

THE

VIKING VOICE

PELICAN RAPIDS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Pelican Rapids School
District #548
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Pelican Rapids, MN 56572
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WHEN I GROW UP I WANT TO BE A VIKING!



WATCH US LEARN AND PLAY



VIKING PRESCHOOL
Your start as a Viking



**FUN ADVENTURES
NEW FRIENDS
NEW WORLDS
BIG THINKING**

CLASS OF 2037

- COMPLETE ENROLLMENT FORMS
- UPLOAD BIRTH CERTIFICATE
- UPLOAD IMMUNIZATION FORMS

KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION OPEN



YOU BELONG HERE

PELICAN RAPIDS PUBLIC SCHOOLS

**ENROLL IN FREE PRESCHOOL
BUILD ACADEMIC SKILLS
LEARN 7 HABITS® LEADERSHIP
JOIN A TEAM OR ACTIVITY
EXPLORE POTENTIAL CAREERS
EXPAND CREATIVE INTERESTS
ACQUIRE 40 COLLEGE CREDITS
EARN CDL, EMT, CNA CERTIFICATIONS
GRADUATE WITH A FUTURE**



Unique courses at PRHS are increasing opportunities for exploring potential careers, acquiring college credits, and earning certifications

One of our district goals is that 100% of our graduating students have a plan for post-secondary education, military service, or entering the workforce. To help all of our students reach this goal, we offer opportunities to explore potential careers, earn credits and certifications, expand creative interests and acquire up to 40 college credits.

Explore Potential Careers

Accounting / Ag Occupations / Computer Aided Design (CAD) / Career and College Prep / Coding and Software Design / Computer Applications / Content Creation & Storytelling / Cosmetology / Digital Photography / Intro to Coaching/Officiating / Marketing / Personal Finance/ Robotics / Small Engines / Theater / Video Productions / Viking News Network / Welding / Woods

Earn Credits and Certifications

Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) / Commercial Driver's License (CDL) / Credit Recovery Courses / Driver's Education / Emergency Medical Technician (EMT)

Acquire Up To 40 College Credits

Advanced Algebra / Advanced Art/AP Art / Calculus / College English / College Public Speaking / Early Childhood Education / Intro to Education / Precalculus / Spanish 3 / Statistics

Expand Creative Interests

Art History / Ceramics / Concert and Pep Bands / Drawing / Leadership / Lifetime Fitness / Music Production and Songwriting / Painting / Shada Yearbook / Unified PE / Viking Choir and Chamber Choir

Expansion of Career and Technical Education (CTE) courses has enabled our students to gain hands-on experience using authentic equipment and supplies while being instructed by industry professionals. In addition to our Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) class, we added two new courses this school year: Commercial Driver's License (CDL) and Emergency Medical Technician (EMT).

Additional course offerings in 2024-25 include Art History, Early Childhood Education, Theater, Coding and Software Design, Content Creation and Storytelling, Career and College Prep.



Students gaining hands-on experience in our EMT and Cosmetology courses at PRHS.



HELPING OUR STUDENTS REACH THEIR HIGHEST POTENTIAL

As I look back on the 2023-24 school year, I feel honored to be part of a supportive school district and community. This past year has been another successful school year at Pelican Rapids schools. I am proud of our district's teachers and staff for their collaborative efforts in educating and supporting our students to reach their highest potential.



Brian Korf
Superintendent

This past school year, our staff has worked hard to achieve our school district's goals during staff development days and in their classrooms working with our students. The following goals are the goals that staff have been focused on during the 2023-24 school year.

GOAL #1: 75% of students are ready for kindergarten based on teacher assessment.

GOAL #2: 75% of 3rd-8th graders will meet/exceed on MCA or show a 50 SGP (Student Growth Percentile) from their fall STAR reading/math test to the spring STAR reading/math test.

GOAL #3: MCA Reading and Math proficiency rates for Free and Reduced meal plan students will increase by 3% per year.

GOAL #4: 100% of our graduating students have a plan for post-secondary education, military service, or entering the workforce.

GOAL #5: PRHS Graduation Rate will exceed the Statewide Graduation Rate.

The end of the school year is near which means another graduation ceremony. Congratulations to the graduating Class of 2024! We look forward to the graduation ceremony to celebrate a great achievement by our seniors. I want to thank the graduating seniors and their families, as it has been a pleasure to work with each of them during their time at Pelican Rapids schools. I wish them the best of luck in the future!

During the summer months, our district offers a

Helping our students reach their highest potential



+209K VIEWS

- SPORTING EVENTS
- SCHOOL PLAYS
- BAND & CHOIR CONCERTS
- STUDENT PERFORMANCES

VIDEO PRODUCTION
STUDENT AND STAFF CHANNEL 2 CREW

EXPLORE POTENTIAL CAREERS

WHAT IT MEANS TO BE A VIKING

MEET AMAZING AND DIVERSE STUDENTS

ATTEND FREE PRESCHOOL

LEARN THE 7 HABITS® LEADERSHIP SKILLS

CHOOSE FROM 13 DIFFERENT SPORTS

JOIN 20 STUDENT GROUPS AND ACTIVITIES

ACQUIRE UP TO 40 COLLEGE CREDITS

EARN CDL, CNA AND EMT CERTIFICATIONS

EXPLORE MUSIC, ART AND THEATER INTERESTS

EXPERIENCE A RESPECTFUL LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

LEARN FROM DEDICATED AND CARING STAFF

EXPLORE POTENTIAL CAREERS

GRADUATE WITH A PLAN AND A FUTURE

IN THIS ISSUE

- FREE Viking Preschool
- Viking Elementary News
- Kindergarten Registration
- Summer Program Preview
- Pelican Rapids High School News
- District Information



All area families and visitors are welcome to attend our summer programs!

