



Fillmore Central Schools

Greetings from Fillmore Central Schools!

www.fillmorecentral.k12.mn.us

Calendar Highlights

- 8/21 Early Childhood Screening 2-6pm
- 8/27 HS Open House 5-7pm
- 9/2 7-12 First Day of School!
PreK-6 Conferences 8-3
K-5 Vision/Hearing Screening/Class Pictures
- 9/3 PreK-6 Conferences 10-6
K-5 Vision/Hearing Screening/Class Pictures
- 9/4 K-6 First day of school
- 9/10 7-12 Picture Day
- 9/22 Coronation 7:00pm
- 9/26 Homecoming
- 10/13 Early Dismissal (12:30pm)
PreK-12 P-T Conferences 1:00pm-8pm
- 10/16-17 M.E.A. - No School
- 10/31 End of First Quarter
- 11/3 No School-Teachers Workshop
- 11/13 Scholar Club @ 9:00am
- 11/26-28 No School - Thanksgiving
- 12/6 Tapestry Dinner
- 12/8 7-12 Vocal Concert
- 12/11 7-12 Band Concert
- 12/15 K-4 Holiday Concert 1:00 and 6:00
5/6 Holiday Concert 2:00 and 7:00
- 12/23 Early Dismissal (12:30pm)
- 12/24-1/2 Winter Break
- 1/5 School Resumes
- 1/16 End of Second Quarter
- 1/19 No School - Teachers Workshop

***Events on this calendar are subject to change, please check the school website for updates.

Welcome Back to a New School Year!

On behalf of the Board of Education, I'd like to welcome everyone to the 2025-2026 school year. I want to thank everyone for their continued support and efforts that make Fillmore Central a great school.

As we get closer to the upcoming school year, we continue to prepare the facilities for school, fine art events, and athletic events. Announcements and additional information will be communicated through the JMC announcement portal, our school website, and our Facebook page, to name a few.

- Mr. Heath Olstad, Superintendent / 7-12 Principal

Fillmore Central High School (Grades 7-12)

Open House

Wednesday, August 27th 5:00 to 7:00pm

You will have the opportunity to meet your child's teachers and learn about the courses they are enrolled in. Individual class schedules will be available along with computer pick up and school calendars. Students may pick up any school supplies they are in need of that have been donated to the school. There will not be individual class meetings.

Fillmore Central Elementary and Preschool

Back-to-School Conferences

Tuesday, Sept. 2nd 8:00am to 3:00pm and Wednesday, Sept. 3rd 10:00am to 6:00pm

This years conferences for all students, PreK-6, will be on Tuesday, September 2nd from 8am to 3pm and on Wednesday, September 3rd from 10am to 6 pm. See additional information in this newsletter for more information regarding the back-to-school conferences and directions for scheduling your child's conference time.

Also, scheduled during this time will be class pictures,
K-5 Vision and Hearing Screening.

One Block At A Time & School Age Childcare

If you are interested in more information, contact Angi Kaase at angi.kaase@isd2198.k12.mn.us for the child care center.

Also, if you are interested in substituting in the daycare contact Angi Kaase.

Jessica Bradt at jessica.bradt@isd2198.k12.mn.us or
Katie Restroffer at katie.restroffer@isd2198.k12.mn.us
for SAC.

Absences: Fillmore Central requests that parents call the school NO LATER THAN 8:30 AM if your child is going to be absent. No phone call or note will result in an unexcused absence/tardy. If an absence is known in advance call the school office or send a note with your child stating the date and reason for the upcoming absence. We have a 24-hour voice messaging system that allows you to leave messages in case of an emergency absence.

Elementary Parents: Just a reminder for students getting dropped off in the morning. If parents are walking their child to the building-please park in the lot. The drive through is for busses, emergency lane and those parents just dropping off and not getting out of the vehicle. Pull up beyond the crosswalk to drop off to avoid congestion. Remind your child to use crosswalks and look for incoming traffic. Thank you for your attention to this and for ensuring our students safety!

Lunch/Breakfast Prices: Prices have been set as follows for the 2025/2026 school year:

Breakfast:	FREE for all students
Adult	\$4.00
Lunch:	FREE for all students
Adult	\$6.00
	Extra Milk (all) \$0.50

School year 2025-26, we are joining Minnesota's Free School Meals Program. All students can receive **one breakfast and one lunch free of charge each day at school**. Although no application is required to receive this free meal benefit, filling out the Application for Educational Benefits is still important! Your application will help the school qualify for education funds, discounts, and other meal programs. Applications are available for pick up at the school office or on the website.

