Esko S Corner Esko Public School District #99

Connecting School and Community

Volume 28 Issue 3

March-April-May 2024



School Readiness classes are held Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday with options for AM (8:30-11:00) and PM (12:30-3:00). Students must be 4 years old by September 1st 2024 and fully toilet trained.

Discovery is Wednesday and Friday AM only (8:30-11:00). This class goes outside for extended periods of time; please ensure your student has proper clothing for this class. Students must be 4 years old by September 1st 2024 and fully toilet trained

Stepping Stones is Tuesday and Thursday AM only (8:45-11:15). Students must be 3 years old by September 1st 2024 and fully toilet trained.

Registration will stay open until filled. Once registration is open, students will be put into either AM or PM. You may choose a preference, but that does not guarantee a spot in that exact class time.

If your child will need wrap around care, you must also register for the Cool Cubs program listed below.

Stepping Stones Program Sliding Fee Scale

Sliding Fee Scale - Annual Income									
Family Size									
2	below 19,720	19,721-31,221	31,222 - 46,832	46,833 - 62,443	62,444+				
3	below 24,860	24,861-33,819	33,820 - 50,729	50,730 - 67,639	67,640+				
4	below 30,000	30,000-42,659	42,660 - 63,989	63,990 - 85,319	85,320+				
5	below 35,140	35,141-51,499	51,500 - 77,249	77,250 - 103,999	103,000+				
6	below 40,280	40,281-60,339	60,340 - 90,509	90,510 - 120,679	120,680+				
Category	A	В	С	D	E				
	ı	Full and Month	ly Class Fees						
Category	A	В	С	D	E				
Monthly Fee	\$70	\$70	\$85	\$98	\$111				
Annual Fee	\$635 (scholarship)	\$635	\$760	\$875	\$990				

School Readiness Program Sliding Fee Scale

	Sliding Fee Scale									
Family Siz	e									
2	below 19,720	19,721-31,221	31,222 - 46,832	46,833 - 62,443	62,444+					
3	below 24,860	24,861-33,819	33,820 - 50,729	50,730 - 67,639	67,640+					
4	below 30,000	30,001-42,659	42,660 - 63,989	63,990 - 85,319	85,320+					
5	below 35,140	35,141-51,499	51,500 - 77,249	77,250 - 103,999	103,000+					
6	below 40,280	40,281-60,339	60,340 - 90,509	90,510 - 120,679	120,680+					
Category	Α	В	С	D	E					

Full and Monthly Class Fees								
Category	А	В	С	D	E			
Monthly Fee	\$100	\$100	\$128	\$148	\$160			
AnnualFee	\$895 (scholarship)	\$895	\$1,150	\$1,325	\$1,440			

Discovery Program Sliding Fee Scale

Sliding Fee Scale										
Family Size		Annual Income								
2	below 19,720	46833-62,443	62,444+							
3	below 24,860	24,861-33,819	33,820-50,729	50,730 67,639	67,640+					
4	below 30,000	30,001-42,659	42,660-63,989	63,990-85,319	85,320+					
5	below 35,140	35,141-51,499	51,500-77,249	77,250-103,999	103,000+					
6	below 40,280	40,281-60,339	60,340-90,509	90,510 -120,679	120,680+					
Category	Α	В	С	D	Е					
	-									

	Full and Monthly Class Fees							
Category	Α	В	С	D	E			
Monthly Fee	\$84	\$84	\$108	\$125	\$136			
AnnualFee	\$ 760* scholarship	\$760	\$978	\$1,126	\$1,224			



Registration for Cool Kids/Cool Cubs school year 24-25 will begin at 12:00 NOON, Monday, March 11th.

Families must register each year.

Cool Kids provides school age care for students in the 4's Pre-K class to 5th grade. We open at 6:30 AM daily and close at 6:00 PM. We are closed any day there is no school scheduled, a ½ day scheduled and on snow/weather related closures. To register for the program, all community education balances must be paid in full.

Everyone should register at noon, Monday, March 11th. Families that are currently enrolled have priority registration. Priority registration will end, and we will begin taking new registrations on Wednesday, March 13th. Fall Cool Kids registration will stay open until the program fills.

Please see our Esko website under Community Ed for the link in Eleyo at 12:00 NOON, Monday, March 11th. If you have any questions please email coolkids@esko.12.mn.us or call 218-879-4038

CAR-RT SORT POSTAL CUSTOMER ESKO, MN 55733

Esko Community Education Box 10, Esko, MN 55733 NON-PROFIT ORG U.S. POSTAGE PAID Permit No. 11 Esko, MN 55733

INSIDE

Community News	2
Community Education	
School News	5-6
Honor and Merit Rolls	7

School Board	8-9
Around Town	10-12
Church News	13

Lunch Menus.....14-16

Community News

Thomson Township Community Garden

Raised 4ft. by 12 ft. Community garden beds can be rented at the community garden located behind the Thomson Town Hall,25 E. Harney Road, Esko.

Beds, Tools & Water are available to renters.

Contact the Town Office at 879-9719 to put your name on the list to secure a bed(s). The rental application can be found on our website: thomson.govoffice.com



TOWN OF THOMSON NOTICE

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Tuesday, March 12, 2024

The Town of Thomson Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 12, 2024, at Thomson Town Hall, 25 East Harney Road, Esko.

The meeting will be convened at 6:00 p.m.

In case of inclement weather, the Annual Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 19, 2024, at 6:00 p.m.

Rhonda Peleski, Clerk/Treasurer Town of Thomson 879-9719

4 SEASONS COMPLEX CARLTON, MN.

MAY 15

May 16.

May 17

WEDNESDAY. THURSDAY. FRIDAY

3:00-7:00. 9:00-7:00. 9:00-4:00

Items for this event may be dropped off at 4 Seasons on Wednesday morning starting at 9 o'clock. NO TVS or COMPUTERS.

Purchases will be by DONATIONS.

Sponsored by the Volunteer Services Organization (VSO) of Community Memorial Hospital.

Proceeds go to benefit the patients of Community Memorial Hospital, and health career scholarships for students in the surrounding communities.

Publication Title - Esko's Corner Statement of Frequency - Quarterly Authorized Organization: Esko Community Education, P.O. Box 10 2 E Hwy 61, Esko, Mn 55733

Issue Number - On front cover

Articles and submissions may be sent to the Esko Community Education office or e-mailed to mcarlson@esko.k12.mn.us. The deadline is the 15th of the month prior to pint date for the next month's issue. The publication schedule can be found on the website. Articles may be edicted for space and content. If you have questions, please call the community education office at 879-4038. Visit the school website: www.esko.k12.mn.us

Esko Educational Foundation Adding New Members, Thanks Those Who Retire

The Esko Educational Foundation (EFF) announces retiring and adding new Board of Directors members. It conveys its thanks and gratitude of nearly 30 years of collective exceptional service to its board of directors to: Cindy Purcell, Vice President, Jeanette Laundergan, Treasurer, and Cindy Kunz, Scholarship Coordinator. It is also happy to announce the following two new members, Brenda Mattson, replacing Cindy Kunz as Scholarship Coordinator, and Molly Skifstad, board member.





Molly Skifstad, left: Hello, my name is Molly Skifstad and I moved to Esko four years ago. My husband, Mike, and I have two kiddos, Lucy (14 y/o) and Henry (12 y/o). My work as a pharmacist at Essentia Health is what brought us to the area. We wanted a small, close knit community and are so glad we found Esko.



Brenda Flynn Mattson, left: is an Esko High School Class of 1980 graduate and also a Winterquist Elementary School teacher from 1994 to her retirement in 2022. Her husband is Steve Mattson and daughter is Tia Bree (Salo) Michaela and husband, Kyle Michela and their children, Hadley (8 y/o), Peyton (6 y/o), and Teagan (2 y/o), all of Duluth. Since retirement, Brenda is enjoying following Esko sports, substitute teaching, reading, traveling, camping, decorating, pickleball, and time with family and

friends, and most importantly being a full time grandma!

The Esko Educational Foundation (EEF), organized in 1994, is a nonprofit 501(c) and is governed by a volunteer community board of directors whose mission is "to award post secondary educational scholarships to graduating Lincoln High School seniors in Esko, MN." The EEF also sponsors and hosts the annual Kristin Burkholder 5K each summer during Esko Fun Days as a fundraiser for the Kristin Burkholder Memorial Scholarship which is one of the EEF scholarships awarded annually. Since 1994, the EEF has awarded more than 40 scholarships to nearly 700 graduating seniors for more than \$1.2 million EEF scholarship funds.

Community Education

ADULT

Pilates

Pilates is a low-impact, slow and controlled practice. This movement practice can help you; build strength, increase flexibility, release tension, relieve back, shoulder, and other joint pain, plus so much more. Come join Kati who just recently received her Mat 1 Certification, but has practiced and loved pilates for many years.

Bring to Class: Pilates or yoga mat and water

Sessions: 4 Cost: \$48

Instructor: Kati Ruhnke

4/24

5/1

5/8

5/15

5:30 PM-6:30 PM Esko School Cafeteria

Pilates Punch Card

5 class punch card to use throughout the 23-24 school year \$45

Zumba

Zumba is a fitness cardio workout that combines Latin rhythms and easy-to-follow moves that will make you forget you're even working out! Our goal is simple...we want you to be healthy, to love working out and to enjoy exciting calorie burning, body energizing movements meant to be enjoyed throughout your life at any age! Now is the time to try Zumba!

Bring to Class: Water Bottle

Sessions:6

Cost:\$42.00

Instructor: Naomi Christiansen

4/15/2024

4/22/2024

4/29/2024

5/6/2024

5/13/2024

5/20/2024

3/ 20/ 2024

5:15 PM - 6:15 PM Esko Schools Cafeteria

Zumba Punch Card

5 class punch card to use throughout the 23-24 school year \$45

YOUTH

Driver Education

Driver's Ed.

This class provides students with a basic understanding of MN Traffic Safety laws, and the complexities of driving. It also gives participants information necessary for acquiring a MN Learners permit upon successful completion of the written exam. Students who were not born in Carlton County should begin to acquire their Certified Birth Certificate which is essential for taking the permit exam. Students should reach their 15th birthday by May 15th, 2024. Priority will be given to current 15 year olds who attend Esko Public Schools. Students must attend all 30 hours of training (a make-up day will be available). You will need to sign up with a Driving School for behind the wheel lessons (at an additional cost) before the permit test.

Students are required to Log 50 hours driving

time and this must be turned in to the DMV prior to the road skills test. Attendance at the optional Parent Program can reduce the numbers of logged hours to 40.

We need 12 students to be able to run this class. Cancellation fee of \$15.00 will be charged for any cancellations out of this class.

Age Req:15 years by May 15, 2024

Will open to 14.5 year olds 3 weeks prior to class

Will open to 14 year olds 1 week prior to class Sessions:10

Cost:\$125.00

4/08/2024 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM

4/09/2024 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM

4/10/2024 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM

4/11/2024 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM

4/12/2024 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM

4/15/2024 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM

4/16/2024 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM

4/17/2024 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM

4/18/2024 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM 4/19/2024 4:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Esko Schools - S132

After School Clubs

Directly after school, students will meet for a snack and check-in in the cafeteria, then report to their club's meeting spot. You may pick up your child at the playground doors (door #6). If your child will not be attending a scheduled club, please inform their teacher AND call the Community Education office at 879-4038

Refunds can be given on classes that have not begun with notice 24 hours prior to the start of class. Refunds can not be given on the day of the class, or after the class has started.

Clubs close for registration the day PRIOR to the beginning of the club.

Some clubs may need more time, and may close more than one day prior. This information may be noted in the course description.

Esko Community Education cannot accept registration for After School Clubs on the day of the club, due to communication with teachers and Cool Kids regarding attendance. No registrations will be accepted after the clubs closing date.

Savannah's Pottery - Easter Egg and Cup

Age req: Grades 1-6

Cost: \$17

Instructor: Michelle Line

3/4/24 3:15-4:30

 $Room\ S101$

Zoomobile - Zoo Jobs

Learn what it's like to work at a zoo! Meet live animals as you explore the careers of zoo keeper, animal trainer, educator and veterinarian.

