

DECEMBER 2019

HIGHLIGHTS FROM HUGO ELEMENTARY

Upcoming Events:

Dec 23 - Jan 3 - Winter Break
Jan 9 - Kindergarten Parent Info Night
6:00 @ Hugo Elementary
Jan 20 - No School - MLK Day
Jan 24 - End Q2
Jan 24 - PTA Adult Game Night
Jan 27 - No School

Hugo Family Calendar

[Click Here](#)

Winter Weather Policy Reminder

Students will be going outside for recess if the temperature or wind chill is -10 or above.



Hugo Elementary Brian Morris, Acting Principal

Office: 651-653-2798
Health office: 651-653-2622
Attendance: 651-653-2621

School Hours: 8:55a - 3:35p
Office Hours: 7:30a - 4:00p

Letter from Mr. Morris

December is here and 2020 is right around the corner! Our staff and students are working extremely hard to reach their academic goals and to embody our Core Values of integrity, responsibility, compassion and Respect. I am honored to be a part of the Hugo Elementary community of learners and I'm excited to see what 2020 brings. Please remember that the Winter Break will start on Monday, Dec. 23rd and school will resume on Monday, January 6, 2020.

Cold has arrived! I know our teachers have mentioned it before, but one piece of advice we love to share with everyone is make sure your children's winter clothing, along with sweatshirts, are labeled. We've had quite a few students accidentally take the wrong coat outside during recess or the wrong sweatshirt home in the afternoon. Our "Lost-n-Found" is piling up.

With that said and the winter break quickly approaching, I would like to take this opportunity on behalf of the Hugo staff to wish everyone a safe and joyous holiday season!!!

brian.morris@isd624.org

651-653-2807

**Check out the Hugo & Oneka
PTA News on Page 8.**

www.hugoonekapta.org

DECEMBER 2019

HIGHLIGHTS

FROM ONEKA ELEMENTARY

Oneka Elementary Lori Mosser, Principal

Office: 651-288-1800

Health office: 651-288-1803

Attendance: 651-288-1802

School Hours: 9:00a - 3:42p

Office Hours: 7:45a - 4:15p

Voters approve referendum request

Great news! Voters approved our school district's referendum request for bond funds to address building needs across the district, 57.4% yes to 42.6% no. Specific improvements for our building will include adding 5 classrooms for capacity of 720 students, updating our classrooms and media center, and safety/security upgrades. Read the full press release [here](#). Thank you!



Upcoming Events:

Dec 23 - Jan 5 - No School

Jan 20 - No School - MLK Day

Jan 24 - End Q2

Jan 24 - PTA Adult Game Night

Jan 27 - No School

Letter from Mrs. Mosser

As this is the season for giving please consider giving to one of the WBLEF programs. The Holiday Angels program gives our community an opportunity to share with those in need right in our own school district while honoring a school district staff person. The Angel Fund provides each school building in the White Bear Lake Area School District with discretionary funds to assist students and families who experience special economic needs. Since 2001, the WBLAEF has received Angel Fund requests to cover the expense of winter coats, boots, hats and mittens, backpacks, school supplies, basic food and clothing needs, and even temporary housing, to name just a few. Whether the need is the result of a job loss, unexpected extraordinary medical expenses, a home fire or any number of situations, the need exists and increases each year.

Each holiday season, we offer a special opportunity for families, students and school district staff members to honor an educator, administrator or other staff member and to help the WBLAEF Angel Fund grow. To participate, fill out the Holiday Angels donation form found on page 5 and submit it to the WBLAEF office by TUESDAY, JANUARY 1, 2019. The WBLAEF will then send a special Angel Fund holiday greeting card to the honored staff person stating that you have chosen to honor them during this holiday season with a gift to the WBLAEF Angel Fund.

Lastly, it is the holiday season and I am so grateful that I have been able to build positive relationships in the short time I have been here at Oneka. I would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a safe and joyous holiday season and a Happy New Year!!!

Lori Mosser

lori.mosser@isd624.org

Hugo - K & 1st grade AM drop-off

Please do not park in the Fire Lane in front of the school. This area is for drop-off only. For safety reasons, you must park in the lot if you are walking your child into school.

2020-2021 Kindergarten Enrollment Information Coming Soon.

GET READY!

Kindergarten Parent Information night for Hugo Elementary families will be **January 9th at 6 p.m.** at Hugo Elementary.

Health Office Reminder:

Is My Child Well Enough To Go To School?

Please keep your child home if:

- **They have a FEVER ($\geq 100^\circ$).** Students must stay home until they have been fever free for 24 hours without the aid of fever reducing medication. Measure your child's temperature before giving medications to reduce fever.
- **They are VOMITING**(two or more episodes). Students must stay home for 24 hours after last episode.
- **They have ANY RASH** that may be disease related, or the cause is unknown. Check with your child's physician before returning to school.