Your student must take the required components of the meal for it to be free of charge. Student lunch accounts will be charged if they do not take a full meal and for any extra items they take (extra milk or ala carte). Please be aware of these additional charges and that your student may still need money on their lunch account. Balances are always available to you through the JMC Parent Access on the website. Payments can be made with a debit/credit card via the school website or by check sent to the school office. In addition, if you set up automatic payments in prior years, you may want to review the amount for the upcoming school year. Please be aware, however, that debit/credit card payments are not applied to lunch accounts immediately. Please allow 24 hours. Weekly reminders of negative balances are sent home with elementary school students in their Friday Folders. When high school lunch accounts reach a negative balance, weekly e-mails are sent out to parents.

Elementary School Milk Prices:

This year's milk prices will be as follows:

Kindergarten Milk Break:

\$20.00 per semester/\$40.00 per year

Grades 1-6 Milk Break:

\$43.75 per semester/\$87.50 per year

These milk prices must be paid by any student who participates in the Milk Break Program, regardless of whether they qualify for free or reduced meals.

This fee is not subject to pro-rating due to absences, snow days, vacations, etc. It is a flat fee with no exceptions or variations.

Elementary School News

Mr. Jim Peters, PreK-6 Principal:

Welcome to another school year at Fillmore Central! It has been an honor to serve families and staff in our outstanding district. At Fillmore Central, we have been blessed with incredible adults who work hard every day for our students. Our staff members go above and beyond to create a positive learning experience for the children in our community.

Thank you to our students, families, and community members for their support. Thank you to our staff for the amazing work you do every day for our students. As we move into this year, take some time to share all of the good things that are happening in our community and school. There is great work being done all around us! Wishing you an amazing 2025/26 school year!

Jim Peters
Prek-6 Principal

High School News

Mr. Heath Olstad, 7-12 Principal:

As another summer comes to an end, I look forward to an exciting and rewarding school year. Please take the time to read through this newsletter to help you and your family be more prepared for the start of the school year. Student Handbooks are accessible on each student's computer as well as on the school website. Please take the time to read this handbook to assist you and your child throughout the year. If you have any questions regarding the newsletter or the Student Handbook please contact the high school office at 886-6464 or 765-3809.

The HS Open House is scheduled for August 27th from 5:00-7:00pm, it is for all parents and students who attend the high school. Individual schedules, back-to-school forms, computer handout and school calendars will be available for pick up.

Hope to see you all there!

DISTRICT CENSUS

Fillmore Central wants all families with young children living in the district to know about our programs and activities, including school readiness and ECFE.

If you live in Fillmore Central School District and have children living in your home who were born after September 1, 2020, please email Darla Ebner to get on our school census: darla.ebner@isd2198.k12.mn.us

Healthy Snack Program: This program will again be offered to K-6 students and will begin Monday, September 15, 2025. A healthy snack is provided at milk break time to students who participate. Prices will be as follows: \$40.00/semester or \$80.00/year. This fee is not subject to pro-rating due to absences, snow days, vacations, etc. It is a flat fee with no exceptions or variations.

Monetary donations for the school supplies, milk break scholarship fund and healthy snack program are now being collected. Contributions may be dropped off at the district office in Preston or mailed to:

Fillmore Central Schools
PO Box 50
Preston, MN 55965

Student Insurance: A brochure with information regarding available student insurance will be distributed via email with the Eligibility Meeting info and also on the first day of school. The school district neither encourages nor discourages parents from purchasing this coverage but simply takes this means of making the policy available to those who may be interested.

The school does not have a policy which will protect students while on the school premises or while being transported other than liability coverage which applies in those instances where negligence is established.

Elementary Back-To-School Conferences

Fillmore Central Elementary will again begin the school year with parent-student-teacher conferences the first two days of the school year. Each conference will be scheduled for 30 minutes. Conference times will be available September 2nd from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm and on September 3rd from 10:00 am to 6:00 pm.

During these conferences parents will have an opportunity to meet and discuss expectations and/or concerns privately, teachers will have an opportunity to evaluate the reading level of each child and begin the year with individualized instruction, students will be able to set up their desk and put supplies away, school forms can be completed, school pictures for PreK-grade 6, and vision and hearing checks will be conducted for K-grade 5.

Staff will also be available to guide families through the conference process.

Parents will use the JMC online scheduling program to schedule their 30 minute conference time. Look for an email for instructions to log into the JMC parent portal to schedule your conference with your child(ren)'s teacher.