VIKING PRESCHOOL



WHEN WE GROW UP WE WANT TO BE VIKINGS!

PRESCHOOL REGISTRATION OPEN!

VIKING PRESCHOOL
Your start as a Viking

Located in Viking Elementary and taught by licensed teachers, Viking Preschool is a Four-Star Parent Aware program offered at no cost to Pelican Rapids District residents.

- 1 COMPLETE DISTRICT ENROLLMENT FORM
- 2 UPLOAD IMMUNIZATION FORM
- 3 UPLOAD BIRTH CERTIFICATE

Paper registration copies available upon request. Online registration preferred.

Children must be 3 years old on or before September 1, 2024 to register.




HOW TO REGISTER

Located in Viking Elementary and taught by licensed teachers, Viking Preschool is a Four-Star Parent Aware program offered at no cost to Pelican Rapids District residents.

PRESCHOOL AGES 3-4

Two Half Days:
Tuesdays & Thursdays or Wednesdays & Fridays
Mornings 8:00 - 11:15am or
Afternoons 11:45 - 3:00pm




MATH AND LITERACY SKILLS

Handwriting	Calendar Skills
Rhyming	Patterning
Phonics	Counting
Letter and	Sorting
Number Recognition	

PRE-KINDERGARTEN AGES 4-5

Five Half Days:
Monday - Friday
Mornings 8:00 - 11:15am or
Afternoons 11:45 - 3:00pm




FINE AND GROSS MOTOR SKILLS


Gluing	Arts & Crafts
Cutting	Outdoor Play
Throwing	Hopping
Catching	Running

SOCIAL AND EMOTIONAL SKILLS

Sharing	Sharing Stories
Taking Turns	Communicating
Table Manners	Games
Handwashing	Greeting Friends



QUESTIONS? Terra Fitzsimmons, Viking Preschool Coordinator (218) 863-5910 x5393 or tfitzsim@vikes.us



Empower your child's future with WCMCA Head Start!

A Parent Aware 4 Star Rated Preschool Program for Ages 3-5

Located at Pelican Rapids Viking Elementary School

We offer 2 class options:

Full Day (7:45 - 3:15) Monday-Thursday
Part Day (11:45 - 3:15) Monday-Thursday

Children's growth and development is supported in a positive learning environment through a variety of services which include:

Early Learning - Kindergarten readiness fostered through individualized learning experiences. Children's progress in Social/Emotional well-being along with language and literacy learning and concept development.

Health - all children receive Health, Developmental & Oral Health screenings.


Family Well-being - Parents & Families are supported in meeting their own goals such as housing stability, continued education and strengthening parent child relationships and engaging families around children's learning and development.


Early Head Start

Early Head Start serves children birth to three years of age and expectant families in full year programming. Families enrolled in Early Head Start receive weekly home visits. Parent are supported as their child's most influential and valuable teacher in promoting their child's development.

To learn more about our Head Start programs, check out our Welcome Video using the QR code on the left or call for more information!


Early Head Start: Bonnie (218) 770-9231
Head Start: Carrie (218) 770-9232 or Deb (218) 770-8858





NEW TO THE AREA?
WELCOME
LET'S STAY IN TOUCH

If you recently moved to the Pelican Rapids area or have added to your family, we would love to add you to our School Census! This enables us to stay in touch about preschool screenings, Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE), and kindergarten registration. It also provides us with the opportunity to share a book each school year with children ages 0-5 residing in our district. Please use the QR code or contact Cherie Lynnes at (218) 863-5910 x4354 or clynnnes@vikes.us



Baby Bundles

New babies in our community are given a Baby Bundle which contains a quilt, books, a baby toy, socks, a hand-knitted sweater and a onesie. This gift is courtesy of Friends of the Library and can be picked up at the Pelican Rapids Public Library. (218) 863-7055.

WATCH US LEARN AND PLAY!



"Creating, celebrating, and supporting...these are the program goals of Viking Preschool & ECFE".

CREATING joyful learning experiences: Parents and children have opportunities to share in interactive play-based activities. Engaging in art projects, music and movement activities, sensory play, and storytelling CREATE shared fun and connection for individual families and within the larger group.




Terra Fitzsimmons
ECFE/Preschool Teacher/Coordinator

CELEBRATING milestones: We get to witness the growth and development of young children with our families. It is so incredibly rewarding. We get to share the privilege of celebrating milestones, both big and small, from a child's first steps to their first words, friendships, favorite songs to dance together, and pre-literacy skills like reading their name at circle time.

SUPPORTING the parenting journey: We have the chance to support parents on their journey through parenthood, offering guidance, reassurance, and practical strategies for navigating the joys and challenges of raising young children. Being able to empower parents and see them grow in confidence and competence is immensely gratifying.

Working with young families allows us to form meaningful relationships with parents and children alike. These connections often extend beyond the classroom, fostering a community and support among families who share similar experiences and challenges.

I love families with young children! I'm so lucky to have the opportunity to work with them every day at Viking Elementary. Come and join us, we would love you to be part of our Viking Preschool & ECFE family!



EARLY CHILDHOOD FAMILY EDUCATION


ECFE SPRING CLASSES/FIELD TRIPS

MAGICAL MONDAYS
APRIL 8 - MAY 6 FROM 5:30-6:30 PM

FAMILY FIELD TRIP TO CHAHINKAPA ZOO
FRIDAY, MAY 10

STAY CONNECTED

VIKING PRESCHOOL AND ECFE



REGISTER HERE TO BECOME A VIKING





Students in grade 6 are delivering coffee and treats from Biker's Bakery on Wednesdays to elementary teachers! These students worked diligently on creating vibrant Viking Cafe posters to launch their business, and have excelled in providing excellent service. They aim to support the special education classes at VES with the funds they make.



