

COMMUNITY NEWS

*Serving Northern Minnesota Communities
Hill City, Jacobson, and Swatara*



Special 2020 Edition



Articles
in this
Newsletter:

School Board
Minutes

Mr. Johnson's
Minute

Hill City
Council
Minutes

~Senior Class
of
20~20~

A message
from Hill City
School Staff

Hill City
Community
News

HILL CITY SCHOOL HONOR ROLL Third Quarter 2019-2020

Grade 12

A

Luke Ahonen
Kaitlin Klennert
Cole Miranda
Isabelle Schuety

B

Savannah Brinson
Brianna Linder
Megan Lucas
Amber St. Martin
Paige Valley

Grade 8

A

Emmett Bray
Cheyenne Brinson
Easton Kingsley
Jax Neary
Shaley Pearson

B

Brooklyn Harcey
Allison Kimball
Jesse Porter

Grade 11

A

Hunter Lou Ahonen
Tucker Holm
Maycee Lathrop
Andrew Major
Shyan Yanez

B

Hunter Gerber
Colton McManigle
Avangeline Solie

Grade 7

A

Bellona Dunham
Steven Meyer

B

Adrianna Harcey
Trevor Kingsley
Kaija Neary
Abby Zapzalka

Grade 10

A

MacKenzie Casper
Mariah Eisenmenger
Sarah James
Ava Klennert
Dari Okerstrom

B

Ruby Booth
Mackenzie Finke
Payden Gould
Hunter Johnson
Julia Nordquist
Tyrell Pillatzki

Grade 6

A

Callee Gerber

B

Madison Barnes
Reese Boleman
Jasmine Kingsley
Bailey Porter

Grade 9

A

Saige Ahonen
Emma Finke
Riley Holm
Raven Miranda
Kira Schuety
Randi Wilson
Ally Zapzalka

B

Cassandra Ashton
Nelly Boyd
Tanner Harcey



Congratulations!

Hill City School Board

Sue Kaslow, Chairman
PO Box 165
Hill City, MN 55748

Joell Miranda, Clerk
PO Box 253
Hill City, MN 55748

Bambi Lange, Treasurer
505 Ione Ave
Hill City, MN 55748

Jay Zapzalka, Vice Chair
67880 353rd Ave
Hill City, MN 55748

Mark Meyer
PO Box 42
Hill City, MN 55748

Sarah Kingsley
67767 Hwy 169
Hill City, MN 55748

Committee Assignments for 2020

Committee

MSHSL

Negotiations Committee

Curriculum Committee

Community Education Advisory Council
Meet and Confer

Staff Development

School and Community Health Team
Recertification Committee

ARCC

Comparable Worth

NESC Board

Safety/Transportation Committee

Athletic Advisory Committee

Itasca Area Schools Collaborative
Policy Committee

Representative

Mark Meyer

Sue Kaslow, Mark Meyer and
Jay Zapzalka (Sarah Kingsley, Alt.)

Joell Miranda (Bambi Lange, Alt.)

Mark Meyer (Bambi Lange, Alt.)

Bambi Lange and Joell Miranda
(Sarah Kingsley, Alt.)

Joell Miranda (Sarah Kingsley, Alt.)

Joell Miranda and Sarah Kingsley

Bambi Lange

Sue Kaslow

Sue Kalsow

Sue Kaslow

Mark Meyer

Jay Zapzalkz and Mark Meyer
(Sarah Kingsley, Alt.)

Bambi Lange (Mark Meyer, Alt.)

Sarah Kingsley and Bambi Lange



For School Closings and Emergency Information Broadcasts

RADIO STATIONS

| | |
|-------------------|----------|
| RADIO USA | 99.9 FM |
| KOZY Grand Rapids | 1320 AM |
| | 93.1 FM |
| KMFY Grand Rapids | 96.9 FM |
| WTBX Grand Rapids | 93.9 FM |
| KAXE Grand Rapids | 91.7 FM |
| KBAJ | 105.5 FM |

INSTANT ALERT

**Infinite Campus' Voice
Messenger system will
call parents between
5:00 - 6:00 a.m. for
school closings.**

TV STATIONS

WDIO/WIRT
KDLH
KBJR
WCCO

Community Newsletter Deadline

Just a reminder, if you would like an article put in the Community Newsletter, it must be turned in to the school office by the 15th of the month to be put in the following months' newsletter. Newsletters are generally sent out by the 25th of the month. If you have any questions regarding this, please feel free to contact Jessica at (218) 697-2394, ext. 101.



