MAHTOMEDI
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

# Superintendent Update

*November 9, 2026*

*Experience Excellence*

MAHTOMEDI
PUBLIC SCHOOLS




Partner Reading at OHA

# Overview

- Around the District
- Awards & Noteworthy News
- Upcoming Events

# Around the District

## School Board Election Results




Congratulations to Allyson Sellwood, Jenny Peterson, and Ryan Domin who were elected to the Mahtomedi School Board on November 3. The newly elected Mahtomedi School Board members will be sworn in at the Mahtomedi School Board meeting on January 4, 2027.

# Around the District

MAHTOMEDI PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## Zephyr Service Project

**Our district-wide service project runs from November 2 to December 4 and provides gift assistance for students in need at Mahtomedi Public Schools.**

- Early Childhood, Preschool, and Wildwood Elementary School students and staff collect new children's and young adult books.
- O.H. Anderson Elementary School students and staff collect new toys and puzzles
- Mahtomedi Middle School Students and Staff collect financial donations. The Middle School students use the donations to shop for clothes, pajamas, blankets, and non-toy needs.
- Mahtomedi High School and Passages Students and Staff as well as clubs and sports teams, and the Mahtomedi Area Educational Foundation collect gift cards for young adults.
- District-Wide Staff collect Gift Wrap and Gift Bags.



# Around the District

## Community Education News




**Winter-Spring Community Education Registration**

Mark your calendars! Mahtomedi Community Education winter-spring 2027 catalog is coming soon. Registration for our winter-spring classes and events opens on Wednesday, December 9 at 8 am on mahtomedi.arux.app.

**MahtoREADi** returns on **Tuesday, November 17**! Join award-winning Minnesota author Anika Fajardo for a book signing, author discussion, and Q&A centered around her novel *The Many Mothers of Dolores Moore*. Register for this free event here! We love seeing our community come together over a shared love of reading.

# Awards & Noteworthy News

MAHTOMEDI PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## MHS Student Author

Mahtomedi High School **Class of 2028 student Sydney Bohm** is a published author with a purpose, helping children better understand Obsessive-Compulsive Disorder (OCD) with her book, Don't Sit in Sasha's Chair inspired by her own experiences. "I don't want to just say I published a book, but I want to say that I helped people with a book I made," Sydney shared. The story is about Sasha, an elementary-aged student who has OCD, a mental health condition involving unwanted, recurring thoughts and repetitive behaviors. Sydney used her personal experience with developing OCD in elementary school to create an age-appropriate, creative way to help children better understand the condition, whether they experience OCD themselves or know someone who does.

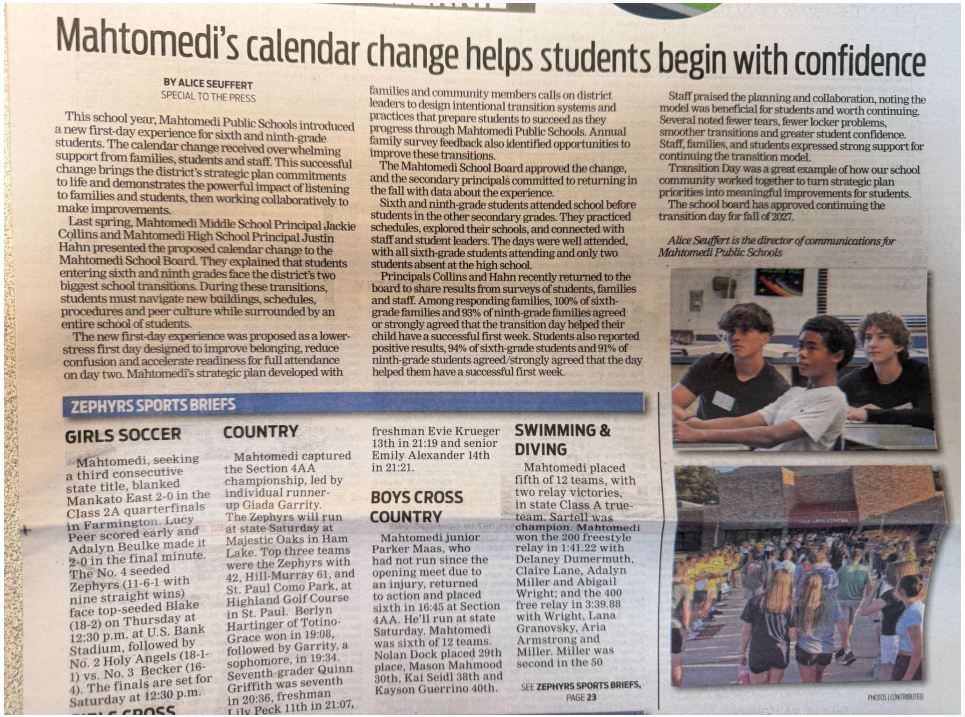


# Awards & Noteworthy News

## White Bear Press

On November 4, Mahtomedi Public Schools was featured in the White Bear Press. The article highlights the School Board's approval of the calendar change for this year's sixth and ninth-grade transition days and the positive feedback received from students, staff, and families.

[Click here to read the article.]



# Mahtomedi's calendar change helps students begin with confidence

BY ALICE SEUFFERT
SPECIAL TO THE PRESS

This school year, Mahtomedi Public Schools introduced a new first-day experience for sixth and ninth-grade students. The calendar change received overwhelming support from families, students and staff. This successful change brings the district's strategic plan commitments to life and demonstrates the powerful impact of listening to families and students, then working collaboratively to make improvements.