We are super excited to have a new bass drum stand at VES! The bass drum was repainted, put on the new stand and the sixth grade band students signed their names inside of the drum along with a message to future musicians.



Archery in school aims to teach students focus, self-control, discipline, patience, and engagement...all life skills required to succeed in the classroom and in life.



Fifth grade students had an engineering project to build a flying machine that would hold Rosie Revere. Skills used included: determining the problem needing to be solved, imagining the best way to solve it, sketching and diagraming a plan, creating and experimenting, improving and reflecting.



Club Vikes School-Age Childcare, located at Viking Elementary, is a safe and fun place for children in grades K-6 to go before and after school, on non-school days, and during the summer.

SCHOOL YEAR SCHEDULE

Monday - Friday
• 7-8:00am (before school)
• 3:05-6:00pm (after school)

SUMMER SCHEDULE

Monday - Friday
• 7:00am-6:00pm

Children engage in various activities including games, reading, outside play time, and crafts.

QUESTIONS? Contact Tonya Honrud, Club Vikes Coordinator at thonrud@vikes.us or 218-863-5910 extension 5022



VIKING ELEMENTARY



Derrick Nelson
Elementary Principal

The 2023-24 school year has been another busy year at Viking Elementary. Students and staff have been very busy with concerts, programs, field trips and using the new equipment on the playground, on top of their regular schoolwork and learning that has taken place this year.

Thank you to officer Jeff Stadum for again teaching DARE to our sixth-grade students. Officer Stadum has taught DARE at

Viking Elementary for many years and we are extremely thankful for this willingness to work with our students again this year. DARE graduation will be on April 30 at 1:30pm in the Elementary Gymnasium.

We would also like to thank all the parents who drop off and pick up students at Chauncey Martin field parking lot while buses are present at Viking Elementary. Buses drop off students from 8:00-8:10am. Your cooperation is appreciated in helping to keep all our students safe.

With this school year almost complete, here are a few reminders about the upcoming year. Kindergarten registration is available at Viking Elementary office. If you have a student who will be attending Kindergarten next year, please get them registered so we can continue the planning process. Also, teacher requests for next school

year are being accepted at this time for all grade levels. All requests are due to Mr. Nelson by May 3.

Here is a list of teachers for the 2024-25 school year:

- Kindergarten: Mrs. Borgen, Mrs. Heiberg, Mrs. Neubauer, Mrs. Syverson
- First Grade: Miss Abarr, Mrs Eiden, Mrs. Sjostrom, Mrs. Westby
- Second Grade: Miss Herbranson, Ms. Henkes, Miss Johnson, Miss Oswald
- Third Grade: Mrs. Coleman, Mrs. Grady, Mrs. Mackner
- Fourth Grade: Mr. Hacker, Mrs. Isaman, Mrs. Nelson
- Fifth Grade: Mrs. Johnson, Mrs. Larson
- Sixth Grade: Mrs. Gottenborg, Mr. Rund, Mrs. Seter

We are excited to announce that we will be offering busing for preschool students next year for drop off and pick up during the middle of the day. The buses will be running to licensed day care centers in Pelican Rapids, please look for more information this summer as we get closer to the 2024-25 school year.

This summer students have a variety of opportunities to pick from including summer rec and Club Vikes. Free breakfast and lunch will again be available for all students this summer in both buildings. VES: Breakfast 7:45-8:30am and Lunch 11:30-12:30pm Monday-Friday. PRHS: Breakfast 8-9:30am and Lunch 11-12:30pm Monday-Thursday. Our Summer Program web page will have details and updates throughout the summer.

At Viking Elementary our small class sizes create an engaging, personalized experience that helps our students build a foundation of academic, social, and life skills that will continue to grow and evolve throughout their education. Our teachers are prepared to support and respond to a wide range of experiences and competencies as we create a community of learners dedicated to improving our world.

ELEMENTARY STUDENT ACTIVITIES

ART CLUB Grades 5-6, February & March

BASKETBALL Grades Pre-K-2, winter months
Grades 1-6 Summer Camp

TRACK & FIELD CLUB Grades K-6, Sept-Oct, & April-May)

SOCCER April & May
(boys & girls)

TRACK AND FIELD DAY
Grades K-3, Friday, May 17
Grades 4-6, Monday, May 20



Sixth grade students were paired with first grade students to help them read the "I Am From" poem that the younger students wrote about their family origins during the Celebrating our Community performance.



Approximately 60 students and parents attended the Family Game Night on February 22 at VES.



VIKING KINDERGARTEN

We're big kids now. We got this.



Kindergarten is a magical place to learn to be curious leaders through reading, writing, math, science, social studies, art, music, library, phy ed.

WATCH US
LEARN AND PLAY



STEPS TO REGISTER:

- 1 - COMPLETE KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT FORM
- 2 - UPLOAD IMMUNIZATION FORM
- 3 - UPLOAD BIRTH CERTIFICATE

QUESTIONS? KARA BUNKOWSKI, VES ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT
(218) 863-2910 X5162 OR KBUNKOWSKI@VIKES.US

REGISTER
HERE



STAY CONNECTED CLUB VIKES



Note: We are still working on Summer Program details so some information could be subject to change. Our Summer Program 2024 webpage and online registration will **launch on Friday, April 26.**

VIKING STUDENT SUCCESS

Completed grades K-6
June 3 - June 20 (except June 19)
Monday - Thursday 8:00am-12:00pm
Location: Viking Elementary School
Contact: Marie Heiberg
Summer learning includes hands-on reading, writing, math and science learning activities.

SUMMER SCHOOL 7-8 CREDIT RECOVERY 9-12

Completed grades 7-12
June 3 - June 20 (except June 19)
Monday - Thursday 8:00am-12:00pm
Location: Pelican Rapids High School
Contact: High School Counselor Lage
Letters will be mailed to parents of students who need to attend summer school.

