVE BACK



The TriDistrict CAPS (Center for Advanced Professional Studies) program immerses students from Simley High School, Two Rivers High School, and South St. Paul Secondary in real career experiences with local employers. The program offers classes in Healthcare & Medicine, Careers in Transportation Technologies, and Careers in Business & Entrepreneurship. At the end of the 2020-2021 program, TriDistrict students from the Transportation Technologies and Business & Entrepreneurship classes worked together to repair bikes for the ISD 197 School-age Care summer program and to promote the group's activities.

Transportation Technologies students prepared for the bike tune-up event by partnering with BikeMN, the Bicycle Alliance of Minnesota. BikeMN Education Specialist CJ Lindor and volunteers from the organization taught students how to fix different bike issues and make sure the bikes were ready to be used this summer. After learning bike repair, students repaired ISD 197's bikes, which are being used by school-age care students this summer and will be used by elementary physical education classes in the fall.

Business & Entrepreneurship students learned how to spread the word about the event from the communications managers at Inver Grove Heights Schools and South St. Paul Public Schools. Students used their marketing lesson to gather information and photos at the event and then write a press release based on what they gathered.

Any Simley High School, Two Rivers High School, or South St. Paul Secondary students who will be juniors or seniors during the 2021-2022 school year can enroll in the TriDistrict CAPS program. Interested students should contact their counselors, email TriDistrict CAPS Director and Career & College Readiness Initiative Lead Designer Ben Kusch at BKusch@tridistrictce.org, or visit www.careercollegeready.org for more information.

Thank you to students in the TriDistrict CAPS Business & Entrepreneurship class for their work on the press release that made this article possible.

Educational Benefits Provide Discounts on Device Insurance, Activity Fees, & More



Thanks to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), ISD 199 will provide free meals to all students during the 2021-2022 school year. However, the district is encouraging ALL families to apply for Educational Benefits.

How Do Families Apply?

Families can apply online through the ISD 199 Parent Portal, in person at the ISD 199 District Office, or with a paper application downloaded at www.isd199.org/edu-benefits. Applying online is quick, easy, and secure. Visit portal.isd199.org, ISD 199's Parent Portal, log in and click "Infinite Campus," click "More" in the side menu, and click "Meal Benefits."

Who Should Apply?

Unless you have received a Direct Certification for 2021-2022, you should apply for Educational Benefits for your family. Families must apply every school year to continue their Educational Benefits.

Families who do not qualify at the beginning of the school year should reapply if their income, employment, or household size changes.

Why Apply?

When you qualify for Educational Benefits, your family qualifies for:

- funds to purchase groceries (**Must apply by September 3**. Visit mn.gov/dhs/food-emergency for more information)
- up to \$50 per month toward internet service & up to \$100 toward purchase of a computer, laptop, or tablet (Visit GetEmergencyBroadband.org for more information)
- reduced school activity fees, device insurance prices, & student parking fees
- discounts on Amazon Prime subscriptions, Children's Theatre Company classes and camps, Metro Transit rides, plus much more (Visit www.isd199.org/edu-benefits and click "Educational Benefits Discounts" in the sidebar for the full list)
- about \$1,500 of funding for your child's school to help maintain class sizes and provide student support services

A social security number is not required to apply. Your application information and benefits status will always be kept private.

For assistance or questions, call 651-306-7822. For more information, visit www.isd199.org/edu-benefits.

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Simley Student Earns Perfect Score on 2020 ACT

When the results of the 2020 ACT arrived for Simley High School, the average score looked similar to that of the rest of the country. However, one score stood out. Simley's Noah Hunt, a sophomore at the time, received a 36, a perfect ACT score. Noah was one of only 5,579 students worldwide to receive a perfect score, putting him in the top .334% of students who took the test. Noah is also the first Simley student in recent memory to have earned a perfect score. He shared his advice for others taking the ACT, his interests, and some of his favorite classes:

Have you taken the ACT before?

I've taken the ACT a couple of times before, so I knew what to expect. I did some studying, but the most helpful thing was the ACT prep we've been doing in English, math, and science classes over the last few years.

What advice would you give to others taking the ACT?

I found the online practice tests helpful, especially if you go through them to find out which questions you got wrong and why. Pay attention in class when teachers are going over tips and things to remember for the test. Don't stress too much, though. I get nervous about tests, so it's good to remember that the ACT isn't a measure of your worth.