Support Within Reach serves Aitkin county residents. Our mission: To reduce the impact and harm of sexual violence in the communities we serve. Free and confidential 24 hour Crisis Line:

Call 218-326-5008 or 1-866-747-5008

MEDICAL/LEGAL SUPPORT & FOLLOW-UP PEER
COUNSELING COMMUNITY REFERRALS & EDUCATION

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 2
HILL CITY, MINNESOTA

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of Independent School District No. 2, Hill City, Minnesota, was called to order by Chair Sue Kaslow at 6:02 p.m. on Monday March 23, 2020.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call showed the following members present: Sue Kaslow, Joell Miranda, Jay Zapzalka, Bambi Lange, Sarah Kingsley and Mark Meyer. Board Members absent: None. Also present was Superintendent Pat Rendle, Business Manager Ellie Hill, Principal Adam Johnson, Building & Grounds Director Eric Hill, Administrative Secretary/Payroll Clerk Jodi Gulbraa and other on-line guests.

1. Approved the Agenda as presented.
2. Approved the following:
 - * Approved the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of February 24, 2020 and the Special Meeting of March 9, 2020.
 - * Approved the January 2020 bills presented for payment;
 - * Current bills through 03/11/2020;
 - * Investments and wire transfers;
 - * Reviewed Cash Receipts including donations.
3. There was no report from the School Attorney.
4. Transportation Report: Principal Adam Johnson reported that we are running three vans with food. 190 meals go out for delivery. Continued work is being done on a plan to send homework with those deliveries beginning March 30th. Biggest hurdle is supply and demand because all schools are doing this.
5. Curriculum Committee: Had a meeting and came up with a rotation schedule of music, art and health for next year.
6. Policy Committee: Met March 4, 2020 and some policies are ready for their first reading.
7. School and Community Health Committee: Principal Adam Johnson reported that the Health Fair that was held on March 13th was a success. They do plan to do more advertising of the event next year. A lot of discussion had been around COVID-19.
8. Safety/Transportation Committee: They met on March 6, 2020. They discussed school safety/lock down procedures. They are reaching out to MN School Safety Center to get more ideas and resources for our school. Next Meeting is scheduled for May.
9. Negotiation Committee: None to Report
10. Community Education Report: Everything has been cancelled as of now.
11. Early Childhood Report: Has now become a family day care.
12. Building & Grounds Director Report: A big thank you

to our janitorial staff from Eric. They have been doing a great job! Shortly after our last Board Meeting the hot water heater went out. But thanks to our vendor for fast action.

13. Principal's Report: Before school was out, we had celebrated Dr. Suess Day. The Robotics Team placed 50th out of 64 teams. Great sportsmanship by all of the teams. They all helped each other. Student distance learning is in place. Staff is working very hard on this. Jay Zapzalka also recognized BPA for a job well done. They represented our school very well.
14. Superintendent's Report: Going to roll things out slow and concentrate on relationships and getting food out. They don't know if day care and food will continue. Shelter in place and distance learning will be in place. Some districts are having problems with staff showing up, however, our staff has been awesome!
15. Approved posting for .33 FTE Medical Careers Teacher for the 2020-2021 School Year.
16. Approved hiring Shannon Fidely as the 1.0 FTE First Grade Teacher per the HCUE Master Agreement starting the 2020-2021 School Year.
17. Approved to Adopt the Resolution Relating to the Placement of Instructional Staff on Requested Leave for David Hack and Victoria Vanderschaaf with corrections, starting the 2020-2021 School year. Voted 6-0
18. Approved to Adopt the Resolution Relating to the Discontinuing and Reducing Educational Programs and Positions, with corrections, starting the 2020-2021 School Year. 1.0 FTE Special Education Teacher, BPA and approve to post for a MNSHL Speech Advisor. Voted 6-0
19. Approved to post for a Request for Quotes of Transportation.
20. Approved adding MNSHL Speech starting the 2020-2021 School Year.
21. The First Reading of the following Policies were carried out: 410- Family and Medical Leave Policy, 413- Harassment and Violence, 414- Mandated Reporting of Child Neglect or Physical or Emotional Abuse, 415- Mandated Reporting of Maltreatment of Vulnerable Adults, 514- Bullying Prohibition Policy.
22. Approved the Master Schedule for the 2020-2021 School Year.
23. There were no Meetings attended or to Attend.
24. Meeting adjourned at 7:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Joell Miranda, Clerk

