



# SITE REPORT: PILOT KNOB

**Presented by: Tom Benson, Principal**  
**January 12, 2026 School Board Meeting**



# WHO WE ARE





**Pilot Knob STEM Magnet School is a school with high expectations,  
excellent teachers and staff, and super students where we do  
great work and READ, READ, READ!**





# OUR MISSION

Pilot Knob STEM Magnet School is a diverse and inclusive community dedicated to creating lifelong learners with the 21st-century skills they will need to succeed in a global society — technological literacy, scientific and mathematical ability, problem solving skills, and experience working collaboratively.











# POINTS OF PRIDE





# INCLUSIVE PLAYGROUND

- As enrollment continues to grow for individuals with special needs we need safe spaces for all students to play.
- Our PTA, in partnership with a small group of parents and community members, raised \$10,000 to start the process. Phase 1 is complete, they are now in Phase 2!





# FOCUS ON STUDENT GROWTH

- We prioritize individual student growth through intentional instruction based on data and observations
- We use progress monitoring and develop targeted support for at-risk students
- Teachers collaborate to meet learners where they are and celebrate progress at every level.
- Solutions process ensures the progress of each student is being discussed on a rotating basis
- Family PIE Nights





# ROBOTICS

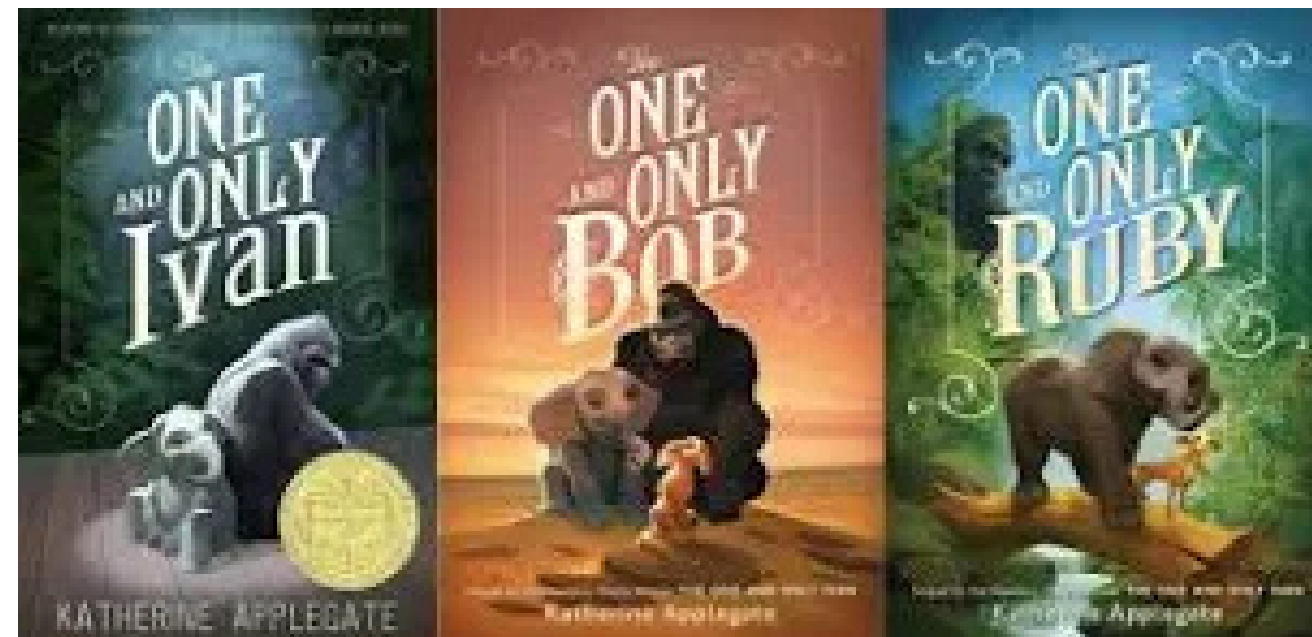
- Kindergarten: Lego Coding
- 1-2: Block-based Coding on Scratch Jr. and with Sphero indi
- 3-4: Block-based Coding on Scratch and with Sphero Bolt +
- Girls Who Code
- After School Coding Clubs
- 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Lego League Team