What are your favorite classes right now?

My favorite classes are chemistry, German, and wind ensemble. They're challenging, but I enjoy learning new things.

What are your goals or plans for the future?

This summer, I'm going to visit a few schools on the East Coast that I'm interested in. Biology and languages have always been interests of mine, so I'm looking at options in those fields right now. I have vague plans, but I haven't decided on anything yet.

Although they are always impressed by Noah's work ethic, focus, and ability to master his coursework, Noah's parents describe him as having a quiet determination that fits with his excellence.

"He isn't usually the loudest one in the room," Noah's dad, Matt Hunt, said, "but he's always listening and learning."

Although Noah may not have settled on college or career plans yet, his future is bright. Congratulations to Noah on earning a perfect score on the 2020 ACT!

ISD 199 Job Opportunities

Every position makes a difference at Inver Grove Heights Schools. Whether you are looking for full-time, part-time, or substitute job openings, ISD 199 is currently seeking applicants. To browse vacancies, visit www.isd199.org and click the "Careers" tab.

Non-Resident Open Enrollment

Students living outside district boundaries may apply to enroll in Inver Grove Heights Schools through the Minnesota Enrollment Option Program. Non-resident applicants are encouraged to apply early for the next school year and request the school(s) they wish to attend. The district assigns transfer students to schools based on their preference and whether that school has space available. Students who are accepted under the Enrollment Options Program can remain in the district through grade 12, but they will be assigned to schools that have space available.

For application information, visit www.isd199.org/enroll and click “Non-Resident Open Enrollment” in the sidebar.

Annual Lead-in-Water Testing Notification

Minnesota Statute 121A.335 requires public school buildings serving pre-kindergarten through grade 12 to test for lead in water every 5 years. Inver Grove Heights Schools has historically conducted and continues to conduct Lead in Drinking Water testing per the Minnesota Department of Health guidelines.

For more information on the Inver Grove Heights Schools lead reduction program and testing results, please contact the district’s Health & Safety Specialist at 651-306-7870.

Integrated Pest Management Notification

Inver Grove Heights Schools uses a licensed professional pest control service firm for the prevention and control of rodents, insects, and other pests in and around the district’s buildings.

Pests can sting, bite, cause contamination, damage property, and spread disease; therefore, we must prevent their presence and control them as necessary. The district or outside contractors may also apply herbicides on district properties as deemed necessary.

The long-term health effects on children from the application of such pesticides may not be fully understood. All pest control materials are chosen and applied according to labeling directions per federal law.

To limit the potential pesticide exposure, the district follows safety regulations to ensure pesticides are applied properly. All pesticide products, which are used in and around school buildings, are required to be registered with the Minnesota Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. In addition, school employees and certified and licensed applicators are required by state and federal law to comply with all requirements of the pesticide label, including building sites, application rates, re-entry intervals, posting, use of personal protective equipment, use restrictions, and disposal on the product label. An estimated schedule of pesticide applications is available for review or copying at the ISD 199 District Office.

To be notified about pesticide applications or the management plan, please contact the district’s Health & Safety Specialist at 651-306-7870.

Accident Insurance

Currently, ISD 199 does not provide accident insurance for injuries that happen to students at school or during school activities. Parents who wish to have this type of accident protection are encouraged to contact an insurance company.

Indoor Air Quality Annual Notification

Inver Grove Heights Schools has an Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Management Plan. The management plan outlines specific policies and procedures that will be used in the district to address indoor air quality issues. IEA, the district’s health and safety consultant, completes annual IAQ assessments within the school to ensure proper air quality.

If you have any questions concerning IAQ, or would like to use the EPA Tools for Schools checklists, please contact the district IAQ coordinator at 651-306-7870.

AHERA Annual Asbestos Notification

During the past school year, and continuing into the 2021-2022 school year, the following asbestos management plan activities have been or are currently being completed, pursuant to the Environmental Protection Agency 40 CFR Part 763 – “Asbestos Containing Materials in Schools; Final Rule and Notice.”

ACTIVITIES SCHEDULED FOR 2021-22

- Periodic surveillance
- Asbestos Repairs
- Notification of Asbestos Locations for Short-Term Workers (Electricians, Plumbers, etc.)
- Training of District Personnel
- Abatement Activities at Inver Grove Heights Schools

Inver Grove Heights Schools has contracted through the Field Environmental.