Age Req: Grades 4-6

Cost: \$15

Instructor: Lake Superior Zoo Staff

3/7/24 3:15-4:00

Room S100

Please note this class ends at 4:00 PM

Registration closes 3/5/24 at noon.

Pokemon Club

Join Oaken Hollow Games for an introduction to the world of Pokémon and how to play Pokémon the Card Game!

Having your own cards is not necessary, but if you do, please bring them!

Age Req: Grades 3-6

Cost: \$15

Instructor: Darrell Davey

3/11/24 3?15-4:30

Room S101

Registration closes 3/9/24

NOC - Paracord Survival Tool

Learn how to make a 5-in-1 survival paracord band equipped with 8 feet of 550 lb. tested paracord rope, compass, whistle, flint and steel. Many colors to customize your craft! A great tool for any outdoor enthusiast to have, or a crafter wanting to learn a new weave knot.

Age Req: Grades 3-6

Cost: \$19

Instructor: Cassie Janke

3/14/24 3:15-4:30

Room S100

Savannah's Pottery - Spring Petal Plate

Age Req: Grades 1-6

Cost: \$16

Instructor: Michelle Line

3/18/24 3:15-4:30

Room S101

Savannah's Pottery - Elephant Spoon Rest

Age Req: Grades 1-6

Cost: \$16

Instructor: Michelle Line

4/1/24 3:15-4:30

Room S101

Lego Robotics

Hang out with Mr. Krueger for the afternoon and learn to build and control LEGO Robots!

LEGO Robotics for grades 3&4 is a great intro to the LEGO Education program, and is suited for students who have not participated in the program previously.

LEGO Robotics for grades 4-6 uses more complex kits, and is great for 5th and 6th graders, as well as 4th graders who have previously participated in LEGO robotics.

Grades 4-6 Section #2

Tuesdays - 4/2/24-4/23/24

3:15-4:30

Room E372

Grades 3/4 Section #4

Thursdays - 4/4/34-4/25/25

3:15-4:30

Room E372

Grades 3/4 Section #5

Tuesdays - 5/7/24-5/28/24

3:15-4:30

Room E372

Registration opens 4/7/24

NOC - Archery

Love archery? Have no experience, but want to try an awesome new sport? This is the club for you! You will learn all about vows and how to confidently shoot them while being safe. Extra activities include: archery games, cand/freeze shootouts, tournaments, 3d targets and more!

Community Education

Age Req: Grease 3-6

Cost: \$60

Instructor: Cassie Janke Mondays - 4/8/24-4/29/24

3:15-4:30

Cafeteria and playground

Savannah's Pottery - Handprint Plaque

Age Req: Grades 1-6

Cost: \$17

Instructor: Michelle Line

4/11/24 3:15-4:30

Room S101

Esko Trails - Squishmallow Painting

Age Req: Grades 2-6

Cost: \$20

Instructor: Amy Feely 4/16/24 3:15-4:30

Room S101

Savannah's Pottery - Kids Choice

Age Req: Grades 1-6

Cost: \$16

Instructor: Michelle Line

4/22/24 3:15-4:30

Room S101

Elementary Spring Track and Field

Join our first Winterquist Elementary Track and Field Club, where young athletes discover the joy of running, jumping, and throwing! Our club offers a fun and supportive environment for kids to develop their athletic skills, build teamwork, and foster a love for physical activity. There will be three practices that focus on sprinting, distance, jumping, and throwing, and we will conclude with an elementary mini-meet. After checking in in the cafeteria, students will walk with staff to the

Esko stadium field. Pick up will be at 4:30 at Esko stadium field.

Age Req: Grades 3-6

Cost: \$35

Instructor: Jessica Zervas

Tuesdays - 4/23/24-5/14/24

3:15-4:30

Esko Stadium Field

Registration will Close Friday, April 5th at 3:00 PM. No registrations will be taken after this date.

Savannah's Pottery - Father's Day Mug

Age Req: Grades 1-6

Cost: \$16

Instructor: Michelle Line

5/2/24 3:15-4:30

Room S101

Esko Trails - Whisk Dragonfly

Age Req: Grades 2-6

Cost: \$20

Instructor: Amy Feely

5/6/24 3:15-4:30

Room S101

NOC - Lucky Lures

First, test your fish ID. Then, get ready for the MN 2024 fishing season with some new tackle box gear! Pick and customize your own lure with multiple patterns and colors to catch some whoppers. Also, create more fish catching mechanisms from other materials you might find on the river bank.

Age Req: Grades 3-6

Cost: \$19

Instructor: Cassie Janke

5/7/24 3:15-4:30

Room S101

NOC - Nature Exploration

Get up close with nature with a walk over to Northridge Park, all while exploring the ecosystem we line in! Use nets to capture and safely handle crayfish, frogs, insects and whatever else we might find!

Age Req: Grades 2-6

Cost: \$16

Instructor: Cassie Janke

5/16/24 3:15-4:30

Offsite

Savannah's Pottery - Kid's Choice

Age Req: Grades 1-6

Cost: \$16

Instructor: Michelle Line

5/16/24 3:15-4:30

Room S101

NOC - Cooking with Dandelions

This year we are making dandelion jelly! In groups, go through the process of learning and actively making dandelion jelly! Then, make a personal waffle to try our new sticky foraged treat. We should have plenty to take home for samples as well!

Age Req: Grades 2-6

Cost: \$20

Instructor: Cassie Janke

5/23/24 3:15-4:30

Room S101

Savannah's Pottery - Fourth of July Star box or bowl

Age Req: Grades 1-6

Cost: \$17

Instructor: Michelle Line

5/23/24 3:15-4:30

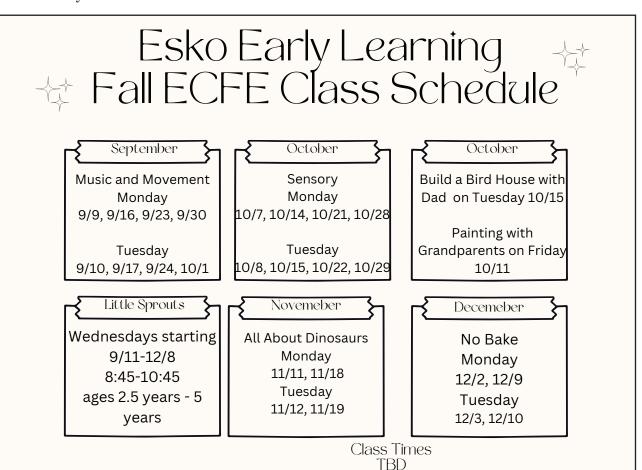
Room S101

Esko Early Learning Fall 2024 ECFE Classes

We are really excited to share our Fall 2024 ECFE classes with you all. We have created classes for this fall to be in Themes, Music and Movement, Sensory, All About Dinosaurs, and No Bake. Each month has a different theme. You can sign up for all of the themes or choose the themes that work best for your families schedules. We under-

stand that our typical 10 week classes are a very big time commitment and so we are hoping these shorter class sessions will help your families come to ECFE.

Please email Melanie Pliml mpliml@esko.k12. mn.us if you have any questions.







Don't miss out! Register for all
Community Ed
offerings using this
QR Code, or visit
www.esko.ce.eleyo.com!

School News

By Brian Harker

Important Dates

- Monday, March 4: PIE Meeting 6:00 pm- Board Room
- Thursday, March 7: Kindergarten Visit Night- Incoming Students (4:30 and 6:00)
- Tuesday, March 12: Kindergarten Round-Up- Parent Night-5:30- Theater
- Friday, March 15: Kindergarten Round-Up- Incoming Students Visit- During the day
- Friday, March 22: End of 3rd Quarter
- Monday, March 25–March 29 Spring Break
- Monday, April 1: PIE Meeting- 6:00 pm- Board Room
- Tuesday, April 23 and Wednesday, April 24- MCA Reading Test
- Tuesday, April 30 and Wednesday, May 1- MCA Math Test
- Monday, May 6: PIE Meeting- 6:00 pm- Board Room
- Tuesday, May 7- MCA Science Test (5th grade only)
- Thursday, May 9- Spring Program- 6:30 pm- Grades 4-6- Varsity Gym
- Monday, May 27: No School- Students and Staff
- Tuesday, June 4: Last Day of School- 3 Hour Early Release-12:15 pm

Conferences

Parent/Teacher Conferences were held on Wednesday, February 7 and Wednesday, February 14. We enjoy conferences as a time to meet, share, and grow together as a school community. Our relationships with our families help us create an environment that is student-centered and focused on meeting the needs of each child here. Thank you for your attendance at your child's conference. It's a big deal!

MCA Testing

The MCA testing season is among us for grades 3-6. Our students in grades 3-6 will take the MCA Reading Test on April 23 and 24. The MCA Math Test will be administered on April 30 and May 1. The MCA Science Test will be on May 7 for 5th graders only.

It is very important that the students get a good night's sleep each night and that they eat a healthy breakfast in the morning. Please help ensure that your child is rested and prepared for each and every school day. Also, avoid appointments or family trips on these testing dates. It's imperative that the students are here on these days.

Elementary Teacher Requests

We will follow the same process as we have done in the past for Teacher Requests. There is a Teacher Request Form that will need to be filled out if you wish to request a teacher for your child for next year. This form can be picked up in the elementary office starting Monday, April 1. One form will need to be completed for each teacher request (one per student). This form must be completed in full and turned in to the office by Tuesday, April 30. There may be some cases in which a teacher request cannot be accommodated. Requests made after April 30 will not be granted.

Future Kindergarteners and Parents

It is time to get ready for school!

If you have a child who will be five years old on or before September 1, 2018, please join us on Tuesday, March 12. Kindergarten Parent Meeting will take place in the Theater at 5:30 pm. Please join us and meet the elementary staff and learn about the wonderful learning opportunities offered at Winterquist Elementary School. Children do not need to attend this meeting. It is purely informational for the parents. If you know of any out-of-district families that may be interested in attending kindergarten in Esko, please let them know they are welcome to join us. Interested families can reach us at 879-3361.





Kindergarten Parent Information Meeting Tuesday, March 12, 2024, 5:30-6:30 PM Esko School Theater

This evening is for parents to learn more about our kindergarten program at Winterquist Elementary.

Children do not need to attend this meeting and we ask that they stay home. Students will have an opportunity to visit the classrooms on

Friday, March 15, 2024

Please email Sam with any questions: sengen@esko.k12.mn.us

Esko Kindergarten Round Up

Please join us for Kindergarten Round Up! During this time, your child will see the classroom, meet the teachers, and experience a kindergarten day. Parents will be able to have questions answered by Mr. Harker, our principal, and tour the school.

Winterquist Elementary School
Friday, March 15, 2024
Session 1: 8:30-9:30 AM
Session 2: 10:30-11:30 AM
Session 3: 1:00-2:00 PM
(Please only sign up for *one* session.)

To sign up for a Kindergarten Round Up session, please contact Sam at:

sengen@esko.k12.mn.us or 218-879-3361

*Non-resident families are welcome to join.

School News

Congratulations Spelling Bee Participants



On Wednesday, January 17, twenty Esko High School 7th and 8th graders participated in the school Spelling Bee. The caliber of spellers was truly impressive, but a school champion and runners up were eventually determined. Abrina Dammann and Nolan Hendrickson tied for second place and Levi Raisanen was the school champion. Levi and Nolan represented Esko High School at the Regional Spelling Bee held at the Northeast Service Cooperative on Tuesday, February 13.



Letter winners: Sophia Reeves, Nickolas Borden, Aviana Bergstrand, Kendra East, Samantha LaGraves, Kate Staples, Sophia Juntunen, Emily Hacker, Alyssa Gonzalez, Londynn Salmi, Alijah Davis, Matthew Norstrom, Jayce Koskela, Ashlynn Beare, Claire Fontaine, Kaija Thompson, Dylan Putzke, Nicole Wietman, Trevor Leach, Ethan Putzke

One Act Play Participants













ATTENTION SPRING SPORT ATHLETES

If you haven't already done so, please make sure to turn in all of your eligibility paperwork, as well as register online thru the school website for the sport you wish to participate in. The following are athletic activities that are available for student athletes in the 2024 Season. If you have any questions, please contact the coach or the Activities Director, Chad Stoskopf, at 879-1909 or via email cstoskopf@esko.k12.mn.us

Baseball: Head Coach - Ben Haugen Email: bhaugen@esko.k12.mn.us Cell: 218-428-0249

Full practice begins Monday, March 18

Times are TBD and will be communicated to parents via email. Please register your son ASAP so the coaches know who

There is no school 7th grade team. 7th graders will play little league. Look for information from the Esko Youth Baseball Association (EYBA) about registration and start times

Softball: Head Coach - Jeff Emanuel Email: emanueljems@gmail.com Cell: 218-393-1599

Our team is hosting our annual Youth Camp March 4,5,6 and 7

Track and Field: Girls Head Coach - Matt Peterson Bovs Head Coach - Gary Beaudot

Email: mpeterson@esko.k12.mn.us Cell: 218-393-4171 Email: gbeaudot@esko.k12.mn.us Cell: 218-391-1994

Track and Field athletes grades 7-12.

