



BRIDGE TO SUCCESS

# Hastings Public Schools

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## April 23, 2025 Student Representative Reports

### Briseis Rusnacko

#### HHS:

Sports: Although there's been many ups and downs with this rainy weather, sports still thrive and you can truly see the spring colors blooming in these HHS teams.

- All the spring sports have started up this month officially, with Baseball, Boys Golf, Softball, and Boys Lacrosse starting off with some strong wins.

Academics: Students have been busy in the world of academics

- Many AVID senior capstone projects have been coming into fruition recently, like food drives, mental health awareness projects, and some great ways to appreciate our staff and youth in the elementary schools.
- The Shop and Woods classes have been busy, with a recent Delta Airlines field trip and many students building a wonderful Trishaw storage shed at Tilden.
- New Junior students were welcomed in the National Honor Society, with the announcement of four new officers.
- On April 9th, we hosted our annual Empty Bowls event in the commons, and it was a very excellent turn out, with us raising over \$5.4K for Hastings Family Service and Heifer International.

Up-and-Coming Events:

- Students have many things to look forward to this week and in early May
- HHS is hosting its first ever Polar Plunge to support our inclusion efforts through Special Olympics Minnesota - Portable trailer at the high school Friday morning.
- Prom is this Saturday, at Emerald Greens Golf Course, and us students couldn't be more excited. The theme is "Spring in Santorini, Greece".
- The cast of the musical, "You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown" have been working hard to make a fun and unforgettable show that will be presented on May 2nd, 3rd, and 4th.
- Finally, after all the fun, hard working students will be put to the test for AP Exams in early to mid May, make sure to be kind to us High School students next month!

#### Tilden:

- Reminder of Registrations for Tilden, I've heard that they fill up fast.

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- In late march, Climb Theatre visited the preschool classrooms and had some engaging presentations.
  - The preschoolers experienced the wonder of spring chicks in honor of Easter last week! One of the senior center members shared their 2 day old chicks with the preschoolers.
  - As mentioned before, the High School students have been working on the shed at Tilden, and many of the preschool students have enjoyed watching all the construction happening.
  - One fun lesson to note in preschool is the Science Activities for students using ramps. They have so far been using ramps for: moving, redirecting, and capturing plastic eggs, clearing up Legos, and experimenting with slope and speed.

Up-and-Coming:

- They will start building their own ramps!
- On May 14 and 15, they will be having a bike day where the children will listen to a short bike safety presentation and have the opportunity to ride their own bikes in the front parking lot.



