

March 2024

# KENNEDY SCHOOL'S

# NEWSLETTER

## March

- March 4 -Trimester 2 ends for 4K & Kindergarten
  - Read Across America - Hats Off to Reading ~ Hat Day
- March 5 -Read Across America - Team Up for Reading ~ Sports Team Day
  - All-District Orchestra Concert (5th & 6th grade) at SPASH 6:15 p.m.
- March 6 -Read Across America - Surfs up for Reading ~ Hawaiian Day
- March 7 -Read Across America - Reading Jogs the Mind ~ Workout Clothes Day
  - Popcorn Sale - \$ .50 each
- March 8 -No Afternoon Boys & Girls Club at Kennedy School
  - Drawing Club 3:35 - 5:00 p.m.
  - Kindergarten report cards sent home
  - Read Across America - Snuggle Up & Read ~ Pajama Day
- March 11 -PTO Meeting 5:45 p.m. in the Art Room at Kennedy School
- March 13 -4th grade to the Dorothy Vetter Memorial Concert at Sentry Theater 12:30-2:40 p.m.
- March 14 -Bridging Brighter Smiles at Kennedy School
  - Boys & Girls Club Movie Night - You don't have to be BGC member to attend.

## **March 18 - 22 -No School - - SPRING BREAK**

**-Boys & Girls Club at Kennedy School Closed for Spring Break**

- March 25 -Summer School Online Registration opens at 8:00 a.m.
  - Drawing Club 3:35 - 5:00 p.m.
  - School Store sponsored by Student Council
- March 27 -School Store sponsored by Student Council

## **March 29 -No School - Traditional Good Friday - Boys & Girls Club Closed at Kennedy School**

- April 1 -4K AM Class to Boston School Forest 9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.
- 4K PM Class to Boston School Forest 12:30 p.m. - 2:45 p.m.
- 6th grade to Boston School Forest

### **PTO MEETING**

March 11, 2024  
5:45 p.m.

At Kennedy School in  
the Art Room

Summer School 2024 Registration Information  
Registration for Summer School 2024 courses  
will be available

**ONLINE** beginning at 8:00 a.m.  
Monday, March 25, 2024.





# thank you

The PTO had support from many families for the Parent-Teacher Conference Meal, in the form of food and drink items, and money. Thank you to all of you who supported the PTO and the teachers! The PTO could not be successful without you; Thank you!!



KINDERGARTEN VISITATION  
FOR KENNEDY SCHOOL  
INCOMING KINDERGARTENER  
FAMILIES WILL BE HELD ON  
MAY 3RD.

THE CURRENT 2023-24  
KINDERGARTEN CLASSES  
WILL NOT HAVE SCHOOL  
MAY 3RD DUE TO THE  
VISITATION DAY FOR  
INCOMING STUDENTS.

MORE DETAILS TO COME.



**MARCH 18 – MARCH 22**



**5th & 6th Grade Elementary  
Track Meet**

**May 21st & May 22nd**

**Rain Date May 24th**

# Read Across America Week!

Join us for Read Across America Dress-up Week,

March 4th—March 8th!



**Monday**

3/4

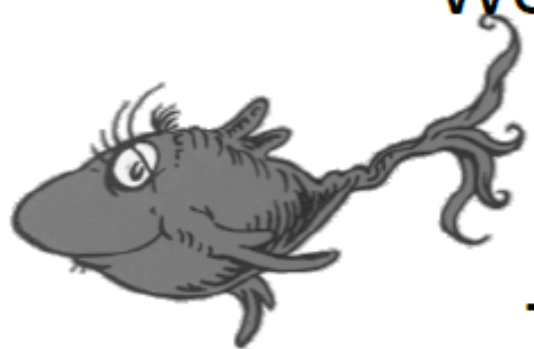
Hats Off to Reading –  
Wear a Hat!



**Tuesday**

3/5

Team Up for Reading—  
Wear Sports Apparell!



**Wednesday**

3/6

Surfs Up for Reading—  
Wear Hawaiian Clothing!



**Thursday**

3/7

Reading Jogs the Mind—  
Wear Workout Clothes!

**Friday**

3/8

Snuggle Up and Read—  
Wear Pajamas!





## 4K Enrollment Information

Video: <https://youtu.be/JMbnS1LdXwg>

Website: [www.PointSchools.net/4K](http://www.PointSchools.net/4K)



### POINT 4 THE FUTURE **4K Registration**

If your child is 4 years old on or before September 1, 2024; they are age eligible for 4 Year old Kindergarten for the 2024-2025 School Year.

**ONLINE  
REGISTRATION**

[www.pointschools.net/4K](http://www.pointschools.net/4K)

Registration Begins  
**February 19, 2024**  
for the 2024-25  
School Year



Please Join Us:

# COMMUNITY FORUM

Feb 7  
6:00 PM

Mar 13  
6:00 PM

## SPASH Auditorium

Join us to learn more about the April 2, Recurring Operational Referendum for the Stevens Point Area Public School District.

📣 Stevens Point Area Schools - Preparing for Our Future!  
As proud members of the Stevens Point Area Public School District, we've provided excellent education for our students and families. Our community's strength lies in our educational opportunities and dedicated staff.

However, we face financial challenges that require collective action. On April 2, 2024, you will have the chance to make a significant impact. Residents will vote on an operational referendum to secure the future of our educational system.



### Meningococcal Disease: Protect Your Child

Public health authorities recommend that teenagers and college-bound students be immunized against a potentially fatal bacterial infection called meningococcal disease, a type of meningitis.

Meningococcal disease refers to any illness caused by bacteria called *Neisseria meningitidis*, also known as meningococcus [muh-ning-goh-KOK-us]. These illnesses are often severe and can be deadly. They include infections of the lining of the brain and spinal cord (meningitis) and bloodstream infections (bacteremia or septicemia).