KINDERGARTEN BOOST

Program information will be posted in the near future.

SUMMER MEALS

Free summer meals are available to all kids ages 18 and younger. No registration required.

VIKING ELEMENTARY CAFETERIA

May 28 - August 23
Monday - Friday
• Breakfast 7:45am - 8:30am
• Lunch 11:30am -12:30pm
NO MEALS WILL BE SERVED AT VES ON: June 7, 19; July 4-5

PRHS CAFETERIA

June 3 - 27; July 8-25; August 13-23
Monday - Thursday
• Breakfast 8:00am-9:30am
• Lunch 11:00am-12:30pm
NO MEALS WILL BE SERVED AT PRHS ON: June 19; July 1-4, July 29-August 10
This institution is an equal opportunity provider

SUMMER CLUB VIKES

Registration information will be posted in the near future
Questions: Tonya Honrud, Club Vikes Coordinator at thonrud@vikes.us

THEATRICAL CAMP

Program information will be posted in the future

STEAM CAMP

Program information will be posted in the future

SPEED & STRENGTH

Program information will be posted in the future

OPEN GYM/WALKING TRACK

Program information will be posted in the future

SUMMER BAND

Program information will be posted in the future

COMMUNICATION

Pelican Rapids Schools Summer Programs Facebook page will be used for all Summer Program updates. There will be no summer programs on: June 19, July 4-5.

REGISTRATION

Please register for **all** programs and activities so we can plan and staff accordingly. We encourage you to register and pay using our online option. Registrations are due by May 15 and must be completed before your child can participate.

SUMMER REC ACTIVITIES JUNE 3 - JULY 11

Each SUMMER REC participant receives a t-shirt (first distribution will be for those using as uniform for games).

SUMMER REC FEES

The family maximum for Summer Rec activities is \$125 per family. If your family qualifies for free/reduced meals, each activity fee will be reduced by 50% and the family maximum will be \$80 per family. If these fees are a hardship, or you have registration questions contact Becky at bwontor@vikes.us or (218) 863-5910 x4250.

SUMMER REC QUESTIONS

Dave Rund, Summer Rec Coordinator at drund@vikes.us or (218) 863-9317

T-BALL

Boys & Girls completed Pre-K-Kindergarten (minimum 4 yrs old)
Mondays & Wednesdays 9:30-10:15am
Fee: \$20
Location: Chauncey Martin East

ROOKIE BASEBALL

Boys & Girls completed Grades 1-2
Monday-Thursday 9:30-10:15am
Fee: \$30
Location: Chauncey Martin West

KNOT HOLE BASEBALL

Boys completed Grade 3
Practices: Monday-Thursday 10:30-12:00pm
Games: Mondays & Wednesdays 12:30pm
Fee: \$50
Location: Chauncey Martin West

PEE WEE BASEBALL

Boys completed Grade 4
Practices: Monday-Thursday 10:30-12:00pm
Games: Mondays & Wednesdays 12:30pm
Fee: \$50
Location: Chauncey Martin West

LITTLE LEAGUE BASEBALL

Boys completed Grades 5-6
Practices: Monday-Thursday 10:30-12:00pm
Games: Tuesday & Thursday 12:30pm
Fee: \$50
Location: Chauncey Martin West

PONY TAIL SOFTBALL

Girls completed Grades 3-6
Practices: Monday-Thursday 10:30-12:00pm
Games: Tuesday & Thursday 12:30pm
Fee: \$50
Location: Chauncey Martin East

GOLF

Boys & Girls completed Grades 3-8
Tuesdays & Wednesdays 1:00-3:00pm
Fee: \$45
Bring golf balls, clubs, tees
Location: Birchwood Golf Course

PICKLEBALL

Boys & Girls completed Grades 3 - 8
Monday-Thursday 9:15am-10:15am
Fee: \$30
Pickleball paddles will be provided
Location: Chauncey Martin Courts

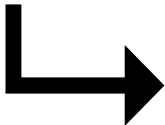
SOCCER PRE-K-GRADE 5 BRING SHIN GUARDS, RUNNING SHOES (NO CLEATS)

SOCCER PRE-K

Boys & Girls 4 & 5 years old
Tuesdays & Thursdays 9:30-10:15am
Fee: \$20
Location: Football Field

SOCCER K-5

Boys & Girls completed Grades K-5
Monday-Thursday 8:15-9:15am
Fee: \$30
Location: Football Field



Mr. Maresh's students used Auto-CAD to design a bridge that is tested to determine its strength to weight ratio. Skills required included using correct CAD practices, applying specified constraints in design, determining where to add supports, scaling of a drawing, applying joint test data sheet results in construction, collaborating and communicating during design phase.



The Cosmetology classroom enables students to have a hands-on instruction in a salon-like setting.



8th grade students in Mrs. Holl's class learned the following skills doing a career project: researching a job interest, creating a google website, presenting their google site using a Promethean board and being a respectful audience.



In addition to CNA students learning the basic principles and skills to provide patient care in the classroom setting, they receive 15 hours of experience at Pelican Valley

Senior Living. This clinical time includes 2 Saturday shifts from 6am-2:30pm where they follow nursing assistants throughout the day and work on the skills they've learned. Satisfactory completion of the CNA course provides eligibility to take a competency written and skill exam to become certified in the state of Minnesota.

Helping our students reach their highest potential

continued from page 1

variety of summer programs and activities for children of all ages to experience. I strongly encourage students to be active, engaged and participate in our activities and program offerings. Please visit our district's website for summer programming information.