The complete, updated Asbestos Management Plan can be found in the ISD 199 District Office. The management plan can be viewed, without cost or restriction, during normal working hours. Copies can be obtained for a fee of \$.10 per page.

Any questions concerning this notice or an explanation of our Asbestos Management Plan can be directed to the district’s Health & Safety Specialist at 651-306-7870.

2021-2022 Student Expectations

The district’s elementary student handbook and student expectations handbook outline important policies and appropriate school behavior for students. The 2021-2022 handbooks are available on the district website at www.isd199.org/students/handbooks.

State-Required Background Checks

Notice is hereby given that ISD 199 complies with state law requiring school districts to perform criminal history background checks.

ISD 199 obtains criminal history checks on everyone offered employment in the district as well as selected volunteers and independent contractors, including volunteer coaches, with the exception of enrolled students. In exercising its discretion with respect to independent contractors and volunteers, the district considers such factors as the amount of student contact and the duration of the contract.

The district does not perform background checks on the staff or volunteers of outside clubs or organizations that offer activities for youth in the community that are not organized or operated by the district.

Non-Release of Directory Information

Unlike educational records, businesses, organizations, and any member of the public can request directory information about students attending Inver Grove Heights Schools. Directory information is defined by ISD 199 School Board Policy 515 – Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records, which also governs its release.

“Directory information” means information contained in an education record of a student which would not generally be considered harmful or an invasion of privacy if disclosed. It includes, but is not limited to: the student’s name, address, telephone listing, photograph, major field of study, grade level, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, degrees, honors and awards received, and photos for school-approved publications or newspapers or cablecasts, bulletins, programs or similar school-produced information pieces. It also includes the name, address, and telephone number of the student’s parent(s) and/or guardian(s). Directory information does not include personally identifiable data, such as social security number, student ID, or data that references religion, race, color, social position, or nationality.

If you are a parent of a student who is younger than 18 years of age or if you are a student who is 18 years of age or older, you have the right under federal and state law to direct the district to not release directory information. If you do not want this information released, you must complete and return a “Non-Release of Directory Information” form to the school your child attends. The form is available online at www.isd199.org/parents under “Directory Non-Release Form” in the sidebar.

If you want to direct the district not to release directory information to military recruiters, you must also fill out the “Military Opt-out Form,” which is also available for download at www.isd199.org/parents in the sidebar.

The directory non-release request will remain in effect for the remainder of the school year in which it is made. A new request must be completed each school year.

To read “Policy 515 – Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records,” please visit www.isd199.org/district/board/policies and click “Section 5 - Students.”

Budget Information Available Online

Budget information for the 2020-2021 school year and previous years is available at www.isd199.org/district/departments/finance on the district website.

Homeschool Reporting

Families living in ISD 199 district boundaries who plan to homeschool their children or whose children will attend an unaccredited nonpublic school for the 2021-2022 school year must submit an annual Full Report or Letter of Intent to Continue as required by state law. The deadline to submit reports for 2021-2022 is October 1, 2021.

The report is available at education.mn.gov/MDE/fam/nphs on the Minnesota Department of Education website. Completed reports should be submitted to Eric Bermudez at 2990 80th Street East, Inver Grove Heights, MN 55076. For more information or to request a homeschool packet, please call 651-306-7825.

Educational Record Access

A student’s education records will be transferred to other educational institutions upon transfer of the student. Parents, guardians, or students 18 years of age or older also have the right to inspect and review the education records maintained by the district. Such information will be disclosed to the authorized requestor except when federal or state law bars disclosure. A request for disclosure may be made to the school’s principal. You have the right to request an amendment to your student’s education records to ensure that they are not inaccurate, misleading, or otherwise in violation of the student’s privacy or other rights.

To read “Policy 515 – Protection and Privacy of Pupil Records,” please visit www.isd199.org/district/board/policies and click “Section 5 - Students.”

If you have any questions, please contact your school principal or the Director of Special Services at 651-306-7828. Complaints regarding alleged violations of rights can be submitted in writing to: Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue SW, Washington, D.C. 20202.

Non-Release of Information to Military Recruiters

Notice is hereby given that parents of students under 18 years of age and students who are 18 years of age or older may refuse the release of data to military recruiters. The State of Minnesota’s Government Data Practices Act section on Military Recruitment states:

A secondary institution shall release to military recruiting officers the names, addresses, and home telephone numbers of students in grades 11 and 12 within 60 days after the date of the request, except as otherwise provided by this subdivision. Data released to military recruiting officers under this subdivision:

- (1) may be used only for the purpose of providing information to students about military service, state and federal veterans’ education benefits, and other career and educational opportunities provided by the military; and
- (2) shall not be further disseminated to any other person except personnel of the recruiting services of the armed forces.