Complete Minutes of the above Board Meetings and all Board Meetings are on file in the administration office and may be viewed at any time during regular business hours.



“We Got This . . .” ~Superintendent Rendle

When Governor Walz told us we would be closing schools to plan for distance education our team said, “Don’t worry, we got this . . .”. When we were told our schools needed to feed our students, provide day care for essential workers and provide distance learning for our students . . . our staff said, “We Got This . . .”. I can’t even begin to say how proud I am of the Hornet staff of the “Gem of the North”. Let me brag a little . . .

Schools are open and our staff are considered essential workers. Our district (food service staff, bus drivers, paraprofessionals) make and deliver about 210 meals every day. That is roughly give or take about 3,000 meals so far to date. In addition, they deliver students work and pick up completed work, representing the familiar face our students count on every day.

In the meantime, our teachers are providing “distance learning” to all our students. In our history, this method has never been done on this scale. It is very difficult and exciting at the same time. Our number goal is “engagement”. It looks like everything from a teacher making a phone call home to talk to a student, to teaching a lesson to their entire class using Google Meet. Teachers and parents are working together to provide education for our kids. It’s a true partnership which I have never seen in my 32 years in education.

Its not all “Roses and rainbows”. There have been many challenges. Students are now more responsible for their own education. The gap in families who have access to technology and those who don’t, is rather large. Getting services to those students who have special needs has been a challenge. The social emotional needs of everyone involved in this process has become a priority. However,

We Got This . . .

Mr. Johnson and I have weekly contact with the Commissioner of Education, work closely with our regional schools, get up dates from the educational associations and most importantly, listen to our community. Call the school and tell us what you need. Just like you, we wait each week for word from Governor Walz as to what is next for education.

Whatever it is, just remember . . .

We Got This . . .

This is a historical situation around the world and in Hill City. No other time in the world has this ever been done before.

As the principal of the school, I have to say how proud I am of this entire community. I have only lived here for 10 years, but I am so proud to be from Hill City and to be the principal of this building.

The way this community and school has come together during this time is incredible. I want to say thank you to everyone for everything over the past 10 years and during this time.

We have so many great things in our community and school to be proud of and I can’t wait to get students back in the building and on the courts and fields.

I am proud of the students for what they are doing during this time to do their absolute best to learn. I am proud of the teaching staff for all the hard work in creating the distance learning. I am proud of the paraprofessional staff for running the childcare and prepping food in such an awesome way. I am proud of the bus drivers for delivering food and homework daily to our students. I am proud of our custodial and maintenance staff for keeping our building clean and safe during this time. I am proud of our office staff for coordinating on all types of things, to make sure this runs smoothly.

I am just so proud to be a part of this community and this school and I want to say **THANK YOU TO EVERYONE** for everything they are doing during this time.

Adam



MR.



JOHNSON'S MINUTE . . .

City of Hill City
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
April 14, 2020

All meetings were moved (with notice) to the Hill City Fire Hall to accommodate the recommended social distancing guidelines due to COVID19.

5:00 pm - Emergency Declaration

Mayor Kingsley called the Emergency Declaration meeting to order at 5:00 pm. Council present: Mayor Dan Kingsley, Terry Christensen, Wayne Lindquist, Lin Benson and Sean Lathrop.

Motion made by Benson to extend the Declaration of Emergency for the COVID 19 Pandemic to follow the Minnesota Governors guidelines, second by Lindquist. MPU

Motion made by Lindquist to adjourn the Emergency Declaration meeting at 5:09 pm, second by Benson. MPU

5:15 pm - Park X Rezoning

Mayor Kingsley called the Park X Rezoning Public Hearing to order at 5:15 pm. Council present: Mayor Dan Kingsley, Terry Christensen, Wayne Lindquist, Lin Benson and Sean Lathrop. Guest Present: Mark Warnert, John McManigle, Craig McNeil and Dave Lange.