Furthermore, I encourage all students to continue reading over the summer. Whether reading books, magazines, or graphic novels, reading over summer break is beneficial in helping students maintain and improve their reading stamina and comprehension skills. Summer is an ideal time to read for enjoyment in the sunshine or air conditioning. I encourage you to visit the Pelican Rapids Public Library, which is a wonderful resource available to all ages within our community. Lastly, I would like to thank you for your continued support of our students, staff, and programs throughout the 2023-24 school year. During the summer months, our staff will be busy planning and preparing for the upcoming school year. We look forward to seeing you in the fall. Have a great summer!

SUMMER WILL BE AWESOME!

PREPARING OUR STUDENTS FOR LIFE’S CHALLENGES AND A SUCCESSFUL FUTURE!

THERE ARE NUMEROUS WAYS THAT WE ASSIST OUR GRADUATING STUDENTS WITH THEIR PLAN FOR POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION, MILITARY SERVICE, OR ENTERING THE WORKFORCE.

Military Service

- ASVAB testing offered at the high school
- Opportunity to meet with a recruiter
- Veterans’ Appreciation Day Program
- Recruiter visits during lunch throughout the year

Recruiters from all branches of the military were at PRHS for a career exploration event for students on February 9. Veterans, those currently serving and their families were honored at the Military Appreciation Night at the boys varsity basketball game that evening.



Career Exploration & Planning Meetings

- Career Expos for sophomores and juniors
- Post Secondary Planning Meeting for the graduating class
- Individual Senior Planning Meeting with Counselor Lage
- Guest speakers throughout the year
- Rural MN CEP sponsored speaker

All junior and senior students rotated through a Local Business Professional Career Panel at PRHS. They had a chance to hear about various career paths including medical, real estate, construction, military, and more. Many of the panelists were PRHS graduates and shared their journey of moving to larger cities and returning to smaller communities to raise their families and practice their professions. Takeaways included the importance of skills sets such as communication, problem-solving, working with others, and a willingness to learn; many professions provide on-the-job training; use money and scholarships wisely; you can begin building your career today by being involved, learning new things, working at a job.



Strong academics, dynamic art programs, and competitive athletic teams offer activities for all backgrounds, interests, and abilities to succeed in life, education, and future careers. Our unique academic offerings provide students the ability to explore their interests without leaving campus.

Free Post-Secondary Education

- College in the High School (CIHS)
- Post Secondary Enrollment Options (PSEO)
- College representative visits from various 2 and 4 year schools
- Students doing up to 3 college visits a year
- PSAT testing for juniors in the fall
- Free ACT testing in the spring
- Fee application waived for students who qualify for college applications



PRHS students are getting early childhood experience as student aides in our VES classrooms. Students with interests in this career path can take an online Child Development Intro to Early Childhood class and earn college credits.

Entering the Workforce

- CTE Courses include Welding, CNA, EMT, Small Engines, Electricity, Accounting, CAD, Cosmetology, Digital photography, Wood Working
- Ag Occupations class with Mr. Larsen



Kelsey Lage
High School Counselor

Visit my High School Counselor web page for important updates and information or contact me at lage@vikes.us or (218) 863-5910.



Laura Januszewski
High School Principal

Dear Pelican Rapids Community and Parents,

Our district’s mission is to provide a variety of high-quality academic, art, and athletic programs in a unique rural setting. This winter has given orange and black fans many moments to cheer about in all three of these categories. Our high school math team advanced to the state meet after a successful season. Danny Salazar won the Section 8A Wrestling Tournament and advanced to the Class A State Meet for the second consecutive year. The girls’ and boys’ basketball teams were the Heart O’Lakes Conference champions and both created March Madness excitement in Pelican Rapids with trips to the Section 8AA Championship. Our girls’ team finished Section Runner-Ups, while the boys’ took home the championship trophy and earned their first trip to the state tournament since 2009. Our speech team is looking to cap off a stellar season of great regular season awards and performances. The FFA group will send multiple participants to the State Convention in April.

As I reflect on the accomplishments of this school year, I’m happy to share the outstanding success achieved in fulfilling one of our district goals of ensuring that 100% of our graduating students have a plan for post-secondary education, military service, or entering the workforce. Our staff is committed to providing comprehensive support and opportunities for our students as they prepare for their futures. We believe preparation for life after high school begins before senior year, and we have implemented a variety of initiatives and programs to facilitate this journey.

The 2023-24 school year has provided diverse and immersive experiences for our students through coursework, field trips, speakers, career panels, and employable certifications. These opportunities allow our students to engage with members of our community and gain valuable insights into the range of post-secondary options available in Pelican Rapids and surrounding areas.

Over the past two years, we have expanded our Career and Technical Education (CTE) offerings to encompass a broader spectrum of career pathways. From cosmetology and emergency medical services to certified nursing assistant training and commercial driver’s license courses, we have strived to ensure that our students have access to programs that align with their interests and career aspirations.



Looking ahead to the 2024-25 school year, we are excited to continue expanding our CTE offerings to include even more diverse pathways. New courses such as Early Childhood Education, Coding and Software Design, and Content Creation & Storytelling will provide students with cutting-edge skills and knowledge that are highly relevant in today’s rapidly evolving job market.

Additionally, we will be introducing a Career and College Prep class designed to empower students to take a deeper dive into their strengths and interests while exploring potential career paths and education opportunities. Through internships, site visits, and personalized guidance, this course will equip our students with the tools and resources they need to make informed decisions about their future pathways. I am proud of the strides we have made towards ensuring that every student in our district is equipped with the skills, knowledge, and confidence to succeed beyond high school. None of this would have been possible without the support of our community, parents, and staff.

As we celebrate the achievements of this school year, let us continue to work together to inspire and empower the next generation of leaders and innovators in Pelican Rapids.

Go Vikings!

Go Vikings!



Doug Bruggeman
Dean of Students

BEING PROACTIVE

I am happy to report that we have so many students attending Pelican Rapids High School who really try

hard to help promote the positive learning environment and culture in our school. Ninety-eight percent of the time our students go about their school day in a very productive and respectful way.