Register online! You will not be allowed to practice until your registration is completed! Informational meeting for Parents on Monday, March 4th @ 5:15pm in the HS Theater Practice Begins Monday 3/11/23 for ALL athletes grades 7-12

Clay Target: Head Coach - Josh Mattson Email: JJMATTSON@usg.com Cell: (218)-348-1264

Esko Trap Club will be shooting at the Big Lake Sportsmen's Club *Child must be 6th grade minimum while being at least 11years old to join league*

*Prior to practice all athletes need to have the following completed-Online Sports Registration

1) Griffing Sports Physical signed by Physician (good for 3 years). If unsure contact Tanya Pagelkopf at tpagelkopf@esko.k12.mn.us and she can let you know if your child is in need of a current physical.

3) Pay Activity Fee



Follow us: Esko Youth Softball Association

stions? Email: eskoyouthsoftball@amail.com

School News

Honor Roll Quarter 2

Will Abrahamson Ava Daveau Bella Abrahamson Rylee Demers Emma Adkins Colton Dewey Joseph Antonutti Autumn Doble Joshua Antonutti Michael Dusek Hank Backstrom Garrett East Lucye Backstrom Kendra East Aaron Bailey Marie Eng Ellahna Barnes Mason Eng Ellynor Barta Eliana Erspamer Joel Barta Logan Filipiak Lucy Barta Elise Finc Alena Beare Tyler Finc Ashlynn Beare Max Foster Josef Bednar Kaelyn Foxx William Beisang Kennadi Foxx Levi Belland Kali Foxx Jaxon Benedix Finn Furcht Harper Benedix Zander Gabel Ethan Gamache Aspen Berg Cambrie Berger Melanie Gamache Wyatt Bergstedt Owen Genereau Elin Besonen Brennan Gerard Emmeline Bohlman Aubrey Gerard Genevieve Bohlman Ella Gerard Nickolas Borden Kadence Ghann Leah Borden Samantha Gilbertson Isabella Bowman Taylor Gilbertson Marisa Brabec Alyssa Gonzalez Ahna Brekke Elijah Gonzalez Braeden Caple Jack Graddy Merik Carey Raegan Grayson Priya Carey Ella Grell Charlie Carlson Tuula Hallsten Owen Cawcutt Jamis Halverson Joseph Cekalla Weston Halverson Samuel Cheslak Alec Halvorson Ayden Chopskie Alyssa Hansen Liberty Clifford Hailey Hansen Aoife Cook Sharla Hansen James Cornell Levi Hanson Logan Dahlman Macy Hanson

Cecilia Hart Stella Haugen Arabelle Hawkinson Nolan Hendrickson Michael Henney Braden Herman Kaiden High Gabriella Hilinski Sawyer Hipp Bella Huffman Madison Hurst Declan Johnson Maya Johnson Jacob Johnson Jaster Johnson Hunter Johnson Addison Johnson Elise Johnson Jayce Johnson Kyra Johnson Jayla Jones Nels Jouppi Aina Jouppi Sophia Juntunen Nora Kachinske Ahti Kari Sydney Kazel Alex King Caitlin Kluenenberg Kamryn Korkala Jayce Koskela Britta Koski Brooke Koski Carson Kronlund Reese Kuklinski Camden Kurhajetz Kennedy Kurhajetz Samantha LaGraves Kennadie Lammi Amber Lattner Keira Leach

Brody Lillo Aleah Lindgren Cole Luense Leo Luense Gianna Madill Drew Madill Joelle Majerle Braxdyn Male Dylan Marciulionis Kiya Marino Ava Marline August Marline Audrey Marsh Avery Martineau Andrew Mattinen Solveig Mattson Easton Mattson Kaitlyn McConnell Logan McConnell Grace McIlvain Cierah McKibbon Ava McKibbon Brooklyn McKibbon Aidan McWilliams Maxwell McWilliams Harper Mears Brayley Merrier Eli Metcalf Adelynn Michaud Aubrey Micken Grace Miles Ella Miles Addison Miller Belle Miller Tagan Mock Aislynn Mock Finn Muchow Abigail Naud Ellie Naud Sophia Naud Alivia Nelson Allysa Nelson Blake Nesseth Leah Niven Matthew Norstrom

Adrian Nyakundi Evan O'Leary Max Olson Trenton Ondrus Andrew Osborne Carter Osvold Adelyn Parrott Aubrey Pearce Ainslie Perlinger Harlow Perlinger Jackson Peterson Johanna Peterson Erin Pettyjohn Nolan Pfister Vincent Pianalto Titus Piepho Drew Piontek Paiton Plante Bailey Plante Witten Powers Mallorie Prouty Nora Pulford Levi Raisanen Jordyn Randa Hannah Rautell James Rautell Sophia Reeves Piper Rice Hunter Roemer Hannah Roemer Liana Rust Naiya Ruuska Lauryn Salmela Bryn Sathre Mari Sathre Annastasia Schmitz Hope Schmitz Ariel Schmitz Bridget Schoepflin Benjamyn Schramm Tucker Selin Peyton Selin Isaak Sertich Attlei Sheldon Deklinn Sheldon

Ava Sheridan Sophia Sheridan Lucy Skifstad Samuel Skog Annabelle Skowlund Madison Slygh Aubrey Snaza Jaiden Soukkala Aiden South Vivian Spicer Kate Staples Jace Stewart Brielle Stewart Brooklyn Stewart Jordan Stodola Eilee Straub Maya Stuermer Declan Sullivan Annabelle Sunnarborg Clara Swanson Jayden Symiczek Isaac Tester Luke Tester Kenley Theisen Kaija Thompson Abram Thwaits Nolan Thwaits Kaylee Tipple Teagan vonGillern Meghan Wagner Amelia Warden Henry Warden Violet Warden Evan Watsick Nicole Wietman Kaden Willis Isaac Wisted Shelby Zahn Elliot Zigich Lliam Zimny Ava Zywicki Owen Zywicki

Merit Roll Quarter 2

Rachel Amireault Adisyn Anderson Ava Anderson Simone Anderson Jack Arevalo Jayden Ausland Mallory Ausland Ali Autio **Emmett Bailey** Lourdes Barousse Therese Barousse Blake Behrendt Cadence Berger Cairin Berger Adalyn Berglund Maiya Bergstedt-Bloss Aviana Bergstrand Gino Bertogliat Wyatt Blotti Emma Breed Addison Bucsko London Byrnes Tyler Campanario Lucky Carlson Brynn Christensen Keaira Coleman Joseph Cooper

Ethan Dallager

Hunter Dallager

Abrina Dammann

Micheal Couture Daniel Dewey Gabriel Dusek Jaela Egge Neil Elsmore Anabelle Engen Finnley Erickson Paige Fontaine Claire Fontaine Benjamin Foster Erik Fowler Ezra Frederick Millie Frederick Philip Furcht Logan Gamache Hailey Gamache Haley Glendenning Macie Greiner Liberty Grimm Elizabeth Haapanen Jackson Hacker Wyatt Hacker Emily Hacker Jack Hakala Annika Halvorson Vivian Halvorson

Whitney Hanson

Eagan Harker

Easton Harker

Paul Cornell

Samuel Hammond Arlyne Haney Greta Harden Samuel Haugen Madilyn Hawkinson Molly Hawkinson Payton Heittola Lillian Hester Gracelynn Hill Gabrielle Hill Spencer Hipp Bryce Hipp Madeline Hipp Chiara Houser Ilee Johnson Jayce Johnson Jocelyn Johnson Joseph Jukich Eero Juntunen William Karjala Mikko Karjala Brandon Kauma Madek Kayser Alexandra Kemp Jayden Keppeler

Aubree Kern

Tallon Kiminski

Evelyn LeBlanc

Thurston Lick

Hewitt Liimatainen

Amara Liljegren

Lexi Klingelhofer Natalie Kluenenberg Aubrey Kulas Kamryn Kulas Charlie Langhorst Logan Lanthier David Larsen Carley Lawry Amber Lawry Trevor Leach Gwendolyn Lilly Raven Malzac Ariya Marino Thomas Mattonen Talon Mattson Abigail McConnell Braydon McKibbon Eden Mendez Oliver Michaud Gavin Moderson Alexander Nelson Sovay Nick Kenleigh Nikunen Derek Nooyen Owen OConnor

Altyn Oveson

Jacion Owens

John Pagelkopf Sophia Panger Samuel Panger Landen Parask Ashton Parrott Connor Pearce Carson Pehl Makoi Perich Margaret Peterson Evelyn Peterson Emma Piirainen Dawson Prachar Dylan Prachar Celia Preiner Dylan Putzke Ethan Putzke Jacob Randa Liam Reeves Emelia Regas Kellie Renne Baizlee Ritchie Sara Rosace Londynn Salmi

Elsa Sathre

Kira Sauter

Adaline Savage

Ava Savage

Robert Schilling Grace Shannon Araya Shovein Addison Sielaff Kallahan Sinnott Henry Skifstad Alan Skowlund Adalyn Smiley Dalton Spindler Cassie Stark Tanner Stokes Neela Stuermer Ryan Sturm Conor Sullivan Embry Sundquist Hannah Swanson Bryce Sweere Catlin Timblin Aiden Tingum Catrina Vigliaturo Chase Walz Ian Weaver

Layla Whiting

Matthew Wiermaa

Eva Wingness

Izaac Zimmer

Aiden Sawyer

7 - Esko's Corner - March-April-May 2024

From Our School Board

Clerk's Minutes

The Esko Board of Education, Independent School District No. 99, Esko, Minnesota, held their regular board meeting on Monday, December 11, 2023, at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Conference Room.

Members present: Jerry Frederick, Todd Rengo, Steve McConnell, Rob Johnson, Leona Johnson and Superintendent Aaron Fischer. Member absent: Margaret Sunnarborg.

Call the Meeting to Order

Chairperson Jerry Frederick called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Todd Rengo, second by Leona Johnson to approve the agenda. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approval of Consent Agenda Items
Moved by Steve McConnell, second by Rob Johnson to approve the Consent Agenda items pending check review.

• Approve the minutes of the November 13, 2023, regular School Board meeting.

• Checks.