Motion made by Christensen to rezone PID 57-0-00312 and 57-0-00313 from Residential to Commercial District 2, second by Lindquist. Role call vote: Christensen voted Yes, Benson voted Yes, Lindquist voted Yes, Lathrop voted No, and Kingsley voted yes. Motion passed with a 4 to 1 vote.

Motion by Benson to adjourn the Rezoning Public Hearing at 5:30 pm, second by Kingsley. MPU

5:30 pm - Park X Conditional Use Permit (CUP) Discussion

Mayor Kingsley called the Park X CUP Discussion Public Hearing to order at 5:30 pm. Council present: Mayor Dan Kingsley, Terry Christensen, Wayne Lindquist, Lin Benson and Sean Lathrop. Guest Present: Mark Warnert, John McManigle, Craig McNeil and Dave Lange.

The Council asked Mark to put together a detailed plan of what they would like to do on the property. They tentative plan is to have something to review at the May Council meeting.

Motion made by Lindquist to adjourn the meeting at 6:15 pm, second by Benson. MPU

Call to Order/Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Kingsley called the Regular City Council Meeting to order at 6:23 pm. Everyone joined in the Pledge of Allegiance. Council present: Mayor

Dan Kingsley, Terry Christensen, Sean Lathrop, Lin Benson and Wayne Lindquist.

Additions or Corrections to the Agenda

- Due to COVID19 and Social Distancing, Old and New Business agenda items for each department will be addressed under each department report and then the department head can leave to allow others to attend the meeting.

- Council Member Lathrop added under New Business G. Monthly Meetings

Motion made by Lindquist to approve the agenda additions and corrections, second by Benson.

MPU

Public Forum

Kristian Myers, Woodland Insurance - City Insurance Renewal

Kristian went over the City Insurance renewal and asked if anyone had any questions.

Motion made by Lathrop to not waive the statutory monetary limits, second by Benson.

MPU

Cre Larson - First Call 211 - explanation on what they do

Cre explained that First Call 211 is a information and referral center for Health and Human Services.

Motion made by Lathrop to donate \$500.00 to First Call 211, second by Lindquist. MPU

Consent Agenda

Motion made by Lindquist to approve the following claims: minutes of Regular Council meeting and Public Hearing of 3/11/2020 and the Treasurer's Report, second by Lathrop. MPU

- Approval of Claims was pulled from the Consent Agenda to discuss a couple bills.

- Discussion of bills, pulled the check for County Treasurer for the 2019 Property taxes for the Pavilion on Lake Ave.

Motion made by Christensen to approve the Claims after pulling the one for County Treasurer, second by Benson. MPU

Reports:

Maintenance/Water/Sewer/Parks/Airport/Streets - See attached report

Motion made by Christensen to approve the Municipal Maintenance Agreement for County State-Aid Highway No. 33 (Lake Ave), second by Lathrop. MPU

Fire Dept. - See attached report

Chief Nelson presented a quote for large diameter hoses, hard suction and floating

strainer.

Motion made by Christensen to purchase the equipment pending additional funding, second by Benson. MPU

Motion made by Lindquist to purchase pagers for \$4,172.00 from DSC Communications and foam, backpack liners, nozzles from the MN Interagency Fire Center for \$862.00, second by Christensen. MPU This money will come from the DNR Grant.

Using money Enbridge donated last fall (\$7,500) to the fire department, Chief Nelson would like to purchase 9 new SCBA's for a total of \$8,448.84. The additional funds will come from the fire department budget.

Motion made by Christensen to approve the purchase the SCBA's, second by Lathrop. MPU

Mayor Kingsley called for a 5-minute break.

Police Dept. - See attached report

Motion made by Benson to accept Part-time Officer Corey Bloom's resignation with regret effective April 5, 2020, second by Lindquist. MPU

Motion made by Lathrop to post for a Part-time Police Officer, second by Benson. MPU

- Council Member Lathrop had a couple of questions for Chief Kimball that he answered.