Unfortunately, there are still moments where we deal with some of the ugly sides of human nature...a mean comment is expressed...a student gets teased about some aspect of who they are...somebody posts a picture on social media and other students tear them down. These situations are the tough parts of life in school and in the world around us, especially in this social media age. Learning the power of choice is one tool that students can use to problem solve and navigate these challenges.

The PRHS campus has around 500+ students, teachers, and support staff. The amount of interaction that occurs on any given day is staggering. With so many unique personalities, home environments and perceptions of how life should go really increase the possibility of one student upsetting another student is great. Add the various maturity levels and the hormones of the teen years, you have a ton of “learning opportunities” that present themselves.

Helping students learn to treat each other with decency and respect is my number one job as the Dean of Students. I try to use a proven pathway to help everyone in the school grow and become more effective in their relationships. This pathway comes to me courtesy of The Seven Habits of Highly Effective People®.

7 habits of highly effective people®

habit 1:

be proactive

habit 2:

begin with the end in mind

habit 3:

put first things first

habit 4:

think win-win

habit 5:

seek first to understand, then to be understood

habit 6:

synergize

habit 7:

sharpen the saw

Habit #1 is to Be Proactive. The core of BEING PROACTIVE is understanding the superpower we all have in this life. That superpower is OUR ABILITY TO CHOOSE HOW WE THINK AND THE ATTITUDE WE TAKE INTO EACH MOMENT. Ultimately the power of choice belongs to each one of us and we are responsible for our thoughts and choices.

Another component of BEING PROACTIVE is understanding that THERE ARE THINGS WE WILL NOT BE ABLE TO CONTROL IN LIFE...three key “no-control” areas of life are what other people think, say or do. They may fall into our circle

of influence but ultimately the power of someone else’s thoughts and choices belongs to them.

False Statement: “That person makes me so mad.”
True Statement: “I am allowing that person to make me mad.”

False Statement: “I am being crabby because my teacher is such a jerk.”
True Statement: “I am choosing to be crabby.”

Helping students understand the benefits of BEING PROACTIVE helps move them from having a “victim mentality” to being a “mentality of control”. We talk about what they can control, who to go to for help and how their response can help make a huge difference. This enables everyone to continue learning positive options for responding to the negative moments that pop up in life.

“To meet hate with retaliatory hate would do nothing but intensify the existence of evil in the universe. Hate begets hate; violence begets violence; toughness begets a greater toughness. We must meet the forces of hate with the power of love; we must meet physical force with soul force.”

- Martin Luther King, Jr.

PRHS CTE PROGRAMS

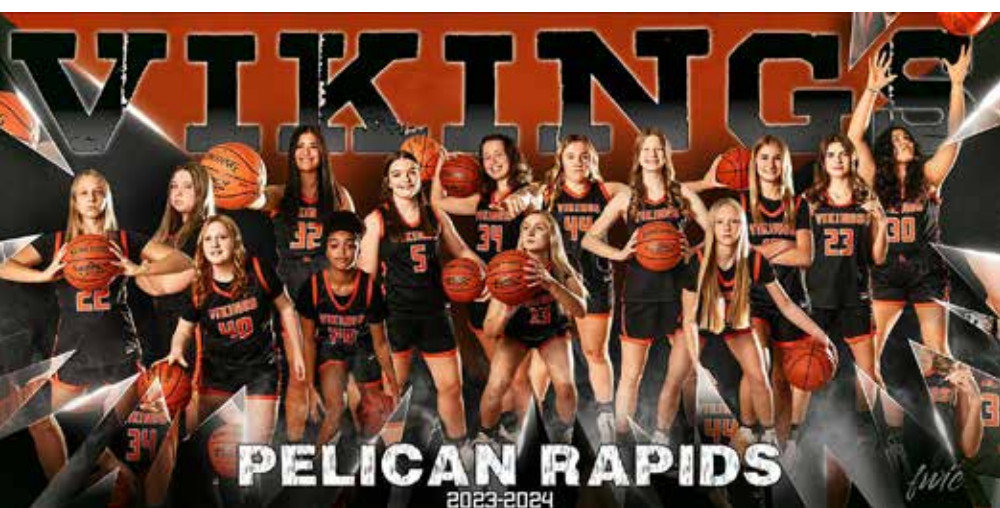
WATCH HERE

SPORTS/ACTIVITIES/ARTS/STUDENT GROUPS



BOYS BASKETBALL

- 24-7
- Co-Champions of Heart O'Lakes Conference (10-2 record)
- Section 8AA Champions
- State AA Participants
- HOL All-Conference Players: Timmy Guler, Charlie Larson, Miguel Torres
- 1,000 Career Points: Timmy Guler



GIRLS BASKETBALL

- Academic Team Award: Silver Award 3.76
- 25-4 Overall Record
- Heart O'Lakes Conference Champions
- Minnesota National Bank Holiday Tournament Champions
- Section 8AA Runner-Up
- All State Honorable Mention: Ellie Welch and Morgan Korf
- All State Academic Awards: Claudia Gurath and Ellie Welch
- 1000 Point Scorers: Morgan Korf & Ellie Welch
- Defensive Rebounds in a season: 262 Ellie Welch (209 Adriana Torres 2017-18)
- Total Rebounds in a season: 328 Ellie Welch (293 Adriana Torres)
- Career Rebounds: Ellie Welch 793 (Greta Tollefson 771 2016-21)
- Most Points in a Season: 652-Morgan Korf-22.5/game (580 Bailey Strand-20.0/game)