	Date	Check #s	Total	+0 1
Freasurer's Approval.	11/8/23	Void 109340	(\$75.00)	*Pending
Fundraising	11/9/23	109558-109647	\$422,489.04	Requests.
o Boys	11/16/23	109648-109691	\$295,171.50	Basketball
- ball	11/21/23	109692	\$637.57	toss during
time of	*11/22/23	Void 92751 & 94811	(\$268.60)	varsity gam
Treasurer's	*11/30/23	109693-109757	\$217,867.28	Report.
	*12/4/23	Void 109256 & 109753	(\$407.88)	
	*12/4/23	109758	\$306.88	7
o October 2	2023	*	1500	

ESKO, MINNESOTA
TREASURER'S CASH REPORT
Month Ending October 31, 2023

Month Ending October 31, 20
Date of Report: 11/27/2023

FUND	BALANCE 9/30/2023	CASH RECEIPTS	CASH DISBURSEMENTS	PAYROLL	SUNDRY JOURNAL	BALANCE 10/31/2023
01 General	4,453,304.37	1,278,828.32	(809,484.22)	(487,880.78)	6,542.18	4,441,349.8 7
02 Food Service	419,528.85	82,213.59	(44,288.28)	(9,478.82)	(116.00)	447,881.34
03 Transportation	493,688.70	2,386.82	(22,673.69)	(20,871.96)	781.06	453,310.93
04 Community Service	547,899.58	71,582.10	(24,285.28)	(25,568.02)	(1,543.63)	568,088.73
05 Capital Expenditure 08 Building Construction	232,523.51 1.871.186.22	0.00	(170,670.34) (600.086.67)	0.00	0.00 8.516.95	81,853.17 1,279,638.5 0
07 Debt Service	624,049.41	172,127.99	0.00	0.00	0.00	796,177.40
11 Student Activity	77,948.58	9,198.17	(4,385.83)	0.00	1,424.57	84,185.47
18 Custodial	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Cash for reg. oper.	8,720,129.18	1,616,318.99	(1,675,792.31)	(543,777.58)	15,605.13	8,132,481.4 1
45 OPEB Trust	1.041.946.21	2.372.34	(3.386.35)	0.00	9.257.26	1,050,189.4

TOTAL	District Cash	9,782,075.39	1,618,689.33	(1,679,178.66)	(543,777.58)	24,882.39	7
					BANKS		AMOUNT
					National Bank of (Other Banks (CD) Trust)		230,121.84 7,898,175.6 9
This repor	rt reflects CASH balances	of the district, N	OT fund balances.		OPEB Trust	1	1,054,373.3 4 9.182.670.8
					TOTAL OF BANK	BAL.	9,182,670.8
			Electronic Transfer R	leport			
			October				
Date	Account Transferred Fro	om	Account Transferr	ed Into		Amour	<u>nt</u>
	PMA/MN						
10/11/23	Trust PMA/MN		National Bank of Co	ommerce		\$330,000	
10117100	PMAMN					31,100,00	0.0

Date	Account Transfe	erred From	Account Transferred Into			Amount
10/11/23	PMA/MN Trust		National Bank of Commerce			\$330,000.00
10/17/23	PMA/MN Trust		National Bank of Commerce			\$1,100,000.0
			Payrolls October			
Date	Payroll Type	Che	ck's	Direct Deposits	Electronic Payments	Grand Total
10/13/23	regular	124030-124048	\$8,808.75	\$238,845.00	\$258,809.85	\$502,061.60
10/31/23	Regular	1024049-1024061	\$7,447.25	\$242.684.14	\$263,229.48	\$513,380,87

■ INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 99 ESKO, MINNESOTA TREASURER'S CASH REPORT Month Ending November 30 2023

Date of Report: 12/6/2023

	BALANCE	CASH	CASH		SUNDRY	BALANCE
FUND	10/31/2023	RECEIPTS	DISBURSEMENTS	PAYROLL	JOURNAL	11/30/2023
01 General	4,441,349.87	1,085,910.40	(858,040.88)	(556,961.02)	(4,109.61)	4,308,148.78
02 Food Service	447,881.34	120,611.55	(53,670.69)	(9,179.13)	121.92	505,784.99
03 Transportation	453,310.93	500.00	(193,950.42)	(24,081.82)	2,083.19	237,881.88
04 Community Service	568,086.73	48,738.28	(20,930.07)	(28,277.77)	(209.19)	585,407.98
05 Capital Expenditure	61,853.17	0.00	(66,273.08)	0.00	0.00	(4,419.91)
08 Building Construction	1,279,636.20	0.00	(240,174.22)	0.00	0.00	1,039,461.98
07 Debt Service	798,177.40	179,738.74	0.00	0.00	0.00	975,916.14
11 Student Activity	84,185.47	17,408.55	(10,899.49)	0.00	2,958.72	93,651.25
18 Custodial	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total Cash for reg. oper.	8,132,481.11	1,450,905.52	(1,243,938.83)	(818,479.74)	845.03	7,721,813.09

45 OPEB Trust	1,050,189.48	3,942.04	(3,388.35)	0.00	3,340.70	1,054,085.85
TOTAL District Cash	9,182,670.57	1,454,847.56	(1,247,325.18)	(818,479.74)	4,185.73	8,775,898.94
				BANKS		AMOUNT
			National Bank of Commerce Other Banks (CD's & MN		(52,542.52)	
				Trust)		7,770,727.42

		adiots of the district, its		TOTAL O	F BANK BAL.	8,775,8
		E	ectronic Transfer Report			
		100	November			
Date	Account Transfe	erred From	Account Transferred Into			Amount
	PMA/MN					\$250,000.0
1/14/23	Trust PMA/MN		National Bank of Commerce			\$250,000.0
1/20/23	Trust		National Bank of Commerce			3250,000.0
	PMA/MN		Table of Collins of			\$400,000.0
1/27/23	Trust		National Bank of Commerce			0
	PMA/MN					\$150,000.0
1/30/23	Trust		National Bank of Commerce			0
			Payrolls			
			November			
Date	Payroll Type	Ch	eck's	Direct Deposits	Electronic Payments	Grand Total \$543,406.5
11/15/23	Regular	124082-124082	\$10,014.91	\$280,505.89	\$272,885.72	2
1/30/23	Regular	124083-124102	\$17,058.38	\$279,719.22	\$284,310.63	\$581,088.2 1

• Donations.

EPS Cranes, Inc. in the amount of \$100.00 for Robotics.

Northwest Outlet in the amount of \$50.00 for Robotics.

Krech, Ojard & Associates in the amount of \$250.00 for Robotics.

Cloquet Chapter No. 256 Women of the Moose in the amount of \$50.00 for Robotics.

National Bank of Commerce in the amount of \$100.00 for the Theater Department.

National Bank of Commerce in the amount of \$100.00 for Robotics.

Widdes Trailer Sales in the amount of \$500.00 for Robotics.

• Handbook Policy Correction.

Correct the Acceleration Policy in the Athletics Parent Handbook to match the policy language in the Activities Handbook.

Motion carried by unanimous vote.

<u>Items Removed from Consent Agenda for Individual</u> <u>Consideration</u>

A discussion was held on the Grant from the Minnesota Department of Health in the amount of \$9,925.00 for Drinking Water Protection.

Moved by Steve McConnell, second by Rob Johnson to approve the Grant and purchase a generator to support the water system. Motion carried by unanimous vote

ICS Presentation: Flexible Learning Space Project

ICS presented a plan for the Flexible Learning Space Project at an estimated cost of \$739,000.00.

Fitness Center Project Update

9.182.670.8

Superintendent Fischer reported the project is progressing well and the flooring is projected to be completed mid-January.

Approve a Contract to Hire ICS to begin the Flexible Learning Space Project

Moved by Todd Rengo, second by Rob Johnson to approve a contract to hire ICS to begin the Flexible Learning Space Project. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve the 2023/2024-2024/2025 AFSCME Driver/ Custodian Master Agreement

Moved by Jerry Frederick, second by Rob Johnson to approve the 2023/2024-2024/2025 AFSCME Driver/Custodian Master Agreement. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve the 2023/2024-2024/2025 AFSCME Paraprofessional Master Agreement

Moved by Jerry Frederick, second by Rob Johnson to approve the 2023/2024-2024/2025 AFSCME Paraprofessional Master Agreement. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve the World's Best Workforce Plan and Summary 2023-2024

Moved by Leona Johson, second by Rob Johnson to approve the World's Best Workforce Plan and Summary 2023-2024 as presented. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve the Final Levy Certification 2023 Payable 2024

Moved by Todd Rengo, second by Steve McConnell to approve the Final Levy Certification 2023 payable 2024. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve the Resolution establishing combined polling places for multiple precincts & designating hours during which the polling places will remain open for voting for school district elections not held on the same day of the statewide elections.

Moved by Todd Rengo, second by Leona Johnson to approve the resolution. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve the Hire of an Additional Van Driver

Moved by Todd Rengo, second by Leona Johnson to approve the hire of an additional van driver with permission to post the position. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Accept Letter of Resignation from Mikalie Maunu, ECFE Program Assistant

Moved by Leona Johson, second by Steve McConnell to accept a letter of resignation from Mikalie Maunu, ECFE Program Assistant, effective December 19, 2023. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Accept Letter of Resignation from Dylan Langenbrunner, Maintenance

Moved by Steve McConnell, second by Rob Johnson to accept a letter of resignation from Dylan Langenbrunner in Maintenance, effective January 15, 2024, with permission to post the position. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve the Hire of Rachel Pantsar, Cool Kids Program Assistant

Moved by Leona Johnson, second by Todd Rengo to approve the hire of Rachel Pantsar, Cool Kids Program Assistant, at a rate of \$15.69 per hour, effective January 23, 2024. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve the Hire of Nicole Fechtelkotter, Elementary Special Education Teacher

Moved by Todd Rengo, second by Leona Johnson to approve the hire of Nicole Fechtelkotter, Elementary Special Education Teacher, at MA30 Step 8 pending appropriate transcripts and return of clear background check. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve the Hire of Jessica Walczak, Two-Trip Bus Driver

Moved by Leona Johnson, second by Steve McConnell to approve the hire of Jessica Walczak, Two-Trip Bus Driver, for 3 hours per student day at \$28.47 per hour, effective December 12, 2023, clear background check on file. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Administrative Reports:

Principals' Reports:

Elementary School: Mr. Harker reported on the following:

Holiday music program last week

Kindergarten music program on December 15th Nice art projects in the Elementary

 High School: Mr. Hexum reported on the following:

Reviewed routine of off campus activities and e-learning days

High School student have many volunteering opportunities in December

Discussed Artificial Intelligence challenges and opportunities in the High School

Board Committee Reports:

- Jerry Frederick: Meet & Confer, Facilities Committee, Technology Committee, Non-Certified Negotiations
- Rob Johnson: Non-Certified Negotiations, Community Education Meeting
- Leona Johnson: Community Education Meeting
- Todd Rengo: Meet & Confer, Facilities Committee, Esko Sports Alliance Meeting
- Steve McConnell: Facilities Committee, DSG Furniture, Technology Committee

Superintendent's Report:

Supt. Aaron Fischer:

Mr. Fischer reported on the following:

Steering Committee for Learning Center will have 3 board members, 4 teachers, Tony Compo, Teresa Hart and 2-4 students

Bells Project funded by iPad sales

Water filter system

Minnesota School Board Association conference in January

From Our School Board

Community Education planning possible changes to the Esko's Corner

Communications

Leona Johnson thanked the board for the card she received.

<u>Adjournment</u>

There being no further business, moved by Leona Johnson, second by Steve McConnell to adjourn at 7:43 p.m. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Steve McConnell Clerk

Clerk's Minutes

The Esko Board of Education, Independent School District No. 99, Esko, Minnesota, held their regular board meeting on Monday, January 8, 2024, at 6:30 p.m. in the Board Conference Room.

Members present: Jerry Frederick, Todd Rengo, Steve McConnell, Rob Johnson, Leona Johnson, Margaret Sunnarborg, and Superintendent Aaron Fischer.

Call the Meeting to Order

Chairperson Jerry Frederick called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Todd Rengo, second by Leona Johnson to approve the agenda. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Election of Officers

Acting Chairperson Jerry Frederick called for nominations for Board officers.

- Call for nominations for Board Chair.
- Todd Rengo nominated Jerry Frederick for the position of Board Chair. There were no other nominations and Jerry Frederick was elected Chairperson by acclamation.
- Call for nominations for Vice Chair. Steve McConnell nominated Todd Rengo for the position of Vice Chairperson. There were no other nominations and Todd Rengo was elected Vice Chair by acclamation.
- Call for nominations for Treasurer.

Leona Johnson nominated Margaret Sunnarborg for the position of Treasurer. There were no other nominations and Margaret Sunnarborg was elected Treasurer by acclamation.

Call for nominations for Clerk.

Rob Johnson nominated Steve McConnell for the position of Clerk. There were no other nominations and Steve McConnell was elected Clerk by acclama-

Approve the Update of the Signature Plate for Checks No changes, the officers stayed the same.

Approve Designation of Authorized Personnel and Statement Recipient

Moved by Todd Rengo, second by Leona Johnson to approve Aaron Fischer, Superintendent, Teresa Hart, Business Manager, and Julie Pelletier, Administrative Assistant as Authorized Personnel and Teresa Hart as the Statement Recipient. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Act on Setting Salary of School Board Members

Moved by Todd Rengo, second by Steve McConnell to keep the current per meeting rate at \$60 for each meeting with a six month cap of \$1,680.