Please call the elementary office if you need assistance with this process or if you do not have internet access.

School Supplies

Fillmore Central parents and students in grades 7-12 are invited to pick up FREE school supplies. Supplies may be picked up during the high school open house on August 27th.

At the elementary, each student will have a \$25.00 supply fee. Additional supplies may be needed by grade level.



Athletics Information, Chris Mensink, Activities Director

Welcome to the 2025-26 school year. We look forward to a great year filled with many activities for our students to participate and excel in. A few reminders as our school year is approaching quickly.

Forms/Fees: All students must have on file yearly: Insurance waiver, Health Questionnaire, Eligibility Forms, participation fees and Free & Reduced Lunch application. **(Families that qualify for free or reduced meals for the current school year also qualify for free or reduced (1/2 price) extra-curricular activities. A current application or direct certification from MDE must be on file.** All students must also have a valid sports physical on file every 3 years. Typically incoming 7th graders and 10th graders will be in need of an updated physical.

All forms must be completed and turned in before the first day of practice. Forms are available online on the school website under the Activities Tab, Extra Curricular Forms & Applications.

A late bus will be provided beginning September 2nd (first day of school) which will run between Harmony and Preston only. There will also be a bus offered to Cross Country beginning on September 2nd after school and back to Harmony and Preston.

Operating Referendum:

Fillmore Central School District will be holding a special election this fall asking the community to approve an operating referendum to generate additional funds for the general operation of the district. Vote beginning September 19th at the Fillmore Central District Office located at the elementary building in Preston. See the districts operating referendum section on the website for information regarding polling locations on Election Day.

Early Childhood Screening:

Thursday, August 21, 2025 from 2-6 PM

Early Childhood Screening is a free, comprehensive development screening for any child 3 1/2 to 5 years of age. The friendly staff at screening will check your child's:

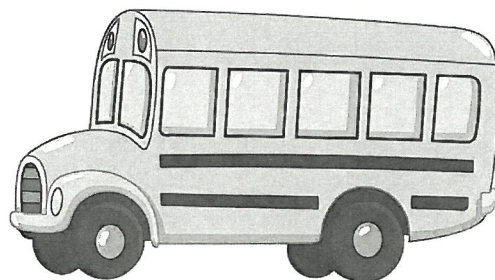
- Vision
- Hearing
- Growth
- Thinking
- Immunization Status
- Communication & Language
- Large & Small Muscle Control
- Emotional Development

The state of Minnesota requires all children to complete a developmental screening before entering kindergarten.

Contact Doreen Rider to schedule your child's screening: 507-765-3809 ext.1186 doreen.rider@isd2198.k12.mn.us

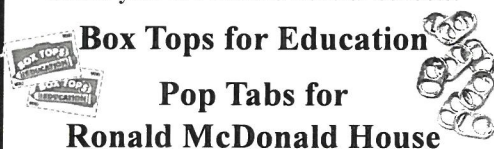
Non-Sufficient Funds Checks: Any NSF check issued to the school district will be submitted directly to Account Liquidation Services and is subject to a \$30 service fee.

Bus Route Information: Bus schedules and route information will be available mid-August. Harmony Transit is pleased to serve the Fillmore Central Schools and surrounding areas! Please help us, help schools, help kids by becoming a bus driver! We offer paid training on site for those without a CDL to allow you to become certified for this rewarding job opportunity assisting the youth of our community! We have many different work opportunities to fit any schedule such as daily AM/PM route driving, field trip, athletic trip, or motor coach driving. The job provides great hourly pay with benefits such as taking your child to work with you, having a flexible schedule, and providing a supplemental income with a world class group of co-workers! Call (507) 886-2020 to learn more about joining our team!



Collect Cash for Our School!

These are the items we collect throughout the school year at Fillmore Central Schools:



Box Tops for Education

Pop Tabs for

Ronald McDonald House

Pay school bills by Check or Debit/Credit Card (RevTrak fee may be applied)
Please DO NOT send Cash!
Thank you!

Free School Calendars

Help us save mailing expenses and pick up your school calendar at the high school open house or elementary back to school conferences. Calendars may also be picked up at the district office.

Free Admission Tickets for Senior Citizens: Fillmore Central Schools will issue free lifetime passes for senior citizens age 65 or older who are residents of Independent School District #2198. These passes are good for all home athletic events with the exception of tournament events. If you would like one of these passes, please contact either the Preston or Harmony offices during regular office hours.

