

High School School Board Report November 17, 2025

Flex time will be back again this year starting on November 19th. This will be done twice a month at the end of the day. (we will follow our activity schedule on these days.). Teachers will offer an activity and students will have the choice to sign up for the activity they want to participate in. The goal of Flextime is to provide choice, another opportunity for relationship building, and a different way to engage students at school.

The Veteran's Day Program was on November 11th at Aitkin High School. Thank you to the VFW Post 1727 and the American Legion Post 86, Linda Amundson and the Quilts of Valor for presenting a beautiful quilt to Rebecca May, to the Concert band, Concert Choir and Fists of Fury Handbells for their music, for Andrew Carlstrom for speaking, Hugh Janzen & Harvey Lamke for playing the taps and for Tolo May for reading his Voice of Democracy Essay. We also thank Roberta Elvecrog for recognizing Mrs. Klein's Life Skills class for putting together the poppies.

The Peer Leader program has officially started with the Peer Leaders meeting with their Middle School counterparts on Wednesday, November 12th. The Peer Leaders will continue to check in weekly with their mentee throughout the remainder of the school year.

Thank you to Nathan Wright, director of Financial Aid at Central Lakes College, for coming out to Aitkin High School on Monday November 10th. He presented fantastic information to seniors and families about financial aid for higher education. Time was given to submit the FAFSA, and many students successfully submitted.

The National Honor Society Induction Ceremony was held on Wednesday November 12. 19 new students were inducted into the Aitkin Chapter of NHS, congratulations!

18 of our AHS Concert Choir members represented Aitkin High School at the 2025 Concordia College High School Choral Festival on Saturday, November 1st. They spent the day in rehearsals with Dr. Michael Culloton & Dr. Stephanie Tubiolo, worked in sectionals with current Concordia students (including our very own AHS alum, Mr. Martin Henke), and heard performances by Concordia Kantorei, Concordia Chapel Choir, The Concordia Choir, Concordia Vocal Jazz Ensembles, and two area high school choirs. We were especially excited to hear our friends Levi Berg ('25), Kennedy Jorgensen ('24), Martin Henke ('23), and Lyla Miller ('25) perform with their college ensembles and to sing with them again in the mass choir. We also got to eat a delicious meal at DS, explore the campus, meet new friends from 29 other high schools and Concordia College, and spend time just hanging out together. The day culminated with a final concert featuring three mass choir pieces sung by the almost 700 singers who attended the festival. It was an AMAZING day of music and our singers represented our school and community so well. It was another great day for Aitkin Music and we are so proud of these singers!

Those attending were:

Front Row (L-R): Ava Peterson-Johnson, Sabina Para, Peyton Perrine, Ashlyn Peel, Paige Packer, Layla Fayaz, Kaelynn Gruhlke, Sofia Harder, Violet Eisenbraun, Miss Johnson

Back Row (L-R): Alyssa Karr, Kinley Washburn, Evelyn Anderson, Maelie Kazmerzak, Annabelle Groce, Carsyn Miller, Jace Novotny, Tanner Koonce, and Lyle McNutt



On Tuesday, October 21st, our AHS Madrigals and Concert Choir were lucky to be visited by Dr. Michael Culloton and Dr. Stephanie Tubiolo, who are the choral conductors at Concordia College in Moorhead, MN! They led us in some fun, new warm-ups, gave us wonderful feedback on our singing, and shared about what it's like to sing in the choirs at Concordia.

Some of our AHS Concert Choir alums who are now singing at Concordia also stopped by to visit and sing with us that morning, too. Levi Berg ('25) and Lyla Miller ('25) sing with Dr. Tubiolo in Concordia Kantorei and Kennedy Jorgensen ('24) and Martin Henke ('23) sing with Dr. Culloton in The Concordia Choir. It's great to have our alums come back to visit and to hear all about their college experiences. We were also very lucky to have Mr. Martin Henke ('23) here at AHS for the week doing some of his clinical hours towards his K-12 Vocal Music Education licensure. He worked with our choirs and music classes this week and brought lots of new ideas, strategies, and positive energy to our classroom. He also brought Roadside caramel rolls for our guests to enjoy!



On Wednesday, November 12th, our AHS Concert Choir had a visit from the Minnesota State University-Moorhead (MSUM) Concert Choir and their director, Dr. Michael Johnson. We got to hear their wonderful choir perform, sing some of our own music for them, sing a new piece all together, and learn some new skills and techniques from Dr. Johnson. It was an awesome experience for our students to sing with a college choir and hear what it could be like to sing in the choirs at MSUM, as well as in their own colleges and communities wherever they go!