BE IT RESOLVED that all members of the Board of Education, Independent School District, No. 99, are compensated at a rate of \$60 for each meeting and/or workshop attended with a cap of \$1,680 per six month

period. Members shall be paid semi-annually in June and December 2024. Motion carried by the following vote: Aye votes by Todd Rengo, Steve McConnell, Leona Johnson, Jerry Frederick, and Rob Johnson with Margaret Sunnarborg abstaining from the vote and no nay votes.

Set 2024 School Board Meeting Dates

Moved by Steve McConnell, second by Todd Rengo to set 2024 School Board Meeting dates as follows: 2nd Monday of each month starting at 6:30 p.m. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve the Newspaper for Legal Publication for 2024

Moved by Todd Rengo, second by Rob Johnson to approve the Pine Knot newspaper for legal publication for 2024. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve Depositories for School District Funds for 2024

Moved by Todd Rengo, second by Leona Johnson to approve depositories for district funds for 2024 as follows: US Bank, Northwoods Credit Union, PMA/MN Trust/Associated Bank, National Bank of Commerce, Members Cooperative Credit Union. Motion carried by the following vote: Aye votes by Todd Rengo, Leona Johnson, Margaret Sunnarborg, Jerry Frederick, and Rob Johnson with Steve McConnell abstaining from the vote and no nay votes.

Approve Rupp Anderson Squires and Rudy Associates as the Attorneys of Record for 2024

Moved by Todd Rengo, second by Leona Johnson to approve Rupp Anderson Squires and Rudy Associates as the attorneys of record for 2024. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve Board Committee Assignments for 2024
No changes, committee assignments will stay the s

T Rengo, L Johnson, S McConnell J Frederick, M Sunnarborg, R Johnson L Johnson, R Johnson, M Sunnarborg/Altv Non-certified Negotiators Community Education Special Education MSHSL Governing Board

T Rengo, A Fischer/Alternate T Rengo, S McConnell/Alternate Town Board Liais J Frederick, M Sunnarborg/Alternat S McConnell, J Frederick/Alternate Staff Development

Facilities M Sunnarborg, R Johnson, S McConnell/Alte L Johnson, M Sunnarborg L Johnson, R Johnson

Health Insurance Committee T Rengo, L Johnson J Frederick, (Chair), T Rengo, (Vice Chair)

Approve Authorization to Perform EFT
Moved by Leona Johnson, second by Rob Johnson to authorize the Business Manager and the District
Administrative Assistant to perform Electronic Fund Transfers (EFT). Motion carried by unanimous

proval of Consent Agenda Items
wed by Steve McConnell, second by Todd Rengo to approve the Consent Agenda items. Motion carried by

Approve the minutes of the December 11, 2023, regular School Board meeting
 Checks.

	Date	Check #s	Total	
	11/22/23	Void 92751 & 94811	(\$268.60)	
	11/30/23	109693-109757	\$217,867.28	
 Donations. 	12/4/23	Void 109256 & 109753	(\$407.88)	Con
o Twin	12/4/23	109758	\$306.88	Ports IBEW 24
NECA	12/14/23	109759-109850	\$795,663.88	LLMCC in the
amount	12/14/23	Void 109804 & 109783	(\$1,758.75)	of \$1,000.00 fo
	12/15/23	109851	\$200.43	Robotics.
	12/27/23	109852-109909	\$74,291.47	
	1/2/24	Void 109517	(\$2,471.00)	-
	1/4/24	109910-109922	\$165,728.23	
	1/8/24	Void 109821	(\$110.00)	

- Carpenters #361 in the amount of \$100.00 for Robotics. Sappi in the amount of \$300.00 for Robotics. IBEW Local 242 in the amount of \$500.00 for Robotics

- North Shore Bank in the amount of \$ 100.00 for Robotics.
 Cloquet Eagles Aerie 1163 in the amount of \$250.00 for Robotics.
 Fundraising Requests.
 Esko School Forest selling choppers with "Esko" engraved on them.
 Cheerleaders conduct cheer clinics and perform at the January 19, 2024, basketball
- game.

 Cheerleaders early release conference days after school childcare for K-6 students. Esko Leads sell tickets for Winterfest Carnival games.

- per week. Parent Leave request from Katie Wood. Riley Fischer additional volunteer for boys' basketball, clear background check on file

Fitness Center Project Update

Superintendent Fischer reported the project is progressing well and the flooring project is almost done.

Esko's Corner Discussion

Michele Carlson presented the Board with possible options for the future of the Esko's Corner.

Presentation on the American Times Communications <u>System</u>

Angie Orvedahl-Jalonen presented information to the Board on the American Times Communications System.

Approve the Purchase of the American Times Communications System

Moved by Steve McConnell, second by Todd Rengo to approve the purchase of the American Times Communications System at a cost of up to \$150,000.00. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve the Pay Equity Report

Moved by Leona Johnson, second by Rob Johnson to approve the Pay Equity Report. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve WIPFLI CPAs and Consultants to Serve as Independent Auditors

Moved by Leona Johson, second by Todd Rengo to approve WIPFLI CPAs and Consultants to serve as independent auditors for the year ended June 30, 2024. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve the Resolution Limiting Open Enrollment

Moved by Todd Rengo, second by Rob Johnson to approve the Resolution Limiting Open Enrollment. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Approve the Resolution Directing Administration to make Recommendations for Reductions and Positions and Reasons Therefor.

Moved by Leona Johnson, second by Rob Johnson to approve the Resolution Directing Administration to make Recommendations for Reductions and Positions and Reasons Therefor. Motion carried by unanimous

Approve Policy 534 School Meals Policy

Moved by Todd Rengo, second by Leona Johnson to approve Policy 534 School Meals Policy. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Accept Letter of Resignation from Amanda Ashmore, Community Education Program Assistant

Moved by Leona Johson, second by Rob Johnson to accept a letter of resignation from Amanda Ashmore, Community Education Program Assistant, effective December 22, 2023. Motion carried by unanimous

<u>Congratulations and Commendations</u>

Thank you to the Board from Margaret Sunnarborg and Leona Johnson.

<u>Adjournment</u>

There being no further business, moved by Steve McConnell, second by Leona Johnson to adjourn at 7:38 p.m. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Steve McConnell Clerk

ATTENTION SANITARY SEWER **CUSTOMERS**

If you are on the Town of Thomson Sanitary Sewer System and you are planning on selling your house, be aware that a video inspection of your sewer line from your house to the Town's sewer line is required before the house is listed for sale. This is per Ordinance No. 44, Regulating Inflow and Infiltration Compliance and Prescribing Penalties for the Violation of its Provi-

sions. Section 6A of that ordinance states:

Upon the proposed sale or the proposed transfer of title in Owner's property, the Owner shall coordinate a Service Lateral inspection. The responsibility for repair of a Service Lateral that fails testing shall be mutually agreed upon by the property buyer and seller.

The entire ordinance and more information can be found on the Town's website, https://thomson.govoffice.com or by contacting the Town Office, 218-879-9719.

Around Town

MINUTES

TOWN BOARD MEETING

NOVEMBER 2, 2023

Present: Ruth Janke, Bill Gerard, Tony Compo, David Sunnborg, Rhonda Peleski

Absent: Terry Hill, David Pritchett

Staff also attending: Leah Pykkonen, Dan Stangle, Josh Evans

Chairperson Janke called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. in the Town Board Room at the Town Hall.

Gerard made a motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. Second by Sunnarborg. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Compo with a second by Sunnarborg to approve the A Plus Landscaping Change Order # 1 in the amount of \$ 3,694.00 for the Marks Road culvert replacement. Motion carried.

Compo made a motion to approve the current vouchers in the amount of \$95,193.92 (Check #'s 48996-49041) to pay payroll and due bills and electronic payments in the amount of \$10,305.71. Second by Sunnarborg. Motion carried.

Discussion was held on the extended warranty for the generator at the fire hall. That coverage will be declined.

Evans reported that the culvert replacement on Marks Rd is finished.

Ulland has finished the ditching on the southside of E. Riverside Road. They will be redoing the trail into Northridge Park and will also be finishing work on Serenity Way.

Sunnarborg has been looking into getting estimates for solar panels at the town hall.

A work session will be held on Tuesday, November 28 at 9:30 am.

Pykkonen continues to work on implementing the Tyler Technologies software.

Stangle gave his monthly report. There was a recent Planning and Zoning Commission meeting. New officers were appointed. Jim Gottschald is now the chairperson, Gary Bonneville is vice-chair and Peleski is the secretary. Stangle also continues to work on blighted property complaints.

Janke shared designs for a new town hall sign and welcome sign on Thomson Road.

Sunnarborg has purchased new first aid kits and eyewash stations for the town garage and town hall.

A motion to adjourn was made at 5:20 p.m. by Compo with a second by Gerard. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Rhonda Peleski, Clerk/Treasurer

Ruth Janke, Chairperson

Town of Thomson

NOVEMBER 16, 2023

Present: Ruth Janke, Bill Gerard, Terry Hill, Dave Sunnarborg, Rhonda Peleski, Dave Pritchett, Tony Compo

Staff also attending: Leah Pykkonen, Casey Rennquist, Josh Evans, Dan Stangle, Deb Kamunen

Chairperson Janke called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. in the Town Board Room at the Town Hall.

Sunnarborg made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous regular meeting. Second by Gerard. Motion Carried.

Compo made a motion to approve the current vouchers in the amount \$ 92,173.43 (Check #'s 49042-49087) to pay payroll and due bills and electronic payments in the amount of \$ 10,066.65. Second by Hill. Motion Carried.

October receipts in the amount of \$ 54,957.21 and October fund balances were reviewed.

Hill updated the Board on the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Contract with Carlton Ambulance It is his recommendation to move forward with the contract terms of a 3% cap on increases for calendar years 2024 through 2027. A motion was made by Hill with a second by Gerard to approve the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Contract with the Carlton Ambulance for calendar years 2024–2027. Motion carried.

Discussion was held regarding a letter submitted by Jim Kuklis regarding the sewer service extension south of his proposed subdivision. Stangle has told Kuklis and his engineer that this will be addressed with the Planning and Zoning Commission, who will make a recommendation to the Town Board. This will be discussed further once the subdivision application is complete.

Pykkonen provided the list of delinquent sewer accounts which totaled \$ 7,921.34. Peleski stated that the list had been updated as one of the properties has paid their delinquent sewer account. A motion was made by Hill with a second by Compo to approve the list in the amount of \$ 7,921.34 for certification to Carlton County for collection with the 2024 property taxes. Motion carried.

An email was received from Kevin DeVriendt, Carlton County Auditor, requesting that the County be allowed to retain the funds awarded to them from the Voting Operations, Technology, & Election Resources (VOTER) funds. A motion was made by Sunnarborg with a second by Gerard to approve Carlton County retaining Thomson Township's allocation of the \$9,158.19 that the County received. Motion carried. This money will be used to maintain the election equipment.

Compo presented the name of a new member on the fire department. A motion was made by Compo with a second by Hill to approve the hiring of Spencer Nynas, effective November 16, 2023. Motion carried.

Deputy Casey Rennquist was present to give his monthly report. In October there were 135 calls for service. Rennquist responded to 88 of them with other deputies covering the remaining 47 with several related to trespassing issues and garbage dumping.

Evans stated that the paving projects on E. Riverside and Serenity Way and the parking lot of the Northridge Park are finished. A final pay application is being prepared.

Stangle reported that a Planning and Zoning Commission meeting will be scheduled to adopt the new bylaws.

The Ram truck that was recently purchased is still at the dealership waiting for parts to come in.

Sunnarborg said that there is an energy audit scheduled for December 11. He is also getting estimates for new lighting at Northridge Park.

Sunnarborg reported that the Cloquet Area Fire District is adding a lieutenant position and also a Community Risk Reduction Officer. Ambulance rates are increasing by 3 percent.

Peleski informed the Board that the 2024 budget work has started. The 2024 worker's compensation rates were projected to decrease an average of 15 percent.