If your child has DIARRHEA, please abide by the following:

- **School Aged:** Your child can attend school unless they are not feeling well and/or have diarrhea and need to use the bathroom frequently. (Schools may require exclusion during outbreaks.)

Hugo Early Dismissal and End-of-Day Transportation Changes.

Hugo dismissal time is 3:35. In the event that you need to pick up your child early from school, please email your child's teacher and hugodismissalrequest@isd624.org. If you have a late day change (after 2:30), please call the office to insure the message gets to the teacher.

For safety reasons, we cannot allow early pick-up (without prior notice) once students are in transition at the end of the day. This would be anytime between 3:20 and 3:35. Once students are transitioning in the hallways, we ask that you wait until all students are where they need to be.

Oneka Girls on the Run Program



Our Girls on the Run program for girls in grades 3-5 at Oneka this fall was a huge success! We wrapped up the season with a 5k run at the Mall of America on Sunday, November 10th. I was so impressed by the all the hard work and efforts of our coaches and the girls. WOW!

We will have a spring season beginning in March, and are looking to have two teams to accommodate up to 40 girls. If you are interested in being a volunteer coach (YES, dads, uncles, grandpas, etc., can sign up too!) please reach out to our site coordinator, Abbi Case, a 5th grade teacher here at Oneka. abbi.case@isd624.org

For more information about the program that is open to girls in grades 3-5, please visit the GOCR website: <https://www.girlsontherun.org/>

A Big thank you from Boss and Student Council

We gathered 1800 lbs of items for the Hugo Food Shelf as well as donating \$650. They are so thankful for everything we were able to donate to them. We also donated around 14 boxes of candy to the Yellow Ribbon Network and Ronald McDonald House. They were also both very appreciative.



Severe Weather & School Closings

If winter weather is so severe that schools need to close, families will also be alerted in three ways as soon as a decision is made:

- A SchoolMessenger phone message and email will be sent to all guardians. A text message will be sent to those who have opted in to receiving texts from the district.
- A message will be posted on the homepage of www.isd624.org.
- Messages will be posted on the District's [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) pages.

For more information on school closing, please visit:

<https://www.isd624.org/about/superintendent/emergency-school-closings>

2019-20 WBTLA Teacher of the Year

It's time to celebrate educator excellence as part of the White Bear Lake Teacher Associations' 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 educator who goes above and beyond and who makes White Bear Lake Area Schools a great place to send our students every day.

Former Teachers of the Year Nick Marty and Abby Kath are coordinating this year's process. Nominations are open until January 10th, 2020, at 4:00 pm. Once the nominees are announced, they will have the option to continue to participate in the WBLTA 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 2020 WBLTA Teacher of the Year, six will be chosen as finalists. All nominees and finalists will be honored at the South Campus Theater on April 23rd when the White Bear Lake Teacher of the Year will be announced.

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





HOLIDAY ANGELS PROGRAM-2019

HONOR SOMEONE SPECIAL!

For some students, a warm coat on a cold winter day, a hot meal in their tummy and having the same school supplies as classmates can make all the difference in the world.

The Holiday Angels program gives our community an opportunity to share with those in need while honoring a school district staff person, friend or community member.

The White Bear Lake Area Educational Foundation (WBLAEF) is pleased to announce the kickoff of our annual Holiday Angels program, a special fundraising initiative for the Angel Fund of the WBLAEF. The Angel Fund provides funding to cover the expense of winter coats, boots, hats and mittens, backpacks, school supplies, basic food and clothing, and even temporary housing for students and families in need. Whether the result of a job loss, unexpected extraordinary medical expenses or any number of situations, the needs of our students and families increase each year.

In this season of giving and receiving, consider honoring the people who touch your life daily. Maybe you have a favorite mail carrier, teacher, neighbor or police officer. Holiday Angels is a way to honor those important people in your life, while helping someone in need.

To participate:

1. Fill out the Holiday Angels donation form on the reverse side of this document.
2. Send it with your donation to the WBLAEF office by **JANUARY 1, 2020.**

The Foundation will then send a personalized Angel Fund holiday greeting card to your special person stating that you have chosen to honor them during this holiday season with a gift to the WBLAEF Angel Fund.

*"No one is useless in this world who lightens
the burdens of another."*

— Charles Dickens

Holiday Angels Program - 2019

HONOR GIFT / DONATION FORM

PLEASE PRINT

INFO OF PERSON YOU ARE HONORING:

First Name: _____ Last Name: _____

Address: (and building, if a district staff person):

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

INFO OF DONOR/S:

Name(s) of donors to be listed on card: _____

Amount of gift: \$ _____ (will not be listed on card, unless requested by donor)

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email address: _____ Phone number: _____

Payment method: Cash ☐ Check ☐ Credit Card (VISA or MC) ☐

Card No.: _____ Exp. Date: _____ Security Code: _____

Signature: _____

Additional message for the inside the card: _____

RETURN: PLEASE RETURN COMPLETED FORM BY JANUARY 1, 2020 TO:

WBLAEF Holiday Angels
4855 Bloom Ave., Room 116
White Bear Lake, MN 55110

**If you or your family needs assistance from the Angel Fund, please contact your school Principal.*

The WBLAEF is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Many employers have matching grant programs available that can increase your donation to the Angel Fund.

