

Community Education

- It is hard to believe that the 2025-2026 Edition of the Winter/Spring Brochure is being printed this week. The brochure will be available in the Leader B the first full week of January. We are very excited to have some new classes and opportunities offered in this edition. If you are looking for a learning opportunity during the long winter months, please check it out.
- Community Education and the Activities Department are in the process of adopting new software systems for both facility and athletic scheduling and registration. The Rschool Program was sold to a different vendor last spring, and through the takeover process, we have noticed that the customer service and overall program functionality have been compromised.

It is very common to wait several days to get answers from a customer service representative, and many of the features that made this program successful are no longer available unless you pay extra fees.

Fortunately for us, several new software options have been made available because of an expanding market in Minnesota. We are currently researching ARUX for community education and Bound for the activities department. These two programs are in the process of creating a partnership that will allow the programs to work together to create one comprehensive network that will serve all of our registration and facilities needs across the entire district.

In addition, there are several features such as inventory management, point of sale credit, online billing, and automated communication that we have not been afforded in the past. Kelsy, Daniel, and I have each met with both of these organizations and are in the process of having Mitchell meet with both companies to ensure technical feasibility.

- I would like to take time this month to say thank you to all of our instructors and coaches who have taken the time to share their talents with our learning community this year. Our programs would not be possible without their willingness to give of their time. Once again, thank you on behalf of our entire community.

Federal Programs

- The required Federal Programs Fall Amendment has been submitted to the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) and has received approval. This amendment is part of a revised process implemented by MDE to ensure full compliance with federal requirements. As part of the Fall Amendment, the district completed required updates related to financial budgeting, program

compliance, and consultation with non-public schools. These updates ensure that federal funds are appropriately aligned with program goals, accountability standards are met, and all statutory consultation requirements are fulfilled.

- As a condition of receiving federal funding, the district is required to conduct consultations with all private schools located within district boundaries. During this process, private schools may choose to participate in federal programs and receive services or formally decline participation. Within the district, St. Mary of Mount Carmel School has elected to participate and receive federal funding and services, while St. John's Vianney School has declined participation. For schools that decline services, the consultation process concludes once a mutually agreed-upon written affirmation is completed.

When a private school elects to participate, as is the case with St. Mary of Mount Carmel School, the process moves from consultation to the development of a service plan. This plan is collaboratively developed by the district and the private school and outlines the goals and objectives to be implemented for the duration of the services. All goals and objectives must align with Minnesota Academic Standards and be delivered by appropriately licensed and highly qualified staff. Federal requirements also mandate that participating private school students receive equitable access to both funding and the duration of services. The Minnesota Department of Education requires the Local Education Agency to oversee, implement, and monitor all private school services to ensure compliance with federal program requirements. The district values its strong collaborative relationship with St. Mary of Mount Carmel School and appreciates the continued partnership and shared commitment to providing high-quality educational opportunities for all students in the district.