A motion to adjourn was made at 5:27 p.m. by Sunnarborg with a second by Compo. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,
Rhonda Peleski, Clerk/Treasurer
Ruth Janke, Chairperson
Town of Thomson

DECEMBER 7, 2023

Present: Ruth Janke, Bill Gerard, Terry Hill, Tony Compo, Dave Sunnarborg, Rhonda Peleski, Bill Helwig

Staff also attending: Leah Pykkonen, Josh Evans, Kyle Gustafson, Josh Ritchie, Deb Kamunen Chairperson Janke called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. in the Town Board Room at the Town Hall.

Compo made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous regular meeting. Second by Gerard. Motion Carried.

Gerard made a motion to approve the current vouchers in the amount of \$251,035.00 (Check #'s 49090-49173) to pay payroll and due bills and electronic payments in the amount of \$15,427.27. Second by Sunnarborg. Motion Carried.

November receipts in the amount of \$65,739.87 and November fund balances were reviewed.

Discussion was held regarding two new town signs – a single one by the liquor store on Thomson Road and a larger sign at the Town Hall. Three quotes were received. Discussion was held on whether to replace the sign on Thomson Road or just the sign at the Town Hall and whether the signs should be similar to the sign at the Business Park. A motion was made by Hill with a second by Sunnarborg to accept the bid of \$12,520 from Graphic Technology for the Town Hall sign only. Motion carried with three yeas and Compo and Gerard voting nay. This sign will be similar to the Business Park entrance and will be paid for using ARPA money.

Resident Allan Bottila addressed the Board with an appeal of a notice of a stormwater violation and stop work order number #2023-01. Helwig provided a synopsis of the reason for the stop work order. The stop work order was issued when a complaint was received by the MPCA regarding Bottila's disturbance on his property. Bottila stated there is demolition debris and dredge material from the DECC harbor wall in St. Louis Bay, Duluth. Helwig stated that due to the disturbance impacting the various waterways on Bottila's property and the size of the disturbance other agencies were contacted which included Carlton County Zoning. The stop work order was issued as there was not a permit in place. Bottila voiced a concern regarding lack of access to ordinances as they are not on the town's website. Peleski stated that since a fine was not assessed, there was not a violation to appeal. Helwig responded that Bottila had the right to appeal the stop work order because it is preventing him from doing work. After further discussion, Bottila was instructed to start the MPCA permitting process.

Pykkonen reported that Catalis/GovOffice, the current website provider, has recently increased their fees. She has obtained a quote from TownWeb. It will offer more services for less cost. They are offering a discount on a four-year contract for all Catalis customers. A motion was made by Sunnarborg with a second by Compo to accept the quote for a four-year contract from TownWeb in the amount of \$10,615. Motion carried.

Pykkonen informed the Board that Mitel, the Town's current phone system, is sunsetting their current program for cloud-based systems. They are working with RingCentral to move their clients to a new system. RingCentral will honor Mitel's pricing. The phone numbers will remain the same but will have all new leased phone equipment. A motion was made by Hill with a second by Sunnarborg to accept RingCentral as the phone carrier for Thomson Township. Motion carried.

Peleski stated that the 2024 Budget draft was ready for the Board to review. No action is needed until the next regular Board meeting.

A work session was tentatively set for 9:30 a.m. on January 17, 2024.

Pykkonen reported that the community input survey for North Ridge Park is live as of today. There is a link on the website. Printed copies are available at the Town Hall. Pykkonen will also be bringing notices to local businesses and ARDC also will be promoting it. It will be live until January 5th.

Gustafson reported that he had been at Chemstar in Carlton doing preplanning with Carlton and Wrenshall Fire Departments and the Emergency Manager for the County's

Around Town

from the Sheriff's Department.

He met with Jessie Buhs of the Cloquet Area Fire District regarding some of the things they would like to see changed to Carlton County's dispatching.

The fire department is three or four runs away from last year's numbers. Runs for the year should be a little over last year's.

The tanker chassis that was ordered will be delivered to Midwest Fire soon. It came in \$ 8,644 under budget.

Evans reported that ABCO is going to be televising another property on Maple Drive/Randall Ave.

Evans stated that he along with attorney Dave Pritchett met with Jim Kuklis and his engineer. They are making good progress on the Riverbend development.

Evans said he received the enforcement system for the ordinances. He will work with Pritchett on adopting it for the town.

Gerard reported that he has been doing fall pruning on the Canosia Road Trail and Highway 61 Trail.

Janke stated that the Planning and Zoning Commission met last month to revise their bylaws.

Compo obtained quotes from Parson Electric and Benson Electric for LED lights at the Fire Hall. A motion was made by Compo with a second by Gerard to accept Benson Electric's low quote of \$4,412 to change to LED lighting at the Fire Hall. This will be paid for using ARPA funds. Motion carried. There will be additional costs for grid work and tile.

Sunnarborg said that there is an energy audit scheduled for next week with Minnesota Power. Black Goose will be looking at cleaning the duct work at the Town Hall.

Sunnarborg reported that the Cloquet Area Fire District is adding a lieutenant position and also a Community Risk Reduction Officer. Ambulance rates are increasing by 3 percent.

Peleski informed the Board that the FEMA claim is almost submitted.

Discussion was held on a ventilation system at the Town Garage. A study was done by Architectural Resources regarding the need for a new public works building. Peleski will schedule a meeting to review the results of the study.

The easement for the Torma Road bus turnaround has been signed by the property owners. Work will begin next week on that project.

Ritchie reported that Sugar Maple Lane will need to be worked on. It is a road that is shared with the City of Carlton. This, along with equipment needs, will be added to the work session agenda in January.

A motion to adjourn was made at 6:05 p.m. by Hill with a second by Compo. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Rhonda Peleski, Clerk/Treasurer Ruth Janke, Chairperson Town of Thomson

DECEMBER 21, 2023

Present: Ruth Janke, Bill Gerard, Terry Hill, Tony Compo, Dave Sunnarborg, Rhonda Peleski, David Pritchett

Staff also attending: Leah Pykkonen, Kyle Gustafson, Deb Kamunen

Chairperson Janke called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. in the Town Board Room at the Town Hall.

Compo made a motion to approve the minutes of the previous regular meeting. Second by Sunnarborg. Motion Carried.

A motion was made by Hill with a second by Compo to approve the Ulland Brothers, Inc. Change Order No. 1 for the North Ridge Park project to correct a drainage issue in the amount of \$3,946.13. Motion carried.

A motion was made by Sunnarborg with a second by Gerard to approve the Ulland Brothers, Inc. Payment Application No. 3 in the amount of \$9,790.82. Motion carried.

Gerard made a motion to approve the current vouchers in the amount of \$52,350.60 (Check #'s 49174-49208) to pay payroll and due bills and electronic payments in the amount of \$11,268.29 Second by Hill. Motion carried.

November receipts in the amount of \$65,739.87 and November fund balances were reviewed.

Resolution 2023-05, Accepting Donations Received in 2023, was presented for approval. A motion was made by Gerard with a second by Sunnarborg to approve Resolution 2022-05. Resolution approved.

Peleski presented a list of anticipated year-end transfers between funds. A motion was made by Hill with a second by Compo to approve the year-end transfers between funds. Motion carried. It was noted that some increased transfer amounts was due to the early payment in full of the refunding bond and unexpected capital purchases.

Peleski provided an updated list of ARPA fund expenditures for review.

Peleski reported the new backhoe should be delivered in February and the fire department's new tanker delivery anticipated in July. Financing options need to be explored with more discussion needed at the next work session scheduled in January 2024. Amounts for anticipated payments are included in the capital improvement update.

Discussion was held on per diems paid to Planning and Zoning Commission members as well as Board of Adjustments and Appeals Board members. A motion was made by Sunnarborg with a second by Hill to increase the per diem to \$ 25.00 per meeting. The last increase was in 2012. Motion carried. This will be effective Jan. 1, 2024.

The 2024 proposed budget was reviewed. Discussion was held on the current Town Board member wages. The last increase was in 2017. A motion was made by Hill with a second by Sunnarborg to increase the monthly wages to \$ 500 per month with the Chair receiving \$ 550 per month. Motion carried with four yeas and Gerard voting nay. This will be effective Jan. 1, 2024.

A motion was made by Hill with a second by Compo to approve the 2024 Budget as presented. Motion carried.

Pykkonen reported that the community input survey for North Ridge Park has had 163 survey responses to date according to ARDC and asked everyone to keep letting the residents know about the survey.

Gustafson reported that the fire department is at 374 runs which is up over last year's runs of 363.

Janke commended the fire department for their involvement with a recent funeral for a retired member.

Janke asked the Board to set goals for 2024 and bring them to the January work session.

Discussion was held on the Ram 5500 truck. It was returned from the dealership but is not running properly. Bouvine will work with legal counsel to see what the Town's ontions are

The Torma Road bus turn around is finished. $\,$

Discussion was held on the Randall Ave. sewer issues.

Another shared connection has been found. This will be discussed further to determine options for the Town and the property owners.

Sunnarborg said that the Minnesota Power energy audit was last week. The Minnesota Power representative will be sending her findings.

Sunnarborg reported that Dryco has inspected the Town Hall and found traces of mold in the mechanical room.

They will be back to remediate the problem.

A motion to adjourn was made at 5:26 p.m. by Sunnarborg with a second by Gerard. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Rhonda Peleski, Clerk/Treasurer

Ruth Janke, Chairperson Town of Thomson

JANUARY 4, 2024

Present: Ruth Janke, Bill Gerard, Terry Hill, Tony Compo, Dave Sunnarborg, Rhonda Peleski, David Pritchett
Other Staff Present: Leah Pykkonen, Jon Bouvine,
Deb Kamunen, Josh Evans, Josh Ritchie

Chairperson Janke called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. in the Town Board Room at the Town Hall.

Nominations were requested for the position of Board Chairperson. Hill nominated Janke for the position. Second by Gerard. There being no further nominations, Janke was elected unanimously as Chairperson.

Sunnarborg nominated Gerard as Board Vice-chairperson. Second by Compo. There being no further nominations, Gerard was elected unanimously as Vice-chairperson.

A motion was made by Hill with a second by Gerard to approve the following list of office appointments:

A motion was made by Hill with a second by Gerard to approve the following list of office appointments:

Rhonda
Peleski
Clerk/Treasurer
Assistant Weed Inspector Legal
Counsel

Engineer

Difficial Newspaper Insurance
Agent

Depositories

Depositories

Health Officer
Public Works Supervisor
Zoning Official / Ordinance Enforcement
Fire Chief

Agent

Fire Chief

Agent

Commerce Wells Fargo
North Shore Bank of
Commerce Carlton County
Health Officer Jon Bouvine
Damiel
Stangle
Kyle
Gustafson

Pritchett explained that State Statute states that if there is no newspaper with a primary office in the Town, then if any newspaper has a secondary office in the Town, we are required to name that paper as the legal newspaper. The Radosevich Law Office in the township has been designated a secondary office of the Cloquet Pine Knot News.

Motion carried

Gerad

Dave Sunnarborg

The list of Board liaison and committee positions was reviewed and discussed. A motion was made by Gerard with a second by Sunnarborg to approve the following list of appointments:

Liaison Positions:

School Board Community
Education Joint Sports & Ruth
Recreation Parks and Trees
Town Hall Public
Safety
Carlton County Sheriffs Dept. Fire
Sewer and Water Roads

Herry
Hill
Tony
Compo
Dave |
Sunnarborg
Tony Compo

Planning and Zoning Economic
Development Environmental and
Recycling Personnel Committee

Planning Personnel Committee

Reviewer
Administrative
County Board
Duluth Urban Watershed Advisory

Council Motion carried.

Ruth Janke
Bill
Ruth Janke
Department Head as needed Legal Counsel as needed Tony Compo
Ruth
Janke
Bill
Gerard
Bill
Council Motion carried.

Council Motion carried.

Gerard made a motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. Second by Hill. Motion carried.

Hill made a motion to approve the current vouchers in the amount of\$ 60,958.80 (Check #'s 49209-49252) to pay payroll and due bills and electronic payments in the amount of\$ 28,015.93. Second by Gerard. Motion carried.

Around Town

Evans updated the Board on the Randall Ave shared sewer line issues. There is an additional property with a shared sewer line that goes to Maple Drive. A letter will be prepared to be sent to the affected residents to explain the situation and give options for corrections. This will be discussed at the next work session.