- There was discussion on the squad cars.

The Council decided that the SUV would be run by the Part-time Officers and the Chief would drive the car.

Motion made by Lathrop to approve the Emergency Vehicle Operations Policy, second by Christensen. MPU

Motion made by Lindquist to approve the Motor Vehicle Lockout Policy, second by Lathrop. MPU

Motion made by Kingsley to approve the Citizen Complaint Form, second by Benson. MPU

The Mayor moved the approval of Ordinance #138 up on the agenda, as there was some public waiting.

Motion made by Benson to approve Ordinance #138, repealing ordinance number 135 and adopting a schedule of fees and charges for various services, licenses and permits for the City to go into effect May 1, 2020 with the water and sewer rates going into effect June 1, 2020, second by Lindquist. Role Call vote: Lindquist voted yes, Lathrop voted yes, Benson voted yes, Christensen voted yes, and Kingsley voted yes. MPU

Mayor - See attached report

Council - no report

Clerk - See attached report

Committees:

Personnel - Employee Evaluation to be reviewed with employees.

Facilities/Equipment - no report

Land Use - no report

Park Improvement Committee

- Park Host Update
- Park Closure - follow State guidelines
- Playground Closure - will put signs stating nothing is disinfected.
- Boat landing at the City Park will remain open unless Hill Lake is closed.

Old Business

City Logo - working on the logo, hopefully will have a sample for the May meeting.

Motion made by Lathrop to donate \$500.00 to the Aitkin County Search and Rescue Volunteers, second by Christensen. MPU

New Business

Motion made by Lindquist to approve the Proclamation for Child Abuse Month, second by Benson. MPU

Council did a first reading on the Pavilion Rental Agreement and the Rules and Regulations. This will be added to the next meeting for a second reading.

Motion made by Kingsley to impose the Moratorium until May 12, 2020, on recreational vehicles such as camper trailers, RV's, motorhomes, fish houses, tents and any other type of temporary housing being used as a place of residence, parked on lots within the City limits for more than 5 days without notifying and obtaining permission from the Zoning Commission, second by Christensen. Role call vote: Christensen voted yes, Benson voted yes, Lindquist voted yes, Lathrop voted yes, and Kingsley voted yes. MPU

Motion made by Lathrop to have two meetings a month, the second and fourth Tuesdays at 6:00 pm and a Work Session on the fourth Tuesday at 5:00 pm, second by Christensen. MPU

Motion made by Benson to adjourn the meeting at 10:23 pm, second by Christensen. MPU

The minutes in their entirety and the reports are available at City Hall, the City Facebook page or the City Website.

Seniors ~ 2020



Class Motto:

Sometimes we learn what to do, by doing the things we shouldn't do.....

Luke Ahonen

- plans to go to UMD for a Bachelor's in Fine Arts

Academics and Swarm Letter Winner

Savannah Brinson

- enjoys hanging out with her friends and family and listening to music.

Activities include - Volleyball and Choir

Johnathan Gowell

- plans to become an EMT at the Community College of the Air Force
Letter winner in Football, Basketball, Baseball, SWARM and Academic

Asher Grigsby
Activities include
Baseball



Kieth Britton

- was a Teacher's Aide for 2 Elementary Teachers



Hannah James

Made the Dean's List at ICC in the Fall of her Junior Year of High School
Activities - Archery, JO Volleyball, Softball, Volleyball, Yearbook, Theatre Troupe, BPA and Upward Bound

Jacinda Butler
she said yes to success at OWS
Activities include
One Act Play

Molly Johnson

- she is also a PSEO student at ICC
Activities include Softball

Class Song ---
"I lived " One Republic

Kaitlin Klennert

Her most influential people in her life are her family, because they have always been right by her side through everything. Volleyball, Softball, SWARM, Academic and Visual Arts Letter Winner



Aurora Nelson
Activities include Archery

and so the adventure begins

Isabelle Schuety

The Class President hopes to be employed at a Company such as Pixar with her Graphics Design Degree that she'll get at the U of M

Brianna Linder

-Spanish Club, Treasurer of SWARM and Prom
She wants to be a Nanny this summer

Class Colors

- Navy Blue & Silver -

Amber St. Martin

She loves coloring, swimming, reading books & having bonfires. She'll be attending ICC next year. Activity Letters include Volleyball, Basketball, Softball and Yearbook