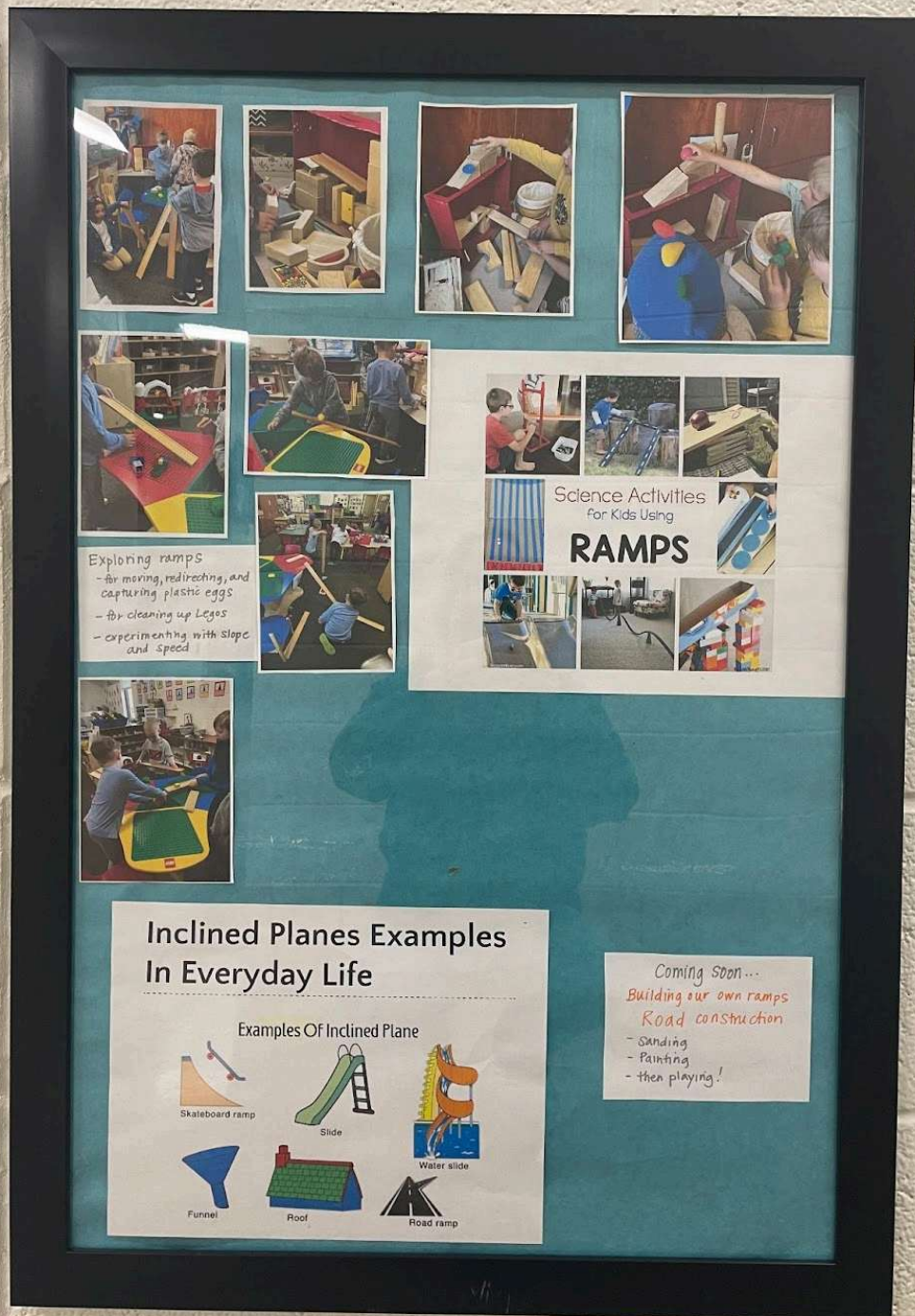












## McAuliffe Elementary

First-grade students recently participated in an exciting, hands-on learning experience where they explored interactive exhibits that allowed them to complete electrical circuits, connect plumbing pipes, and build and test designs using K'NEX, LEGO-style bricks, KEVA planks, and more. Through these engaging activities, students discovered the engineering behind everyday technology and practiced the engineering design process. In the classroom, they also created their own colorful kaleidoscopes while learning about light reflection using mirrors. Meanwhile, Mr. Conway and the McAuliffe students are eagerly preparing to showcase their talents in upcoming music performances and demonstrations, highlighting their progress and enthusiasm for music.



## ALC

As we wrap up MCA testing at HAHS on April 23, students have also been engaging in valuable career exploration opportunities. In April, Mr. Peterson invited students to participate in both a Workforce Panel and a 2-Year/Technical College Panel, where they had the chance to ask questions and learn about various career paths. A representative from Precision Landscaping highlighted that attendance is the leading cause of employee termination, reinforcing the



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importance of consistent attendance—something we emphasize heavily at HAHS. The fourth quarter began on April 7, and seniors are nearing the finish line. Credit recovery efforts continue to be strong, with over 150 credits earned this school year across HHS, HOA, and HAHS, a number expected to surpass 200 soon. Additionally, Hastings Online Academy, run through HAHS, currently supports over 60 students, with nearly half enrolled full time.



**Hastings Middle School Student Activities**

**Athletics**

- April 16: Last swim and dive meet
- April 17: Home meet for boys and girls track

**Arts**

- April 1: Children's concert by Hastings High School Orchestra, Spiral Singers, and Kennedy Choir
- April 10-11: *Sally Cotter and The Quest We Follow*
- April 24: Jazz night

**Achievements**

- Hallway Heroes challenge
- Rockstar awards

**More student events**

- April 4: 5th and 6th grade dance
- April 25: 7th and 8th grade dance
- April 17: Outdoor club hike
- April 22: Future 5th grade spring orientation



**Kennedy**

- Kennedy students showcased their many artistic talents in the art corner this month!



- Starting Thursday, students will be performing Music Informances for their families and teachers!
- Families wrapped up ordering yearbooks at the beginning of the month and can look forward to that!

**Pinecrest**

- The Pinecrest Running Club is making its yearly return! It is an opportunity for 3rd and 4th-grade students to get some fresh air before the school day starts. Starting this week, they will meet every Friday and run on the middle school track.
- The music department has been busy with some Music Informances earlier in the month!
- All students learned new art concepts this month: 4th grade about color schemes, 3rd grade about cityscapes, 2nd grade about koi fish and their cultural meaning, 1st grade about the color wheel, and kindergarten decorated the art hall with some flowers!