John Perich addressed the Board virtually to inquire about accessing his property from a private road. He recently purchased property north of Meadowbrook Lane and would like to build a home. He has no plans to subdivide the property. After discussion regarding the proposed private road ordinance, he was advised to begin the building permit process now. He is working with adjoining property owners to join their road maintenance agreement. He was also advised to speak to an attorney regarding the language of the easements for Meadowbrook Lane.

An email was received from a resident regarding lighting on Thomson Road by the school. Sunnarborg will contact Minnesota Power to determine which electrical poles would be best suited for lighting.

A work session will be scheduled for Feb. 20 at 5:00 p.m. to develop a proposed levy to present to electors at the Annual Town Meeting in March.

With the newly adopted planning and zoning commission bylaws, the number of citizen members on the commission is reduced to five. There are currently six citizen members. In order to fairly reduce the number and stagger the length ofterms, names were drawn from a bowl by Peleski and Pritchett. The members and their length ofterms are as follows:

year remaining in term - Jim Gottschald

years remaining in term - Greg Stoewer

years remaining in term - Gary Bonneville

years remaining in term - Dale Reed 3 years remaining in term - Scott Nigon

A motion was made by Hill with a second by Compo to approve the list of appointments. Motion carried. Manny Umpierre is the member whose name was not drawn.

Pykkonen continues to work on going live with the new utility billing software.

Bouvine will work with legal counsel to remedy the issues with the Ram 5500 truck. Minnesota Truck Headquarters should not have sold the truck with the modifications to the exhaust system. The Carfax report will be run on the truck.

Bouvine requested that anyone needing the public works department after hours or on weekends should contact the public works telephone, not staff personal phones.

The frre department responded to over 380 calls for service in 2023. They will hold their annual meeting and election of officers on Jan. 8.

Sunnarborg reported that Dryco has removed the mold that was found in the utility room and kitchen at the Town Hall.

A motion to adjourn was made at 5:43 p.m. by Compo with a second by Hill. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Rhonda Peleski, Clerk/Treasurer Ruth Janke, Chairperson Town of Thomson

JANUARY 18, 2024

Present: Ruth Janke, Bill Gerard, Terry Hill, Tony Compo, David Sunnarborg, Leah Pykkonen, Joe Heck

Absent: Rhonda Peleski, Dave Pritchett

Staff also attending: Deb Kamunen, Josh Ritchie, Josh

Evans, Deputy Casey Rennquist

Chairperson Janke called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. in the Town Board Room at the Town Hall.

Compo made a motion to accept the minutes of the previous meeting. Second by Gerard. Motion carried.

Compo made a motion to approve the current vouchers in the amount of \$71,458.89 of which \$57,116.29 (Check No.s 49253-49285) (voided Check Numbers 49255 and 49256) to pay payroll and due bills and electronic payments in the amount of \$14,342.60. Second by Sunnarborg. Motion carried.

December receipts in the amount of \$1,512,024.92 which includes \$ 675,385.97 of interfund transfers and December fund balances were reviewed.

Missie Swede of Arrowhead/Waller Insurance was present to discuss the insurance renewal. The dividend was down this year due to earned premium and adjusted losses over several years with the League of Minnesota Cities. Workers comp rates will decrease by an average of 15% due to a favorable members claim experience for 2022 and 2023. No change in property rates while auto rates increased due to increased loss patterns. Overall, it is only a .75% rate

Hill made a motion to investigate acquiring a Certificate of Indebtedness for the backhoe and fire truck. Second by Compo. Motion carried.

Hill made a motion to begin the bonding process for the sewer and paving projects, while also inquiring if a plow truck and tractor could be included. Second by Gerard. Motion carried.

Hill made a motion to draw up a Request for Proposal for engineering services. Second by Sunnarborg. Motion

Deputy Rennquist gave an update as the month of December has had quieter activity than normal. Calls for service were down a bit with 114 calls for service of which he responded to 49.

Janke discussed the creation of a possible Safety Committee with Deputy Rennquist. Hill and Deputy Rennquist will set up a time to meet.

Janke read through the report submitted by Bouvine which highlighted the reminder for the public to not plow snow across Township Roads which is subject to fines.

Bouvine's report also noted the daily road monitoring for drifting, icy conditions, and snow accumulation, and obtaining plow truck and chipper quotes.

Ritchie spoke on getting repair solutions together and building a file for the attorney about the RAM 5500.

The next Town Board and Staff work session is scheduled for February 20, 2024, at 9:30am.

Josh Evans with AE2S reported that he is working on funding options for the 2024 sewer and road projects. Evans has also reached out to the previous engineer for some history while researching sewer line capacity of the Business Park due to a recent inquiry of whether the sewer main could be extended to accommodate an additional business if it were to abut the Business Park.

Evans will also be attending the annual WLSSD Meeting on Monday, January 22, 2024, to go over the Township's I & I compliance and flow ratings.

Sunnarborg reported that 3 new streetlights have been ordered for poles on Thomson Road near the school as well as to replace a bulb in one of the Town Hall streetlights.

A motion to adjourn was made at 5:20 p.m. by Hill with a second by Compo. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted, Leah Pykkonen, Deputy Clerk/Treasurer Ruth Janke, Chairperson Town of Thomson

RECYCLING SHED HOURS

The recycling center is located at the Town Hall at 25 E. Harney Road.

Year-round hours of operation are: Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The staffed facility in Esko is for residential recycling only.

A list of items that are accepted can be found at: www.co.carlton.mn.us/254/Recycling-in-Carlton-County

With the increase in on-line shopping there has been an increase in cardboard being recycled. If you have a large amount of cardboard, please bring it directly to the Carlton County Transfer station at 1950 Highway 210, Carlton. All boxes must be broken down before putting them in the

Please do not leave items at the facility when it is unattended.

TOWN BOARD MEETINGS

The Town of Thomson Board of Supervisors holds their regular meetings on the first and third Thursdays of each month at 5:00 p.m. The meetings are held in the Town Board Room at the Town Hall, 25 E. Harney Road. Meetings are currently being held with an option to attend virtually via Microsoft Teams. Check the Town website: thomson.govoffice.com for details for each meeting.

THOMSON TOWN OFFICE

The Thomson Town Office is located at 25 E. Harney Road.

The regular office hours are Monday - Friday, 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM

WEBSITE CHANGES

Over the next few months changes will be coming to the Town's website, thomson.govoffice.

New permitting software has been added and permits can now be taken online at https://us. cloudpermit.com or on the Town's website.

New scheduling software for the community room and Northridge Park will be available in the near future.

Updated sewer payment instructions can be found on the Town's website.

Updates will be provided here and on the website.

TOWN HALL RENTALS /

Remember: The Town Hall is available for private rentals. Contact the Town Office at 879-9719 for details or visit our website, thomson. govoffice.com Reservations must be made at least 30 days in advance of the rental.

Church News

Apostolic Lutheran Church 25 Church Road Esko, MN 55733 (PH: 879-3882) Pastor Nathan Juntunen Website: www.esko-apostolic.org E-mail: eskoapostolic@msn.com

Sunday School at 9AM and Sunday Church Service at 10AM (Communion 1st &3rd Sundays)

Ladies Bible Study, 9:30 AM Wednesdays

Supper, 5:30PM, Wednesdays

Lenten Services, 6:30 PM Wednesdays through March 20th

Maundy Thursday Service, 6:30PM Thursday, March 28th

Good Friday Service, 6:30PM Friday, March 29th

Easter Sunday Services, 8AM & 10AM Sunday, March 31st

† Check out our Church website at www.esko-apostolic.org. There are pictures, upcoming events, bulletins, church calendar, cemetery information and more

What's Up 4 Youth @ St Matthews



Grades 7-12

Join us after school

Every Week from 3:30-5 in youth room

Visit - Play games -Do homework -Have a Snack -<u>Hang</u> Out

Grades 7-12 April 19 @ 7 PM to

April 20 @ 6AM

Food, Games, Movie & time with friends No cost, just show up

Grades 10-12 9:15 am

Join us in the FLC for Bible Study on Revelations Grades 7-9 Meet in the Cave

Grades 7-12

Feb 21st, Mar 6th Apr 10th May 8th

Supper, Games & Devotion In Family Life Center ST. MATTHEWS LUTHERAN CHURCH and Little Esko Lutheran Preschool 4 Elizabeth Avenue - Esko, MN 55733 218.879.3510 - www.stmatthewsesko.org lelpreschool@gmail.com

A family of believers grounded in, growing in and reaching out in Christ

Sundays

8 & 10:30 am Worship 9:15 am Adult Bible Study, Women's Bible Study, Sunday School and Youth (Grades 7-12) Bible Study

10:30 am online worship via St. Matthews Lutheran Church Facebook 9:30 am TV Option Channel 6 (KBJR) airs "My Savior Lives"

WEEKLY:

Tuesdays: Men's Bible Study 7 am Coffee w/the Pastor 9 am via Facebook T3 (grades 7-12) 3:30 - 5 pm Wednesdays: Women's Bible Study 5:30m Thursdays: Experience Recovery 6 pm

UPCOMING:

Wednesdays, March 6, 13, 20 Lent Worship 6:30 pm (Soup Suppers at 5:30 pm) Thursday, March 28 – Maundy Thursday Worship with Holy Communion 6:30 pm Friday, March 29 – Good Friday Worship 6:30 pm Sunday, March 31 – Easter Worship with Holy Communion 8 & 10:30 am Sunday, May 5 – Confirmation Sunday 10:30 am

> Friday, May 17 Vacation Bible School – June 24-28

Church Rummage Sale - Thursday, May 16 and

For additional information and updates, check www.stmatthewsesko.org or Facebook

TAKE A DEEP DIVE INTO FRIENDSHIP WITH GOD AT VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!



St. Matthews Lutheran Church will be hosting VBS June 24th- June 28th from 8:30-11:30 for children ages Preschool through those going into 6th grade.

Register online at StMatthewsEsko.org or find our link on the St. Matthews Facebook Page.