A parent of a student, or a student who is 18 years of age or older, has the right to refuse the release of their name, address, or home telephone number to military recruiting officers. To refuse the release of the above information to military recruiting officers, a parent of a student or an eligible student must return the non-release form, located on ISD 199’s website at www.isd199.org/parents under “Military Opt-Out Form” in the sidebar, by September 1 of each year. A new request must be completed each school year.

A parent or eligible student’s refusal to release the above information to military recruiting officers does not affect the district’s release of directory information to the public, which includes military recruiting officers. In order to make any directory information about a student private, a parent or eligible student must return a “Directory Non-Release” form with the “Please keep directory information private except for school district use” option checked.

Visit www.isd199.org/parents for ISD 199’s “Directory Non-Release Form,” which is available in the sidebar.

Simley Senior Earns Apollo Award for Commitment to His Sports



Head coaches at Simley High School selected Bennett Tabor as the 2021 Apollo Male Athlete of the Year from six nominees. The football, wrestling, and track athlete earned the title for his impressive achievements in athletics, academics, and leadership throughout his high school career.

During his football seasons, he was a 2-year two-way starter, has been an All-District selection twice, and was a 3-year letter winner. Bennett has also led Simley Spartans Football as team captain. He has 50 career tackles, including 8 tackles for loss, 2 forced fumbles, and 2 fumble recoveries, which included a big fumble recovery that helped Simley beat South St. Paul for the first time in 11 years.

Bennett has made incredible strides in wrestling, both at Simley and on the national stage. Ranked No. 2 in the nation at 220 lbs, he is a 3-time USA National All American and a Super 32 National Champion. He has 178 career wins and finished out his high school wrestling career with a 98-match winning streak, spending 2 years undefeated. At the state level, Bennett is a 2-time individual state

champion, a 3-time state place-winner, and a 3-time team state champion. His last state championship tournament earned him the title of 2021 Star Tribune Metro Wrestler of the Year after he won the tournament despite sustaining a fracture in the semifinals.

The 2-year captain has also been section champion 3 times, and earned Most Valuable Player twice. Bennett also matched his excellence in the classroom to his excellence in wrestling. He has earned All State 3 times, All Conference 4 times, and is a 5-year letter winner. He has earned Minnesota Wrestling Coaches Association Academic All State twice and maintains a GPA of 3.47.

Bennett's incredible athleticism extends to track as well. Simley's top male thrower since his sophomore year, Bennett recently became the No. 7 discus thrower in school history. As a sophomore, he placed 3rd in Discus at a conference meet. Near the end of his high school career, he was also close to breaking into the top 10 in school history for Shot Put, and Bennett has been one of Simley's best sprinters, mainly running relays.

Bennett will wrestle for University of Minnesota this upcoming school year. Congratulations, Bennett!

Girls on the Run Focuses on Health & Community

Throughout the spring, students in Hilltop Elementary School's Girls on the Run program built confidence and learned strategies for a healthy life with curriculum that incorporates running. One of their activities focused on spreading kindness by making care packages for patients at Gillette Children's Specialty Healthcare.

This May, students began practicing for the annual Twin Cities Girls on the Run 5K. Hilltop students did practice races with their running buddies while students in Spartan Kids' Care cheered them on with homemade signs. Their practices culminated in Hilltop's own virtual 5K on June 5. Although the 5K is usually held at the Mall of America, the program provided schools with the option of holding virtual 5K races on their own campuses this year. The Hilltop girls ran a 5K route near the school at the same time as more than 3,000 3rd- through 8th-grade Girls on the Run students from the local area. Great job, students!

Simley Girls Track Makes School History With Conference Win

Making school history, the Simley High School Girls Track and Field team won the Metro East Conference Championship this year by scoring 144 points. Mahtomedi was 2nd with 132.5. Overall, 20 Simley athletes contributed to the team score, and the team crowned four individual event champions and earned one relay win. Highlights of the meet included senior captain Abby Hepper's sweep of the throws and senior captain Kate Carlson winning the 200 Meter Dash and bettering her own school record. Kate's school record was previously 26.25, but she lowered it to 25.86 in finals. Megan Gullerud, an Inver Grove Heights Middle School 8th grader, also had a strong kick to win the 3200 Meter Run, and the 4x100 Meter Relay team remained undefeated this season and also earned the conference title.