For more information on the WBLAEF, please visit us at www.wblaef.org or call 651-407-7696.

Monthly Staff and Community Mental Well-Being Series

District staff and families are invited to attend monthly presentations focused on mental well-being.

Mental Health Issues and How We Can Make a Difference

Presented by Certified Family Peer Specialist Michelle Uetz

7-8:30 p.m.

Dec. 19

District Center - Community Room 112

Description of the Program:

Michelle Uetz, a teacher and Certified Family Peer Specialist, will discuss mental illness from a personal, family member, parent, and teacher perspective. Michelle has life experience in each of these areas and will share her knowledge and experience with attendees. Michelle will discuss warning signs, stigma, how to help teens, when behavior is "normal teen behavior" and when it is something to be concerned about, how teachers can create mental health-friendly classrooms, how parents can advocate for their child, mental health resources, self-care, and suicide prevention.

UPCOMING EVENTS IN THE SERIES

Jan. 16 (7-8:30 p.m. at DC Community Room 112)
Sitting in Circle: How to Support the Middle School Girl
You Love by Christina Nguyen, Dreaming Sky Coaching

Feb. 13 (6:30-8:30 p.m. at DC Community Room 112)
Know the Truth presentation by Minnesota Adult and Teen
Challenge

March 19 (7-8:30 p.m. at DC Community Room 112)
Grief and Loss by Tony Del Percio with Bradshaw Funeral
and Cremation Services

April 16 (7-8:30 p.m. at DC Community Room 112)
Cell Phone use Awareness by Maree Hampton and KK
Myers, LiveMore

May 21 (7-8:30 p.m. at DC Community Room 112)
The Impact of Technology on Emerging Generations by
Jon D. Kirby, MA, LMFT



Series sponsored by
White Bear Lake Area Schools
Student Support Services Department.



www.isd624.org

DECEMBER 2019

Hugo & Oneka PTA

PTA. Every Child. One Voice

Fall Fundraiser

A HUGE thank you goes out to our Hugo and Oneka families and our community members for supporting our students, teachers, and schools by donating to our Fall Fundraiser Direct Donation Drive! Thanks to your generosity, we were able to raise over \$15,000 for our schools! While this falls short of our original goal, we are hopeful that our NEW Glow Bears Fun Run fundraiser, this Winter, will help us close that gap. This will Allow us to continue to support our students and teachers this year and into the future! Thank you again!

A Note From The PTA President

I have learned a great deal about our schools these last two years, serving on the PTA board as both vice president and president; and I am honored to say that I was part of this team. I never realized all the resources the PTA provides our schools, and my only regret is not joining sooner. Being a member of the PTA allows you as a parent/guardian to be more actively involved in your child's education. It also helps you form connections with the teachers, support staff, and parents/guardians of your child's school. These connections are crucial during your child's elementary school years, and they help to make this time even more enjoyable. Being a member of the PTA is not always easy, but it is always rewarding!

Effective December 31, 2019, I will no longer be president of the PTA. I was elected onto the WBL school board, and start serving in January. This leaves the PTA president position open, and an interim president election will be held at the PTA's January meeting. VP Chrissi Miller will call the election to order. If you are interested or would like more information, please feel free to reach out to me at hugonekaptapresident@gmail.com. I would love to chat and answer any questions you may have.

With Gratitude and Kindness, Angela Thompson

Next PTA Meeting

Happy Holidays from the Hugo/Oneka PTA! We do not officially meet during the month of December. **Please join us for our next meeting on Monday, January 13th, 2020 at 6:00pm in the Oneka Media Center.** Have a wonderful and joyous holiday season! We will see you in 2020!

Seeking Volunteers and Members

We would love to partner with YOU!! We are seeking new PTA members. You may become a member at any time during the school year. Membership gives you a voting voice in the planning/execution of vital PTA sponsored events, direct interaction with the school staff and administration, and most important, a front row seat to your child's academic world.

Please join us! Find a membership form on our website (www.hugoonekapta.org) or at a meeting.

Glow Bears Winter Fundraiser/Event

Hugo and Oneka Elementary Schools are inviting all students to participate in a BIG action-packed fitness experience in January! We have teamed up with Boosterthon, a fun, 2-week program where students will learn about fitness, leadership and character while families gather pledges for our school. Each classroom will work together to solve problems, meet goals, and win prizes! On the final day of our program, each school will take part in an indoor glow run or dance party and try to maximize their per-lap donations. More information will be coming in Friday folders soon! Get ready to have a ton of fun! Glow Bears!