March Lunch Menu

MARCH 2024 LUNCH MENU

SUBJECT TO CHANGE

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
*Fruit & a juice cup offered daily with breakfast. *WGR cereal may be substituted for main breakfast item. *Low fat or fat free milk offered daily with breakfast & lunch.	*Alternate line available for grades 7-12 daily. *Ala Carte (Smart Snack) line available for grades 9-12.	Feb. 28 Breakfast: Sausage Breakfast Pizza Lunch: "Lunch Brunch" Pancakes, HB Egg, Sausage Links, Tri Tater, Baby Carrots, Applesauce Alt: Salad Bar	Feb. 29 Breakfast: Donut, HB Egg Lunch: Chicken Wild Rice Soup, Turkey Sandwich, Crackers, Lettuce Salad, Carrots/Celery Sticks, Fruit Alt: Chicken Alfredo	Mar. 1 Breakfast: Colby Cheese Omelet, Mini Bagel Lunch: Cheese Pizza Crunchers, Romaine Lettuce Salad, Normandy Vegetable Mix, Fruit Alt: Chicken Strips
4 Breakfast: Muffin, Yogurt or String Cheese Lunch: Mini Corn Dogs, Baked Beans, Tater Tots, Peas & Carrots, Fruit Alt: French Toast Sticks	5 Breakfast: Mini Pancakes Lunch: Chicken Patty/Bun, Waffle Fries, Whole Kernel Corn, Fresh Veggie Cup, Fruit Alt: Garlic Cheese Bread with Tomato Soup	6 Breakfast: Sausage Breakfast Pizza Lunch: Turkey Gravy, Whipped Potatoes, Mixed Vegetables, Biscuits, Cranberry Sauce or Craisins Alt: Taco Salad Bar	7 Breakfast: Cinnamon Roll, HB Egg Lunch: Ribette/Bun, Crinkle Cut Fries, Green Beans, Fresh Veggie Cup, Fruit Alt: General Tso Chicken	8 Breakfast: Colby Cheese Omelet, Mini Bagel Lunch: French Bread Pizza, Romaine Lettuce Salad, Broccoli with Cheese, Fruit Alt: Hot Dog Bar
11 Breakfast: Muffin, Yogurt or String Cheese Lunch: Shrimp Poppers, Au Gratin Potatoes, Steamed Peas & Carrots, Dinner Roll, Fruit Alt: Egg Rolls	12 Breakfast: Mini Waffles Lunch: Hot Dog/Bun, Baked Beans, Potato Salad, Chips, Fresh Veggie Cup, Fruit Alt: Breakfast Sandwich	Breakfast: Sausage Breakfast Pizza Lunch: Spaghetti in Meat Sauce, Garlic Toast, Whole Kernel Corn, Cottage Cheese, Frozen Fruit Cup Alt: Salad Bar	14 Breakfast: Donut, HB Egg Lunch: Taco in a Bag Chips/Meat/Cheese Lettuce/Tomato, Spud Bites, Bread Stick, Fruit Alt: Ham & Cheese Sub	15 Breakfast: Colby Cheese Omelet, Mini Bagel Lunch: Turkey or Fish Sub, Cheese Slice, Lettuce/Tomato, Cole Slaw, Green Beans, Pickle Spear, Fruit Alt: Lasagna Roll-Up
18 Breakfast: Muffin, Yogurt or StringCheese Lunch: Sloppy Joe/Bun Cheese Slice, Whole Kernel Corn, Baked Beans, Fruit Alt: Bacon Cheeseburger Tot Bake	19 Breakfast: Mini Pancakes Lunch: Popcorn Chicken, Crinkle Cut Fries, Green Beans, Fresh Veggie Cup, Garlic Cheddar Biscuit, Fruit Alt: Grilled Chicken Burger	20 Breakfast: Sausage Breakfast Pizza Lunch: Homemade Chili, Cheesy Bosco Stick, Carrots/Celery Sticks, Crackers, Fruit Alt: Salad Bar	21 Breakfast: Cinnamon Roll, HB Egg Lunch: Mandarin Orange Chicken, Vegetable Fried Rice, Stir Fry Veggies, Bread Stick, Pineapple Tidbits, Fortune Cookie Alt: Turkey Sub	22 Breakfast: Colby Cheese Omelet, Mini Bagel Lunch: Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza, Romaine Lettuce Salad, Winter Vegetable Mix, Fruit Alt: Chicken Alfredo
25 NO SCHOOL SPRING BREAK	26 NO SCHOOL SPRING BREAK	27 NO SCHOOL SPRING BREAK	28 NO SCHOOL SPRING BREAK	29 NO SCHOOL SPRING BREAK

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.





April Lunch Menu

APRIL 2024 LUNCH MENU

Subject to change.

APRIL 2024 LUNCE	TIVILINO	Subject to change.			
MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	
Breakfast: Muffin, Yogurt or String Cheese Lunch: Chicken Nuggets Twister Fries, Green Beans, Bread Stick, Fruit Alt: Sub Sandwich	Breakfast: Mini Waffles Lunch: Hamburger/Bun, Cheese Slice, Lettuce/ Tomato, Baked Beans, Oven Fries, Fruit Alt: Meat & Potato Burrito	Breakfast: Sausage Breakfast Pizza Lunch: "Lunch Brunch" French Toast, Sausage Links, Tri Tater, Baby Carrots, Applesauce Alt: Salad Bar	Breakfast: Donut, HB Egg Lunch: Chicken Noodle Soup, Bologna Sandwich, Crackers, Lettuce Salad, Carrots/ Celery Sticks, Fruit Alt: Cheese Pizza Crunchers	5 Breakfast: Colby Cheese Omelet, Mini Bagel Lunch: Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza, Romaine Lettuce Salad, Broccoli with Cheese Sauce, Fruit Alt: Chicken Fajita	
8 Breakfast: Muffin, Yogurt or String Cheese Lunch: Mini Corn Dogs Tater Tots, Baked Beans, Steamed Carrots, Fruit Alt: Soup/Sandwich	9 Breakfast: Mini Pancakes Lunch: Chicken Patty/Bun, Waffle Fries, Mixed Vegetables, Fresh Veggie Cup, Fruit Alt: Buffalo Chicken or Pepperoni Pizza	10 Breakfast: Sausage Breakfast Pizza Lunch: Spaghetti in Meat Sauce, Garlic Toast, Whole Kernel Corn, Frozen Fruit Cup Alt: Taco Salad Bar	11 Breakfast: Cinnamon Roll, HB Egg Lunch: Hot Ham & Cheese/Bun, Crinkle Cut Fries, Green Beans, Fresh Veggie Cup, Fruited Gelatin Alt: Burger Bar	12 Breakfast: Colby Cheese Omelet, Mini Bagel Lunch: French Bread Pizza, Spinach/Lettuce Salad, Normandy Veggie Mix, Fruit Alternate: Chicken Enchilada	
Breakfast: Muffin, Yogurt or String Cheese Lunch: Shrimp Poppers, Au Gratin Potatoes, Peas & Carrots, Dinner Roll, Fruit Alt: Breakfast Sandwich	16 Breakfast: Mini Waffles Lunch: Hot Dog/Bun, Baked Beans, Potato Salad, Chips, Fresh Veggie Cup, Fruit Alt: Pulled Chicken/Mac & Cheese	17 Breakfast: Sausage Breakfast Pizza Lunch: Breaded Chicken Drumstick, Mac & Cheese Biscuits, Whole Kernel Corn, Baby Carrots, Fruit Alt: Salad Bar	18 Breakfast: Donut, HB Egg Lunch: Taco in a Bag Chips/Meat/Cheese Lettuce/Tomato, Spud Bites, Bread Stick, Fruit Alt: Ham & Cheese Sub	Breakfast: Colby Cheese Omelet, Mini Bagel Lunch: Turkey Sub, Cheese Slice, Lettuce/ Tomato, Green Beans, Cole Slaw, Pickle Spear, , Fruit Alt: Lasagna Roll Up	
Breakfast: Muffin, Yogurt or String Cheese Lunch: Sloppy Joe/Bun, Cheese Slice, Whole Kernel Corn, Baked Beans, Fruit Alt: Chicken Bacon Ranch Bake	Breakfast: Mini Pancakes Lunch: Chicken Strips, Crinkle Cut Fries, Mixed Vegetables, Fresh Veggie Cup, Fruit Alt: Italian Cold Cut Sandwich	24 Breakfast: Sausage Breakfast Pizza Lunch: Homemade Chili, Cheesy Bosco Sticks, Crackers, Celery/Carrot Sticks, Fruit Alt: Salad Bar	25 Breakfast: Cinnamon Roll, HB Egg Lunch: Mandarin Orange Chicken, Vegetable Fried Rice, Stir Fry Veggies, Bread Stick, Pineapple Tidbits, Fortune Cookie Alt: Turkey Sub	26 Breakfast: Colby Cheese Omelet, Mini Bagel Lunch: Cheese Pizza Crunchers, Lettuce Salad, Normandy Vegetable Mix, Fruit Alt: Pulled Pork Sandwich	
29 Breakfast: Muffin, Yogurt or String Cheese Lunch: Chicken Nuggets Twister Fries, Green Beans, Bread Stick, Fruit Alt: Turkey Wrap	30 Breakfast: Mini Waffles Lunch: Hamburger/Bun, Cheese Slice, Lettuce/ Tomato, Baked Beans, Oven Fries, Fruit Alt: Shrimp Poppers	*Low fat or fat free milk offered daily with breakfast & lunch.	*Fruit & a juice cup offered daily with breakfast. *WGR cereal may be substituted for main breakfast item.	* Alternate line available for grades 7-12 daily. *Ala Carte (Smart Snack) line available for grades 9-12.	

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.







May Lunch Menu

MAY 2024 LUNCH MENU

SUBJECT TO CHANGE

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
*Fruit & a juice cup offered daily with breakfast. *WGR cereal may be substituted for main breakfast item. *Low fat or fat free milk offered daily with breakfast & lunch.	*Alternate line available for grades 7-12 daily. *Ala Carte (Smart Snack) line available for grades 9-12.	1 Breakfast: Sausage Breakfast Pizza Lunch: "Lunch Brunch" Pancakes, HB Egg, Sausage Links, Tri Tater, Baby Carrots, Applesauce Alt: Salad Bar	Breakfast: Donut, HB Egg Lunch: Chicken Wild Rice Soup, Turkey Sandwich, Crackers, Lettuce Salad, Carrots/ Celery Sticks, Fruit Alt: Hot Dog Bar	3 Breakfast: Colby Cheese Omelet, Mini Bagel Lunch: Cheese or Pepperoni Pizza, Romaine Lettuce Salad, Broccoli with Cheese Sauce, Fruit Alt: Meatball Sub
Breakfast: Muffin, Yogurt or String Cheese Lunch: Mini Corn Dogs, Tater Tots, Baked Beans, Steamed Peas & Carrots, Fruit Alt: Cheese Pizza Crunchers	7 Breakfast: Mini Pancakes Lunch: Chicken Patty/Bun, Waffle Fries, Mixed Vegetables, Fresh Veggie Cup, Fruit Alt: Baked Potato Bar	Breakfast: Sausage Breakfast Pizza Lunch: Spaghetti in Meat Sauce, Garlic Toast, Whole Kernel Corn, Cottage Cheese, Frozen Fruit Cup Alt: Taco Salad Bar	9 Breakfast: Cinnamon Roll, HB Egg Lunch: Hot Ham & Cheese/Bun, Oven Fries, Green Beans, Fresh Veggie Cup, Fruited Gelatin Alt: Egg Rolls	10 Breakfast: Colby Cheese Omelet, Mini Bagel Lunch: French Bread Pizza, Romaine Lettuce Salad, Normandy Vegetable Mix, Fruit Alt: Chicken Fajita
Breakfast: Muffin, Yogurt or String Cheese Lunch: Shrimp Poppers, Au Gratin Potatoes, Peas & Carrots, Dinner Roll, Fruit Alt: BBQ Meatballs	14 Breakfast: Mini Waffles Lunch: Hot Dog/Bun, Baked Beans, Potato Salad, Chips, Fresh Veggie Cup, Fruit Alt: Breakfast Sandwich	Breakfast: Sausage Breakfast Pizza Lunch: Breaded Chicken Drumstick, Mac & Cheese, Biscuits, Whole Kernel Corn, Baby Carrots, Fruit Alt: Salad Bar	16 Breakfast: Donut, HB Egg Lunch: Taco in a Bag Chips/Meat/Cheese Lettuce/Tomato Spud Bites, Bread Stick, Fruit Alt: Ham & Cheese Sub	17 Breakfast: Colby Cheese Omelet, Mini Bagel Lunch: Turkey Sub, Cheese Slice, Lettuce/Tomato, Cole Slaw, Green Beans, Pickle Spear, Fruit Alt: Lasagna Roll Up
Breakfast: Muffin, Yogurt or String Cheese Lunch: Sloppy Joe/Bun, Cheese Slice, Whole Kernel Corn, Baked Beans, Fruit Alt: Mini Pancakes	Breakfast: Mini Pancakes Lunch: Popcorn Chicken, Crinkle Cut Fries, Green Beans, Fresh Veggie Cup, Fruit Alt: Soft Shell Taco	Breakfast: Sausage Breakfast Pizza Lunch: Homemade Chili, Cheesy Bosco Stick, Carrots/Celery Sticks, Crackers, Fruit Alt: Salad Bar	Breakfast: Cinnamon Roll, HB Egg Lunch: Mandarin Orange Chicken, Vegetable Fried Rice, Stir Fry Veggies, Bread Stick, Pineapple Tidbits Alt: Sub Sandwich	Breakfast: Colby Cheese Omelet, Mini Bagel Lunch: Turkey Sub, Cheese Slice, Lettuce/ Tomato, Green Beans, Coe Slaw, Pickle Spear, Fruit Alt: Chicken Alfredo
27 NO SCHOOL MEMORIAL DAY	28 Breakfast: Mini Waffles Lunch: Chicken Variety, Oven Fries, Hot Vegetable, Bread Item, Fruit Alt: Chicken Caesar Wrap	29 Breakfast: Sausage Breakfast Pizza Lunch: Cooks Choice To be announced later Alt: Salad Bar	30 Breakfast: Donut, HB Egg Lunch: Cooks Choice To be announced later Alt: Soup/Sandwich	31 Breakfast: Cooks Choice Lunch: Pizza Variety, Lettuce Salad, Hot Vegetable, Fruit Alt: Hot Dog Bar

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.





