

# January 2023 The Vadnais Voice



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**Attendance** (651) 653-2859 - [attendancevadnais@isd624.org](mailto:attendancevadnais@isd624.org)

**Emergency School Closing** (651)407-7540

**Website** - [www.whitebear.k12.mn.us/Vadnaisheights](http://www.whitebear.k12.mn.us/Vadnaisheights)

**Principal** - [sara.svir@isd624.org](mailto:sara.svir@isd624.org)

Happy New Year Vadnais Heights Families!

I hope you all had a fabulous Winter Break and enjoyed the extra time with family & friends. If you love snow, then this is an excellent winter. It's been so much fun watching our students navigate the snow during Bear Time and recess - there's plenty of snow for everyone to build their own snowman!



January is our kick-off for Kindergarten Registration and New Student Registration for the 2023-2024 school year. New families are able to [register online](#) at any time or they may come into our school office for assistance in registering online or to receive paper copies of the materials. If materials are needed in a different language, we have those available, too. If you have older children already attending Vadnais and a younger child who will be in kindergarten, please know that we appreciate you taking the time to complete the registration process at your earliest convenience. Please login to your [ParentVue Account](#) to register an incoming kindergarten student. Our school will be hosting an event called, Kindergarten Roundup, for parents and incoming students, and information will be mailed home to all families. Please make sure your name is on the list!

Our first Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) meeting, for the new year, is January 23rd and everyone is welcome to attend. The meeting will begin at 6:30 PM and it will be held in our Learning Commons. Come and meet other parents and hear what's happening at Vadnais Heights Elementary.

Finally, the second quarter ends Wednesday, 1/25, and report cards will be available, in ParentVUE, after 2:30 PM on February 1st. We will send them home hard copies, with students, on Friday, February 3rd. If you have questions, contact your child's teacher.

Thank you all for partnering with us in your child's education!

Sincerely,

Sara Svir

**Hmong:** LUS CEEB TOOM! Yog koj xav tautsev kawm ntawv cov ntawv txhais ua lus Hmoob, thov hu rau Mas Lias Xyooj los yog Xw Xyooj. (651) 407-7623 **Spanish:** ATENCIÓN: Si usted necesita hablar con una persona que hable Español, por favor, llame al (651) 407-7625.

# Important Dates

Month/Day	Activity
January 16th	<b>No School</b> - Martin Luther King Day
January 20th	Pizza Sale Begins *Look for order forms in your child's backpack/folder 
January 23rd	PTO Meeting - 6:30 PM - VHES Learning Commons
January 25th	End of the Second Quarter
January 26-27th	<b>No School</b> - Teacher Training
<i>Looking Ahead.....</i>	<i>February is - I Love to Read Month!</i>
February 1st	Report Cards Available in ParentVUE @ 2:30 PM
February 3rd	Pizza Orders and Money Collection
February 10th	<b>No School</b> - Teacher Professional Development
February 7th, 16th	Parent/Teacher Conferences 3-7 PM
February 14th	<i>Happy Valentine's Day-</i> Lifetouch Spring Pictures
February 20th	<b>No School</b> - Presidents' Day
February 23rd	<i>Snow Much Fun</i> - K-5 Art, Science & Music Event from 5:00 - 6:30 PM

## Parent/Teacher Conferences:

Parent/Teacher conferences will be held on February 7th and 16th from 3-7 PM. Information will be coming from your child's teacher about how to sign up for your conference. Please sign up for a 20 minute in-person session with your child's teacher in ParentVue. If you'd prefer a virtual conference, that is always an option. Thank you.

# Student of the Month

The 5th grade teachers at Vadnais Heights Elementary School have nominated Reggie Yang for the 2022-2023 Academic Achiever Award. Reggie is a quiet leader in the classroom that does not go unnoticed. He is driven to work hard and puts forth his best effort in all that he does. It is easy to connect with Reggie because he accepts everyone as they are. He is always willing to assist others and he sets a great example for leadership in our classrooms. Beyond the classroom, you can see him holding the door for others, working as a school patrol, playing sports, and enjoying anime. Reggie's quiet nature is loud and recognized by all.



The 5th grade teachers at Vadnais Heights Elementary celebrate Reggie as he continues to make positive impacts in his student career in White Bear Lake Area Schools.

## December Events..... Food and Toy Drive Pick Up

A huge thank you to all who were able to donate toys and/or food to our annual drive for the Vadnais Heights Food Shelf. It was a friendly competition between the Grizzly, Polar and Kodiak neighborhoods. Everyone was a winner in this competition!

Pictured below are members from our 5th Grade School Patrol who packed up the donations and loaded the truck for the Vadnais Heights Lions to deliver to our local food shelf. It was a great team effort to support the Vadnais Heights community during the holiday season. Thank you one & all!





## Mittens and Hats!

Thank you to the talented members of Christ the Servant Church who made and donated many hats and mittens for our students to use this winter.



## 2nd Grade Swimming



## Water Safety at the YMCA



# APPOINTMENTS ARE OPEN!

## FREE DENTAL CARE FOR UNDERSERVED CHILDREN

*Friday, Feb. 3 & Saturday, Feb. 4, 2023*

[Give Kids a Smile](#) is a charitable outreach program that provides free dental care to underserved children (typically ages 3-18). Dental clinics throughout the state volunteer to provide these services during Children's Dental Health Month.

### [FIND A CLINIC](#)

#### **WHEN IS IT?**

February 3 and 4, 2023

*(Some clinics hold events on alternative dates.)*

#### **LOCATION?**

Volunteer dental clinics across the state.