# BOOK CLUBS

- Held virtually on Morning Announcements and in the evenings with families
- Support student comprehension with Kahoots!
- Culminating family events when a book is completed







# LOOKING AHEAD





# WE ARE GROWING!

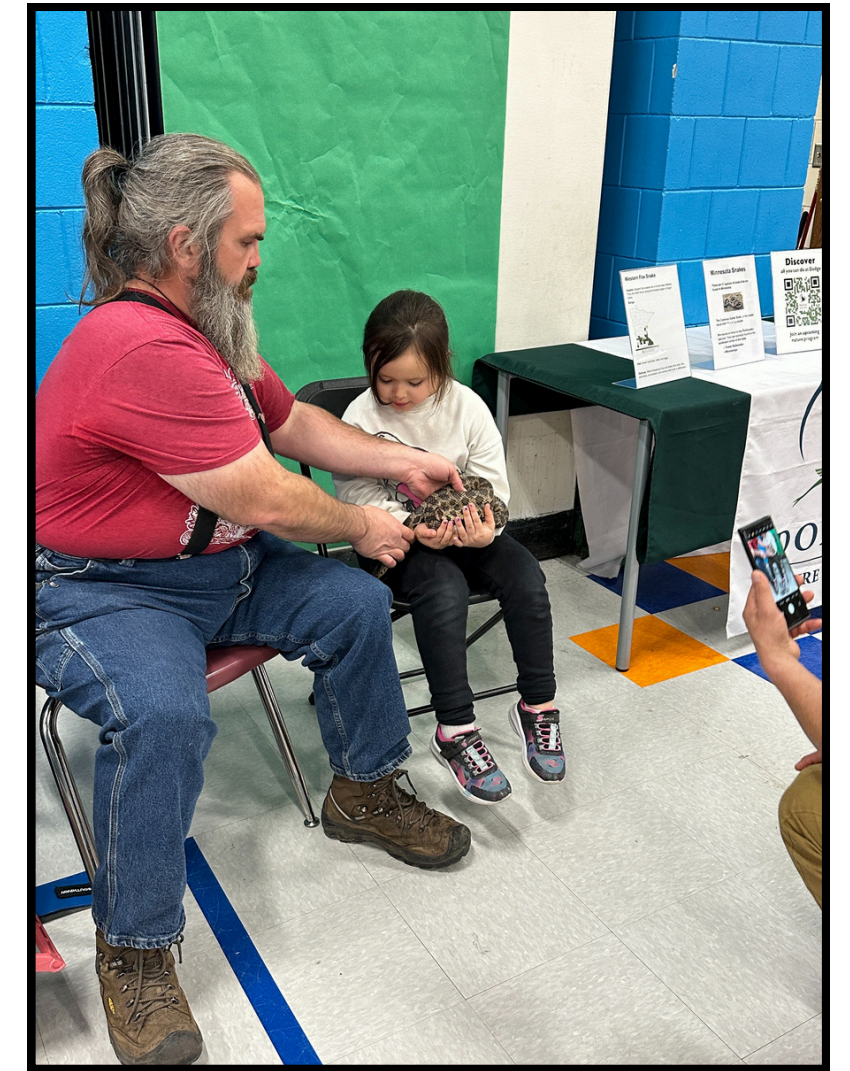
- Officially a Title 1 School
  - Allowed for the addition of 1.5 Interventionist positions and a Family Engagement Coordinator
- All-Day Preschool 9:30am-2:15pm
- Specialized Programs Additions
  - 2 Thrive Classrooms
  - 1 Shine Classroom
  - 1 Inspire Classroom





# PARTNERSHIPS

- EcoLab Dollars for Doers
- DARTS
- Girls Who Code
- High Tech Kids
- Lower Minnesota Watershed District
- Minnesota Vikings Foundation
- Minnesota Zoo
- Science Museum of Minnesota
- The Works Engineering Museum
- Reading Corps





# NATIONAL STEM HONOR SOCIETY

We are kicking off our membership in 2026!

We believe membership will offer our students the following benefits:

- Develop 21st Century Skills
- Provide Recognition & Resources
- Build Community & Connections
- Future Readiness:
- Elevate School Academics:
- Leadership







**THANK YOU!**