Sporting Events Admission Tickets: Cost of admission to all home sporting events is \$7 per adult and \$5 per student. Sports passes will be available again this year at the cost of \$65 for adults, \$40 for K-12 students/senior citizens 60+, and \$170 for family passes. These passes are good for all home sporting events except tournament events. Passes may be purchased online or at either the Preston or Harmony office during regular office hours.

Information Available on the School Website: Looking for the latest FC news? Check out the school website and find lots of helpful information such as; World's Best Workforce Annual Report, school supply lists, annual notifications on indoor air quality, pesticide notice, asbestos notification, and district policies. K-6 and HS daily announcements, and the school calendar may also be accessed through the web site.

Opt Out: Secondary students may exercise the right to not have the school release directory information to military recruiters. This request must be submitted annually.

Fillmore Central Telephone Numbers:

(507) 765-3809
(507) 886-6464
(507) 765-3845

Elementary (K-6) Office:
Select Option 1
High School (7-12) Office:
Select Option 3
District Office: Select Option 2
One Block At A Time Day Care:
(507) 765-3844



Emergency School Closings: In the event of the need to cancel, delay, or dismiss school days or events, the following media will be contacted: *KTTC-TV*. In addition, parents will be notified via JMC through an automated phone system.

Immunizations: Minnesota youth are required to have immunizations at specific ages. A listing of the required immunizations can be found at <https://www.health.state.mn.us/people/immunize/basics/readykidswhento.pdf>. Families must show their children have had these immunizations or file an exemption. If your family is uninsured, underinsured, or enrolled in a Minnesota Health Care Program, contact Fillmore County Public Health at 507-765-3898 to make an appointment to receive immunizations at a reduced rate.

Public Access to School Buildings & Grounds: All visitors must check in at the main office in each building for permission to access school buildings or school grounds during the school day. As additional security measures, all building doors will be locked during the school day. Doorbells are located at the elementary east main entrance, and the east and west main entrances at the high school. In addition, district office visitors may enter via the canopied entrance on the east side of the K-6 building.

Wanted: Substitute teachers and paraprofessionals in our district are employed through Kelly Education. Kelly Education recruits substitutes year round. To apply, please access the following link to complete a formal application for employment, www.kellyeducation.com. For substitute custodial and clerical positions, contact a school office.

Notice of Non-discrimination

The Fillmore Central School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, status with regard to public assistance, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability in its programs and activities. The following person(s) has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the non-discrimination policies:

Section 504 Coordinator:

Heath Olstad
145 Main Ave. S
Harmony, MN 55939
507-886-6464 ext 3306
heath.olsad@isd2198.k12.mn.us

Title IX Coordinator:

Heath Olstad
145 Main Ave. S
Harmony, MN 55939
507-886-6464 ext 3306
heath.olsad@isd2198.k12.mn.us

Family Rights and Privacy Act-

Directory Information: According to Public Law 93-380, the "Family Rights and Privacy Act of 1974" public notice must be made by the Board of Education of intent to disclose to the press, media, and others authorized by the school personally identifiable data designed as directory information. The parent of a student or an eligible student may refuse to be personally identified in any or all of the information categories. Such refusal must be made in writing to student's principal within 10 days after this notice is given. This information will be entitled directory information: 1) Student's name; 2) Student's address; 3) Student's phone number; 4) Student's date and place of birth; 5) Names of student's parents; 6) Participation in officially recognized activities; 7) Grade levels completed; 8) Weight and height if member of athletic team(s); 9) Dates of attendance; 10) Degrees and awards given; 11) Most previous educational institution attended; 12) Photo of student, if available.

Notification on Student Records:

Fillmore Central Schools collects and maintains records on each student in order to facilitate instruction, guidance, and educational progress of the student. Parents of students under 18 years of age and students over 18 may exercise the opportunity to review educational records of the student, to obtain copies, and to write a response to materials in the record, to challenge the content of the record on grounds of inappropriateness, inaccuracy, or an invasion of privacy, and to have records explained. Parents and students who have complaints regarding the Education Rights and Privacy Act should address concerns by calling the building principal.

Alternate Section 504 Coordinator:

Chris Mensink
702 Chatfield St.
Preston, MN 55965
507-765-3809 ext 2001
chris.mensink@isd2198.k12.mn.us

Alternate Title IX Coordinator:

Darla Ebner
700 Chatfield St.
Preston, MN 55965
507-765-3845 ext 2003
darla.ebner@isd2198.k12.mn.us