#### **HOW ARE APPOINTMENTS MADE?**

Families can locate a participating clinic by visiting [www.mndental.org/gkas](http://www.mndental.org/gkas) or contacting the United Way by dialing 2-1-1 or texting the zip code to 898-211. They can then contact the clinic directly to schedule an appointment.

Please, help us get the word out!

Many children have never been to the dentist and are suffering from untreated dental care – possibly many that you work with. We ask you to please inform families about this event so their children can get the needed care they desperately need.

Flyers and other materials are easily accessible by visiting the MDA website. Please print and post fliers, distribute information sheets, and forward this email to your network of professionals who work with families (schools, agencies, clients, and other organizations).

Remember, because this program is focused on providing dental care to children who face barriers to accessing dental care, families will **NOT** be asked any eligibility questions.

Thank you for helping us inform families about this important opportunity to improve their children's dental health...and smiles!

If you have any questions, please email [sleclair@mndental.org](mailto:sleclair@mndental.org).

# Absences

If you are planning a trip and your child will be absent, please submit a note or an e-mail beforehand to ***both your child's teacher and our building principal***. Mrs. Svir's email address is: [sara.svir@isd624.org](mailto:sara.svir@isd624.org)

- Studies show a direct link between regular school attendance and academic achievement.
- Elementary age children with poor attendance records are more likely to experience difficulty in core subjects.
- Elementary schools may refer any child living in Ramsey County to the **School Attendance Matters (SAM) Program** if that child has been absent 5 or more days during a school year without lawful excuse.
- 3 AM tardies or leaving early (45 minutes or less) 3 times results in a  $\frac{1}{2}$  day absence.
- The District has an [informational brochure](#) if you are uncertain about sending your child to school if they are not feeling well.

**ATTENDANCE LINE 651-653-2859 or [attendancevadnais@isd624.org](mailto:attendancevadnais@isd624.org)**

# Teacher of the Year

*It's time once again to celebrate professional excellence as part of the White Bear Lake Area Educators' Teacher of the Year program. The process begins with nominations from community members, parents, students and colleagues. [Please take the time to nominate an exceptional teacher who goes above and beyond and who makes White Bear Lake Area Schools a great place to send our students every day.](#)*

*In alignment with Education Minnesota's Minnesota Teacher of the Year program, nominations will be advanced for WBLAE members who: have a valid Minnesota teaching license; have taught for five years before nomination; and spend at least 50% of their day working directly with students. If you know of an outstanding non-teacher educator who deserves recognition, **please consider nominating them for the [Lynn Mielke Distinguished Educator Award](#)** through the White Bear Lake Area Education Foundation.*

*Former Teachers of the Year Nick Marty and Abby Kath are coordinating this year's process. **Nominations are open until February 10th, 2022, at 4:00 pm.** Once the nominees are announced, they may advance in the WBLAE Teacher of the Year selection process by submitting their responses to a series of questions regarding teaching and learning. Of those teachers aspiring to represent our district as the 2023-2024 WBLAE Teacher of the Year, six will be chosen as finalists. All nominees and finalists will be honored at a digital event in May when the White Bear Lake Area Educators' Teacher of the Year will be announced. A final date on that event will be announced soon.*

*[The nomination form](#) is also being included in official White Bear Lake Area Schools district communications, but you are encouraged to share this link with all staff, parents and students who might want to nominate an amazing teacher and member of the White Bear Lake Area Educators.*



# Holiday Angels

Download the form [here](#) to donate.



Each holiday season, the **White Bear Lake Area Educational Foundation** offers a special opportunity for families, students and school district staff members to honor a community member, educator, administrator or other staff member, with a donation to the Angel Fund, while honoring someone special.

All donations made to the Angel Fund benefit families in need in the district and provide support for The Closet, an extension of The Angel Fund.

To participate, simply **DOWNLOAD A FORM HERE** and send by mail with check or you can submit and pay **ONLINE**, by **MONDAY, JANUARY 2, 2023**. The WBLAEF will then send a special Angel Fund holiday greeting card to the honored person stating that you have chosen to honor them during this holiday season with a gift to the WBLAEF Angel Fund.

[wblaeaf.org/the-angel-fund](http://wblaeaf.org/the-angel-fund)

**We hope you will consider participating in the Holiday Angels program.**

And, as the Angel Fund holiday greeting card says,  
*"You have made a difference in the life of a child."*



## **You Are Invited!**

### **Annual BEAR Legacy Gala**

**FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 2023**

**Support Our Students and Educators!**

WHERE: Dellwood Country Club | 29 Highway 96 E, Dellwood

5PM: \*PRE-EVENT VIP RECEPTION | 6PM: SOCIAL HOUR, DINNER AND PROGRAM | Dressy/Casual Attire

Event Tickets: \$75 | \*VIP Tickets: \$100 | [PURCHASE TICKETS ONLINE WBLAEF.org](http://PURCHASE TICKETS ONLINE WBLAEF.org)

**"Early Bird" tickets purchased by January 15, 2023, enters you into a \$100 prize drawing!**

**> \$10 ticket price increase after January 15, 2023 <**

All proceeds to benefit the White Bear Lake Area Educational Foundation | [WBLAEF.org](http://WBLAEF.org)

*Enhancing the School District's Ability to Provide Excellence in Education for all Students.*





Please remember there is no school:

Monday, January 16th,  
Thursday, January 26th,  
Friday, January 27th and  
Friday, February 10th &  
Monday, February 20th

***Happy New Year***



***2023***