Megan Lucas

- Yearbook and Spanish Club are in-school activities
Non-School Activities include Hunting and Fishing

"Sometimes you will never know the VALUE of a moment, until it becomes a MEMORY."
Dr. Seuss

Isaiah Stowe

- Special Interests include Cars and Weightlifting and will work at Lake Country Landcraft

Cole Miranda

Activities include Archery



Eli Murray

- Activities include Football and Baseball

Paige Valley

She Loves listening to music and plans to go to ICC then off to BSU for a Social work degree.



Congratulations Class of 2020



Hill City Staff sends a
message



Some things take time.
STAY PATIENT.
STAY POSITIVE
Things will get better.



I miss mornings the most. The hustle and bustle of the principal, teachers and substitutes getting ready for the school day. Looking out my window and seeing the buses move in and out as the sounds of kids streaming in slowly gets louder with each drop off. The energy within these school walls has a way of energizing us all. I miss that and I miss you all!! Stay healthy and happy!!
Jodi Gulbraa

I never thought the culmination of my 28 years of teaching would end like this. Although we do not yet know how the year will end, I wanted my last year to end in my kindergarten classroom with my fabulous students. I was so looking forward to my last kindergarten play (The Three Piggy Opera) and our graduation.

When I first started teaching, I had no idea how quickly the years would go by. I have enjoyed every moment of my time at Hill City School. Teaching children is the best job I could have ever imagined. So, it is with a heavy heart that I will say good-bye to the school and community that I have grown to love.

Working in Kindergarten has been an incredible experience and I am honored to have been able to touch the lives of so many children. I will miss their smiles and their eagerness to learn.

I have been privileged to work with amazing educators, school staff and community members. This school has become dear to my heart and I will leave with many fond memories of staff, students and parents - both past and present. I would like to thank you for all the support you have given me and for allowing me to be a part of such a wonderful community. I wish you and the students at Hill City School all the best in the years to come.

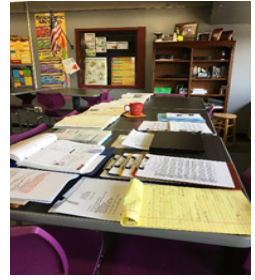
Hill City School all the best in the years to come.

Sincerely , Katie Godfrey



Distance Learning - is not why I became a teacher! I need to interact with my students and although some of us have been doing so virtually - it's definitely not the same. I cannot model it on the board - oh we tried - but it's a mirror image! Yes, backwards - just like our classroom right now. I cannot see their work. I cannot know if they are understanding it or not. I cannot sit down with them and show them how to do it. I cannot stand alone in this physical classroom for many more days. It's too empty!!! I cannot teach effectively without my students! I need their smiles and laughter! I just cannot!!

Mrs. Murphy misses you!!!



I miss you and can't wait to see you back in school.
- Spangler



"Friday Night Lights"
in honor of all of our students...
especially the

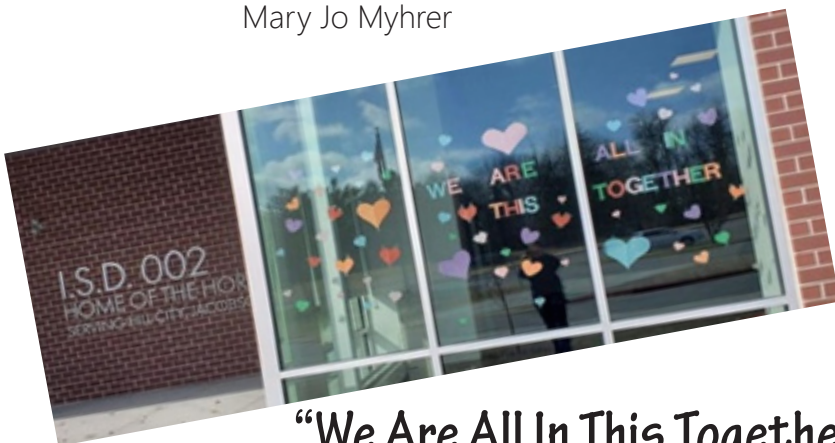
Senior Class of 2020

" Hope the community is doing well, I really miss seeing all the students!!!"
Lisa B



Hello Hornets!!!
Hope this message finds you all safe and healthy!!
I've missed you all so much!!!
It's too quiet at school!!!
I've been helping out in the kitchen preparing and packaging your breakfasts and lunches !! I also had the privilege to ride in the van and deliver your meals!!!
We're all doing our part and I know you are too!!!
Take care!!!
Hope to see you soon!!!
Mary Jo Myhrer

Miss Carly
misses hanging out with you.