WRESTLING

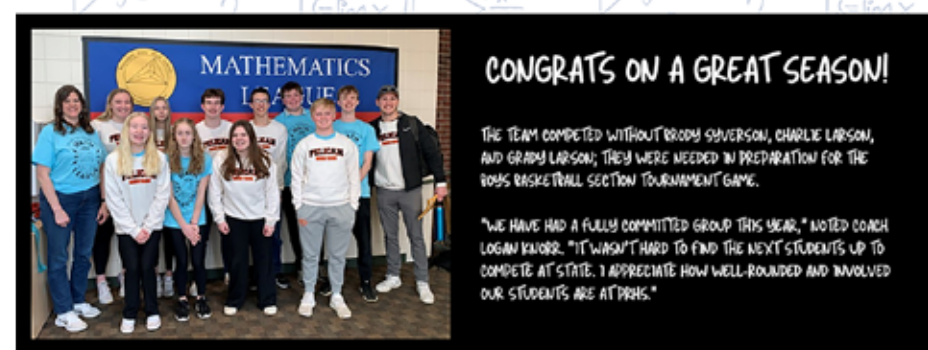
- State Wrestling Individual Tournament Danny Salazar
- Kaden Holt-School Record with four second pin
- Jackson Peasley-75th Career Win



VALKYRIES DANCE TEAM

PRHS MATH TEAM @ STATE COMPETITION

OLIVER SANDVLY 7 + LINDA THOMAS 4 + MADALYN HOVLAND 4 + HENDEN HAUERUD 4 + ELLIE WELCH 3 + WILLEM PESCH 2 + JAXON DILMAN 2 + TEAM 4 = 30 TOTAL POINTS



CONGRATS ON A GREAT SEASON!

THE TEAM COMPETED WITHOUT BRODY SANDERSON, CHARLIE LARSON, AND GRADY LARSON; THEY WERE NEEDED IN PREPARATION FOR THE BOYS BASKETBALL SECTION TOURNAMENT GAME.

"WE HAVE HAD A FULLY COMMITTED GROUP THIS YEAR," NOTED COACH LOGAN KNOX. "IT WASN'T HARD TO FIND THE NEXT STUDENTS UP TO COMPETE AT STATE. I APPRECIATE HOW WELL-ROUNDED AND INVOLVED OUR STUDENTS ARE AT PRHS."

MATHEMATICAL ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA (MCA) WINNERS



The FFA Dairy Evaluation team earned 1st place at the regional competition. There were 17 teams and over 60 participants. The team now advances to the MN FFA Convention in April.

Individual Results:

Kolbi Ross-1st, Hannah Nelson-3rd, Olivia Johnson-4th, Addisyn Walters-18th.

Thea Olson earned 2nd place in the Dairy Handlers competition and earned a trip to compete at the Minnesota FFA Convention in April.



The FFA Horse Evaluation team earned 1st place at the regional competition. There were 15 teams and over 50 participants. The team now advances to the MN FFA Convention in April.

Individual Results: Dylan Hoadley-2nd, Jaylyn Wolf-10th, Kendra Ross-14th, Londyn Milbeck-25th.

The FFA Wildlife team earned 3rd place at the regional competition. There were 18 teams and over 70 participants.

The team now advances to the MN FFA Convention in April.

Individual Results: Kaden Holt-4th, Jackson Peasley-7th, Easton Thorson-11th, Hazen Milbeck-17th



The speech team traveled to Underwood for Subsections Speech on Wednesday, April 3rd. In Dramatic Interpretation Caas Schleske placed 3rd, Ella Schleske placed 4th and Andy Roesch tied for 1st alternate to Sections. In Poetry Daisy Holl placed 2nd and Ashley Zavala was 2nd alternate. Kloie Nordick was 1st alternate in Prose. Hannah Nelson was a timer for the meet. The students who placed advance to Sections. Way to go Vikings!!!

On Friday, March 1st, six 6th grade students attended the 2024 MSUM 6-8th Grade Honor Band! These students rehearsed with other musicians from 12 other schools around the area and learned from MSUM's band director Dr. Benjamin Druffel. Typically, these students are used to playing with 3 or 4 other musicians in their section.



At this honor band, they were able to play with up to 15 other musicians in their section! To end the event, the students performed a concert consisting of three amazing band pieces.

Students featured: Zaylyn Arrow, Thea Axness, Rachal Breen, Ryan King, Alayna Schlieman, and Elli Schlieman.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR INVOLVEMENT



PHOTO BY KARI GREIFSRUD MANCINI / FROM WHERE I COME PHOTOGRAPHY



First graders and SADD members had a ton of fun building and decorating gingerbread houses in December!



High school students, who were part of the SADD Sponsored Snowman Tea Light Candle Activity, made a snowman for each senior living resident.



In honor of Random Acts of Kindness Day, which is nationally celebrated on February 17th, SADD distributed bags of treats to students and staff, while encouraging others to be kind.



35 students in grades 5-6 met after school for Art Club creating paintings, drawings, clay projects and sculptures.



Congratulations to Daisy Holl and Ava Simpson who earned a place in the Concordia Annual High School Juried Show! With only 45 of approximately 250 artworks judged making into this highly competitive show, this is quite an honor to be chosen.



On Saturday January 27th, the one act play competed at the subsection meet. Their performance of "I Don't Want to Talk About it" by Bradley Hayward was their best show to date! We were in a four-way tie for second place, but after crunching the numbers and more judges' deliberation, we ended up with 3rd place. We did not advance to the section meet; however, the students should be proud of what they accomplished this season.

Back: Thomas Taylor, Lluvia Julsrud DeLuna, Emma Hanson, and Zayli Arrow. Middle: McKenna Erikson, Jordan Batson, Emily Haiby, Daisy Holl, and Julianna Borgen. Front: Caas Schleske and Ella Schleske. Not pictured: Ibrahim Saric and Cooper Kress



Student council members served up a hot cocoa bar to PRHS students and staff.



