

Welcome to a New School Year and New Opportunities

Some things are changing . . .

The Eden Prairie School Board would like to welcome students, families, and staff back for a new school year with many exciting new opportunities for students. Exciting changes include:

- Welcoming sixth graders to an amazing, updated Central Middle School.
- Engaging students in Inspired Choices programming to give them more options to pursue rigorous, engaging, and authentic learning experiences.
- Giving preschoolers the opportunity to create a school community connection, reduce transitions, and prepare for kindergarten through Little Eagles preschool, now available at each Eden Prairie elementary school.
- Continuing to provide and enhance EP Online, which will be available to students in Eden Prairie and throughout Minnesota. The curriculum blends proven online curriculum strengthened by Eden Prairie School's high-quality curriculum — taught by teachers who know it well.

We recognize the importance of effectively managing the forthcoming changes and helping students and families to adjust and thrive in new environments. Although these changes might be unfamiliar and uneasy at first, every family can expect caring and prepared staff ready to welcome our students back.

While many things are staying the same.

The Eden Prairie School Board remains committed to delivering academic excellence and opportunity to each student, closing the achievement gap, driving outstanding graduation rates, and providing these outcomes in an equitable & a fiscally responsible manner for the community (stakeholders). Despite challenging circumstances, our staff worked hard to support continued student success and it's reflected in the data. Overall Eden Prairie's 2020 graduation rate was 95% and 80% of our third-grade students were reading at grade level, both well above state and national averages. Our teachers are prepared to address the systemic issues reflected in the data and are committed to identifying and addressing any learning loss experienced by students during the trying times of the pandemic.

We extend our sincere thanks to the community members who participated in the School Board's Listen n Learn session in June. We look forward to future opportunities to engage with the community to better understand our shared values and identify opportunities to grow & thrive.

In May of this year board member Veronica Stoltz resigned and we thank her for her service. The board appointed Mrs. Karla Bratrud to serve till the November 2nd special election to fill the vacant seat. We hope you will participate exuberantly to elect a new board member for the vacant position.

Strong communities result in strong schools and the tradition of excellence in Eden Prairie schools remains because of the tremendous support of our diverse & vibrant community.

Welcome back everyone and remember, Eagles fly high!