"We Are All In This Together"

I miss my students! No one at my house gets all my hilarious jokes the way my kids at school do. Plus, I'm no good with technology and getting a little sick of asking my 9 year old nephew to help me. It's embarrassing. I also miss my dill pickle sunflower seeds, all the bags I would have finished at baseball games by now really bums me out.

- Mrs. Holm



Lunch Deliveries Every School Day



I miss the students, especially my first graders.



Joni Tobeck

Never in a million years did I think this is how I would be ending my first year of teaching. I am so thankful for the time I did have in the classroom with the kids! I miss them! I miss the giggles! I miss our daily routine!

Jaime Ryan

I miss the noise in the hallways, the "walk don't run" reminders, Hornet Habit reminders, morning announcements, chatting with co-workers, seeing you walk into my classroom everyday, listening to all the stories, I miss all the sass 😊 I miss all of you Hang in there, this too shall pass. Mrs. Korhonen



Happy Spring, ISD #002 families! I love doing speech with my kids! Distance learning has been a huge change for us. I am able to see some over the computer via video conferencing and others receive speech therapy over the phone. We are working together and I really appreciate each family's dedication to their child's speech needs. I am lucky that I get to "see" my students regularly, even if it is virtually. I really miss my students and love it when I get a text, email, or video from them. I can't wait to work with them again in my office! We are all in this together and WE CAN DO THIS!

Mrs. Vroman Speech Clinician

Never have I ever.....

-started teaching from my couch, from my dining room table, my bedroom, or the deck.
-went to work before showering or taught in shorts.
-washed laundry, washed dishes, cooked breakfast, lunch and dinner while teaching.
-spent more time with the copy machine, and filling ziplock bags than with my students.
-had a silent classroom for days on end.
-spent more time on my computer than all my other activities combined.
-tackled my extras to do list both in the evenings and on the weekends during the school year.
-gone more than two weeks without some kind of sports practice, games or tournaments.
-met with my students online just so they can visit and see each other.
-went to work just to get out of the house and go somewhere.
-taught sixteen 3rd graders, one 4th grader and one 8th grader at the same time daily.



Well all these were never have I ever statements.... until COVID-19. There are tons more I could have added as well. This has changed so many things for all of us. As a teacher, coach and parent I am still focused on my students, my kids and my players, but it looks different than it ever has in the past. My best advice for now is hang in there, stay safe, stay healthy, enjoy your time with family, teach your kids life skills and focus on the positives until we figure out what comes next. I really miss my students and I can't even begin to explain how sad I am for the softball team missing their season. You can do it!

Mrs. Pearson



What I miss the most is seeing all the kids gathering to celebrate the culture, and learning from each other. I love to see how they get organized and help each other to have a celebration, even though I am not present physically in the room. Hopefully, we will get through this soon!
- Victoria Vanderschaaf

The 6th & 7th Graders were asked...

“Is Distance Learning for you or do you prefer the classroom setting?”

“it’s better in the classroom”

“I like the classroom better.”

“Distance learning!” “I don’t know.”

“Classroom because if you don’t get something, it’s harder to learn it.”

.. of the 8 6th graders that responded 6 of them prefer classroom. 7th - 8 out of the 9 that responded prefer the Classroom...



Baggin’ up the lunches....



5 ways music benefits kids

Why music education rocks!

Confidence builder
They can develop a skill by themselves, that they can get better and better.

Boost the brain power
Music stimulates parts of the brain that are related to reading, math, and emotions.

Helps them socially
Play an instrument can help your child break out of their social shell.

Teaches discipline
To improve, it is not only do in classes, but devote time to practicing, that requires discipline.