Six groups of PRHS students did spring clean up in the Pelican Rapids community on April 9. Focus areas of this Viking Day of Service included the city parks, trails, and bridge areas; the food shelf; school grounds and Chauncey Martin Fields.



Mrs. Holl's Spanish students had the opportunity for a trip to Texas in late March. Their itinerary included Black's BBQ, The River Walk, San Antonio Zoo, The Alamo, Tower of Americas, Historic Market Square, USS Lexington, Texas State Aquarium, Mustang Island State Park, Snoopy's Pier and Oklahoma City National Memorial and Museum.



Thank you to everyone who donated blood and to the Minnesota Honor Society students who sponsored their second Red Cross Blood Drive this year.



Mrs. Kirkwood's and Ms. Dunbar's programs came together to enhance their newly forming mentorship club for their students. The students had a winter celebration with an afternoon filled with activities such as cookie decorating, a variety of games, music and dancing, followed by a movie with hot chocolate and popcorn. The students were able to continue to build new relationships. A fun and festive time was had by all!



Reading Buddies
PRHS students enjoy some reading time with first grade students.



DISTRICT

Pelican Rapids Public Schools is committed to every student. Our staff embraces each student's unique talents, background, and needs. We thrive on Viking Pride and believe our high academic standards, award-winning arts and academics, rich cultural diversity, and state-of-the-art facilities enable our students to leave prepared for success in future education, careers, and life!

NEW MULTI-USE BUILDING



Trevor Steeves
Building & Grounds
Superintendent

We have been busy putting the finishing touches on the new Multi-Use Building located at Chauncey Martin Field to have it ready for spring sports. The new building was made possible in cooperation between the School District, Otter Tail County and the City of Pelican Rapids. It will be used for school activities, tennis/pickle ball courts, softball & baseball games, the skating rink and as a trailhead for the Heart of the Lakes Trail.



This new building has single bathrooms that will be open daily May-October for activities. In addition, there is a ticket area, multi-stall Men's and Women's bathrooms, a storage area, concession stand and a warming house. The winter of 2023/2024 has been a definite change from the last 2 winters making it difficult to make ice for the skating rink but we were able to have the warming house open for a couple weeks. Stop by and check out the new facility and enjoy a sporting event.



Veterans and current military personnel and their families were honored at the boys basketball game on February 9 with free admittance and a complimentary meal ticket. The PRHS choir sang the national anthem prior to the game and Presenting the Colors was the Pelican Rapids Honor Guard.



Former players, assistants, and fellow coaches posed with legendary Pelican Rapids High School coach-educator Rex Haugen, at the February 24 dedication of the Rex Haugen Court.

SAFE WALKING ROUTES

As we navigate through the various stages of the Pelican Rapids construction project, we will be creating safe walking routes for our students, staff and families.

SAFE WALK ROUTE:

2nd St. (vs. 1st St).

PRHS WEST:

No parking along 1st St.

SW

Cross Guards will be used before/after school

Updates will be posted on school website and Facebook pages



ISD 548 SCHOOL BOARD

THANK YOU FOR SHARING YOUR TIME
AND ENERGY WITH OUR SCHOOL!



- STACI ALLMARAS
- GREG LARSON
- JON KARGER
- BRENDA OLSON
- ANNE PETERSON
- MOLLY WELCH

STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES:
EDUARDO SANCHEZ, ELLIE WELCH



IMPORTANT DATES

- May 4 Junior/Senior Prom
- May 7 PRHS Choir Concert 7:30pm in FFA
- May 8 Bike to School Day
- May 8 PRHS Band Concert 7:30pm in FFA
- May 15 Scholarship Night 6:30pm in FFA
- May 19 Baccalaureate 7:00pm in FFA
- May 22 Last Day of School
- May 24 Graduation 7:00pm Leaders Gymnasium

Dates & times subject to change

Visit school website or Facebook for updates



pelicanrapids.k12.mn.us



Pelican Rapids Public Schools

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

"Our school offers so many opportunities in academics, the arts, and athletics. There is something for everyone. We have amazing students and staff!"

To view current job openings and begin the on-line application process visit our [district website](http://districtwebsite) or use the QR code.

QUESTIONS?

Contact Emily Evenson, HR Manager
& Executive Administrative Assistant
218-863-5910 ext. 4445 or
eevenson@vikes.us



BACKPACK BUDDIES

Help fight hunger in our community by sponsoring a child!

Backpack Buddies supplies hungry children in Pelican Rapids with food for the weekend.

The Pelican Rapids school district and Food Shelf partner to provide a bag of foods such as cereal, fruit cups, pudding, juice boxes, peanut butter & crackers, granola bars, ramen noodles, and other easy meals. The program is partially funded by United Way and through community support. Any donation would be appreciated.

Questions?

contact Jackie Larson 218.329.5752 or larsonjb@umn.edu

Willing to donate? contact Sue Bruggeman at 218.329.8626



turn on
camera app



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QR code



click
pop-up link

APRIL
BOXTOPS

\$1,213.00
EARNED IN 2023-24
SCHOOL YEAR

Earning money for Pelican Rapids Schools
is a Breeze! Start scanning today!

Not interested in getting the app?
Drop off your receipts at Larry's
Supermarket in the Box Top bin and
we will scan them for you!



Pelican Rapids Community Education is partnering with M State to offer

COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S LICENSE (CDL) THEORY TRAINING COURSE

This self-paced, online course is offered year-round through M State and can be started at any time.

Minnesota State
Community and Technical College
Workforce Development Solutions
A member of the Northern Minnesota
Workforce Development Solutions

PELICAN RAPIDS
SCHOOL DISTRICT
RESIDENTS
ARE ELIGIBLE FOR
USE OF A TEXTBOOK
AND A LAPTOP

START YOUR PATH TO
A COMMERCIAL DRIVER'S
LICENSE TODAY!