Spring Sports Recognitions

Baseball

All Conference

Justin Roitman
Ben Vujovich

Honorable Mention

Cael Berg
Matt Kuefler

Boys Golf

All Conference

Zach Painter

Girls Golf

State Participant

Champion
Reese McCauley

All Conference

Isabella McCauley
Reese McCauley

Honorable Mention

Ashleigh Skappel

Boys Lacrosse

All Conference

Cooper Bollmann
Evan McNally
Logan Suchy

Honorable Mention

Andrew Bergum
Desmond Duggan
Nate Germaine

Girls Lacrosse

All Conference

Emily Hageman
Courtney Kurowski

Honorable Mention

Valerie DuVal
Hannah Kurowski

Softball

All Conference

Liv Hennager
Ellie Johnson

Honorable Mention

Alyssa Downhour
Abi Price

Boys Tennis

All Conference

Austin Penttila
Nathan Schauer
Aaren Schmotter

Honorable Mention

Connor Hassing
Dominick Olaes

Track & Field

State Participant

200m Dash
8th Place
Kate Carlson

Discus
9th Place
Bennett Tabor
Shot Put

8th Place
Abby Hepper
13th Place
Bennett Tabor

All Conference

100m & 200m
Kate Carlson

3200m
Megan Gullerud
400m
Emerson Hocking

4 x 100m Relay
Zoe Boughton
Laura Bosin
Kate Carlson
Taylor Ralston

Discus
Makenzie Gibson
Abby Hepper
Bennett Tabor

Shot Put
Abby Hepper
Bennett Tabor

Honorable Mention

100m & 200m
Zoe Boughton
1600m
Megan Gullerud

3200m
Brekken Grathen
400m & Long Jump
Laura Bosin

4 x 400m Relay
Laura Bosin
Brekken Grathen
Megan Gullerud
Emerson Hocking

4 x 800m Relay
Crystal Bonilla-Rios
Anna Cheyne

Abigail Lindquist
Julia Myers

Discus
Zaineb Adebayo
Pole Vault

Caleb Streich
Triple Jump
Malia Miller

Stay informed of the current issues, challenges, and changes facing the Inver Grove Heights School District.

#1. BOARD ELECTION ON NOVEMBER 2

On November 2, 2021, voters will elect three residents to serve on the seven-member School Board of School District 199. The terms of three current School Board members, Carrie Lounsberry, Cindy Nordstrom, and Lynette Stensgard, will expire at the start of 2022.

Filings received as of the August 10, 2021, 5:00 PM deadline include the following candidates:

- Carrie Lounsberry (*Incumbent*)
- Amy Bergum
- Sarah Larsen
- Lori Melendez St. Onge
- Mark M. Simmonds
- Charles D. Thompson

Information about candidates and the election will be posted in the "District" tab of the ISD 199 district website under "Board Elections" (www.isd199.org/district/board_elections) as it becomes available.

Absentee Ballot (AB) voting for the 2021 School Board Election will be available beginning Friday, September 17. You may vote absentee for any reason between 8:00 AM and 4:00 PM Monday through Friday (except holidays) at the ISD 199 District Office, 2990 80th Street East.

Anyone interested in voting absentee must fill out an Absentee Voting

Request Form. Voters may obtain an absentee ballot through ISD 199's District Office. For those wanting to vote by mail, the request form must be returned before a ballot will be delivered. Any requests for absentee ballots received before AB voting begins on September 17 will be held until ballots are available. For more information, call the County Auditor's office or contact the ISD 199 District Office at 651-306-7800.

Extended in-person voting hours will be available from 7:00 AM to 8:00 PM on November 2. Visit pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us to find your polling place.

#2. EMERGENCY SIREN SET UP

Inver Grove Heights Schools and the City of Inver Grove Heights are working together to install a weather warning siren near Pine Bend Elementary School. The solar-operated emergency siren will alert neighbors who are outdoors about severe weather so they can safely move indoors and prepare. This will be the first time this area has had a weather warning siren.

All
in
for
Inver Grove!

INVER GROVE HEIGHTS SCHOOLS WEATHER UPDATES: WWW.ISD199.ORG



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