Last spring, Mahtomedi Middle School Principal Jackie Collins and Mahtomedi High School Principal Justin Hahn presented the proposed calendar change to the Mahtomedi School Board. They explained that students entering sixth and ninth grades face the district's two biggest school transitions. During these transitions, students must navigate new buildings, schedules, procedures and peer culture while surrounded by an entire school of students.

The new first-day experience was proposed as a lower-stress first day designed to improve belonging, reduce confusion and accelerate readiness for full attendance on day two. Mahtomedi's strategic plan developed with families and community members calls on district leaders to design intentional transition systems and practices that prepare students to succeed as they progress through Mahtomedi Public Schools. Annual family survey feedback also identified opportunities to improve these transitions.

The Mahtomedi School Board approved the change, and the secondary principals committed to returning in the fall with data about the experience.

Sixth and ninth-grade students attended school before students in the other secondary grades. They practiced schedules, explored their schools, and connected with staff and student leaders. The days were well attended, with all sixth-grade students attending and only two students absent at the high school.

Principals Collins and Hahn recently returned to the board to share results from surveys of students, families and staff. Among responding families, 100% of sixth-grade families and 93% of ninth-grade families agreed or strongly agreed that the transition day helped their child have a successful first week. Students also reported positive results, 94% of sixth-grade students and 91% of ninth-grade students agreed/strongly agreed that the day helped them have a successful first week.

Staff praised the planning and collaboration, noting the model was beneficial for students and worth continuing. Several noted fewer tears, fewer locker problems, smoother transitions and greater student confidence. Staff, families, and students expressed strong support for continuing the transition model.

Transition Day was a great example of how our school community worked together to turn strategic plan priorities into meaningful improvements for students.

The school board has approved continuing the transition day for fall of 2027.

*Alice Seuffert is the director of communications for Mahtomedi Public Schools*





PHOTOS | CONTRIBUTED

## ZEPHYRS SPORTS BRIEFS

### GIRLS SOCCER

Mahtomedi, seeking a third consecutive state title, blanked Mankato East 2-0 in the Class 2A quarterfinals in Farmington. Lucy Peer scored early and Adalyn Beulke made it 2-0 in the final minute. The No. 4 seeded Zephyrs (11-6-1 with nine straight wins) face top-seeded Blake (18-2) on Thursday at 12:30 p.m. at U.S. Bank Stadium, followed by No. 2 Holy Angels (18-1-1) vs. No. 3 Becker (16-4). The finals are set for Saturday at 12:30 p.m.

### COUNTRY

Mahtomedi captured the Section 4AA championship, led by individual runner-up Glada Garrity. The Zephyrs will run at state Saturday at Majestic Oaks in Ham Lake. Top three teams were the Zephyrs with 42, Hill-Murray 61, and St. Paul Como Park, at Highland Golf Course in St. Paul. Berlyn Hartinger of Totino-Grace won in 19:08, followed by Garrity, a sophomore, in 19:34. Seventh-grader Quinn Griffith was seventh in 20:36, freshman Lily Peck 11th in 21:07, freshman Evie Krueger 13th in 21:19 and senior Emily Alexander 14th in 21:21.

### BOYS CROSS COUNTRY

Mahtomedi junior Parker Maas, who had not run since the opening meet due to an injury, returned to action and placed sixth in 16:45 at Section 4AA. He'll run at state Saturday. Mahtomedi was sixth of 12 teams. Nolan Dock placed 29th place, Mason Mahmood 30th, Kai Seidl 38th and Kayson Guerrino 40th.

### SWIMMING & DIVING

Mahtomedi placed fifth of 12 teams, with two relay victories, in state Class A true-team. Sartell was champion. Mahtomedi won the 200 freestyle relay in 1:41.22 with Delaney Dumermuth, Claire Lane, Adalyn Miller and Abigail Wright; and the 400 free relay in 3:39.88 with Wright, Lana Granovsky, Aria Armstrong and Miller. Miller was second in the 50

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# Awards & Noteworthy News

## State Team Competitions




Congratulations to the Girls Tennis Team on taking 2nd place at the State Tournament!

# Awards & Noteworthy News

## State Team Competitions



Congratulations to the Mahtomedi Girls Soccer team on taking third place at the State Tournament!

# Awards & Noteworthy News

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## State Team Competitions



Congratulations to the Mahtomedi Girls Cross Country team on advancing to the State meet on Saturday, Nov. 7.

The team took 14th place and was led by sophomore Giada Garrity, who finished 28th with a personal best.

# Awards & Noteworthy News

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## Individual State Athletes



Congratulations to **Parker Maas** (Class of 2028) on earning an individual spot in the Boys State Class AA Cross Country Tournament.

Parker finished 27th with both a personal best and a new school record.

# Upcoming Events

MAHTOMEDI PUBLIC SCHOOLS

www.mahtomedi.k12.mn.us/events

**Nov. 11:** Veterans Day Ceremony 5-8 pm at Veteran's Memorial Park
**Nov. 17:** MahtoREADi 6:30-8:30 pm at MHS
**Nov. 26-27:** Thanksgiving Break **(No School)**
**Nov. 30:** Teacher Professional **Day (No School)**