Improves the memory
Music at an early age improves memory by stimulating patterns of brain development.

COMOMOLA

Source: sheknows.com



Teacher & Student Meetings

- Miss Pierce

In a world
where you can
be anything
Be Kind



I miss all the smiling faces
- Hollie Bray 🤔

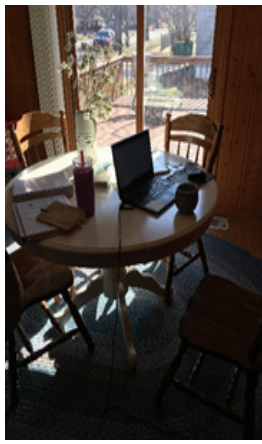
One of my favorite things about being a teacher is forming meaningful relationships with students and families. I miss seeing student's in my classroom! I miss our interesting discussions and funny moments too! Without them, there is a part of myself that feels missing.
Marie Sippola

"I couldn't ask for a better community to go on this adventure with! I'm excited to see what we'll be capable of after we get through this together."
- Katie Vanderport

Mrs. Godfrey's Kindergarten Class would like to send a big thank you to Bonnie Harcey and Tina Harcey. They sent each kindergarten student a very cute tooth fairy pillow. Bonnie sewed the pillows and Tina added each student's name. This is a project Bonnie has taken on every year since her grandchildren were in kindergarten. Thank you again from your toothless friends in Mrs. Godfrey's class.



---I do really miss seeing the kids ---
- Tina Harcey



Independent School District No. 2
500 Ione Avenue
Hill City, MN 55748

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COMMUNICATION ACROSS THE LIFESPAN

Better Hearing & Speech Month

Speech and Language Disorders Are Experienced by Many Children—But Are Treatable

ISD #002 parents encouraged to learn the signs of trouble for Better Hearing & Speech Month

Speech and language disorders are evaluated and treated by speech-language pathologists. *Speech* is the ability to produce speech sounds using the mouth, lips, and tongue. A child may say sounds the wrong way, repeat sounds and words, or be otherwise difficult to understand. *Language* is the ability to use and put words together—and to understand others' words. A child may have trouble understanding questions, following directions, or naming objects. Early speech and language treatment sets a child up for future school and social success.

Warning signs for parents to watch for in young children:

- Does not babble (4–7 months)
- Makes only a few sounds or gestures, like pointing (7–12 months)
- Does not understand what others say (7 months–2 years)
- Says only a few words (12–18 months)
- Says *p, b, m, h,* and *w* incorrectly in words (1–2 years)
- Words are not easily understood (18 months–2 years)
- Does not put words together to make sentences (1.5–3 years)
- Says *k, g, f, t, d,* and *n* incorrectly in words (2–3 years)
- Produces speech that is unclear, even to familiar people (2–3 years)
- Repeating the first sounds of words, like “b-b-b-ball” for “ball” (any age)
- Stretching sounds out, like “fffffarm” for “farm” (any age)

For school-age children, warning signs may include the following:

- Has trouble following directions
- Has problems reading and writing
- Does not always understand what others say
- Is not understood by others
- Has trouble talking about thoughts or feelings

Although treatment ideally begins early—in the toddler years—it is never too late. The large majority of parents report significant improvement after treatment. Families can learn more and find help at <http://IdentifytheSigns.org> and www.asha.org/public. ISD #002 residents who have questions may contact Paula Nix-Vroman, M.S.-CCC at 697-2394 ext. 173 or pvroman@isd002.org.

**MACVILLE TOWNSHIP
REQUEST FOR MOWING QUOTES**
Macville Township is requesting quotes for mowing and trimming of Macville Town Hall property (including the ball field) and cemetery. Provider must provide own \$1500.00 liability insurance certificate. Please supply a separate quote for each location on a per time basis as follows:

Town Hall property & ball field
approximately every two weeks as needed.

Cemetery approximately every two weeks,
trimming around gravestones as needed.

Quotes are due no later than 12:00 p.m.
on Wednesday, May 13, 2020.

Mail to:
Dorothy Biskey: 34375 605th Lane Hill City,
MN 55748. Call 218-697-2750
with any questions.

The township has the right to reject any or
all bids.