These bacteria spread through the exchange of respiratory and throat secretions like spit (e.g., by living in close quarters, kissing). Doctors treat meningococcal disease with antibiotics, but quick medical attention is extremely important. Keeping up to date with recommended vaccines is the best defense against meningococcal disease.

Keeping up-to-date with recommended immunizations is the best defense against meningococcal disease. There are several vaccines that protect against the different types of *N. meningitidis* bacteria. Three vaccines protect against four of the five types (A, C, Y, and W-135). The Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommends children get their first dose of meningococcal vaccine when they are between 11 and 12 years and get a booster dose when they are 16 years of age. Two vaccines protect against the fifth type of *N. meningitidis* bacteria, strain B. The ACIP recommends this vaccine be given to people aged 16-23 years. The ideal age to vaccinate is between 16 and 18 years, to provide protection when individuals are at greatest risk of getting meningococcal disease. If a teenager missed getting the vaccine altogether, they should ask their healthcare provider about getting it before graduation, especially if they are about to move into a college dorm or military barracks.

### About Meningococcal Disease

There are multiple serogroups of *Neisseria meningitidis*. Serogroups B, C, and Y cause the majority of disease in the United States. Serogroup W and non groupable strains cause a small portion of disease. Meningococcal disease is often misdiagnosed as something less serious because early symptoms are similar to common viral illnesses. Symptoms of meningococcal disease may include high fever, severe headache, stiff neck, nausea, vomiting, sensitivity to light, confusion, exhaustion and/or a rash. The disease can progress rapidly and can cause death or permanent disability within 48 hours of initial symptoms.

Rates of meningococcal disease have been declining in the United States since the late 1990s. In

### From the School Nurse

AJ Taylor, RN

School Nurse

Ben Franklin, Jefferson, McKinley, Plover-Whiting  
ataylor@pointschools.net

#### Is My Child Well Enough for School?

Children who have fever, vomiting or diarrhea need to stay home from school for 24 hours after these symptoms have resolved without medications.











Please review Covid-19 Protocol for the district:  
<https://www.pointschools.net/domain/2604>

**Reminder: It is cold out! The students will be able to play OUTSIDE if it is above 0°. Be sure to send proper apparel to school.**

**\*\*\*if your family is in need of cold weather gear please contact your school's office\*\*\*\***



#### Common signs & symptoms of meningitis and septicaemia in adults

 Fever, cold hands and feet	 Vomiting
 Drowsy, difficult to wake	 Confusion and irritability
 Severe muscle pain	 Pale, blotchy skin. Spots/rash <a href="#">See the Glass Test &gt;</a>
 Severe headache	 Stiff neck
 Dislike bright lights	 Convulsions/seizures

#### Early symptoms can include:

Fever, headache, vomiting, muscle pain and fever with cold hands and feet.

Someone with meningitis or septicaemia can get a lot worse very quickly. Keep checking them.

Trust your instincts – Get medical help immediately

2017, there were about 350 total cases of meningococcal disease reported (incidence rate of 0.11 cases per 100,000 persons). Anyone can get meningococcal disease, but rates of disease are highest in children younger than 1 year old, with a second peak in adolescence. Among adolescents and young adults, those 16 through 23 years old have the highest rates of meningococcal disease.

Meningococcal disease is spread through direct contact with respiratory and/or oral secretions from infected persons (for example, kissing or sharing drinking containers). It can develop and spread quickly throughout the body, so early diagnosis and treatment are very important. Even with immediate treatment, the disease can kill an otherwise healthy young person within hours of first symptoms. Of those who survive, up to 20 percent may endure

permanent disabilities, including brain damage, deafness and limb amputations.

Lifestyle factors common among teenagers, college students and military personnel are believed to put them at increased risk of contracting meningococcal disease. These lifestyle factors include crowded living situations (for example, dormitories, sleep-away camps), active or passive smoking and irregular sleeping habits. Teens should avoid sharing eating utensils and drinking out of the same container, since infections may spread through this type of close contact.

For more information: (Just click the picture!)



Centers for Disease Control and Prevention  
CDC 24/7: Saving Lives, Protecting People™



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT  
of HEALTH SERVICES

# The Nurtured Heart Approach

An in-depth training for parents and caregivers.

**March 14 and March 28**

**5:30–7:30 pm**

**Jefferson Elementary School**

The 2 sessions will offer an in-depth look at NHA. We will focus on providing specific strategies to use with your child and family to help with building relationships, increasing your child's inner wealth, and improving behaviors.

– DINNER PROVIDED –

–CHILD CARE For CHILDREN (4YO AND UP) –

Scan QR code to sign up  
or click on the link:

[Click to Register](#)

For more information contact:  
Sara Grant at  
[sgrant@pointschools.net](mailto:sgrant@pointschools.net)  
Advance Nurtured Heart Trainer



**Provided in Partnership by:**



Stevens Point Area Public School District  
Prepare Each Student To Be Successful



COMMUNITY FOUNDATION  
OF CENTRAL WISCONSIN



## PTO Meeting Minutes– February 12, 2024

Officers – Michelle Cornell, Christine Spaay, Karissa Friday

### OFFICERS NEEDED!!

### Agenda

#### Principal's Report:

##### –Review of Act 20 information

- Signed into law by Governor Evers on July 19, 2023
- Instruction, curricula, intervention, and reading training must meet the Act 20 definition of "science-based early literacy instruction."
- Establishes a Council on Early Literacy Curricula and an Office of Literacy/Wisconsin Reading Center at DPI
- By February/March, 2024, DPI will maintain a website that includes a list of recommended K-3 curricular resources. Districts are eligible for reimbursement grants for up to 50% if adopting from this list.
- Prohibits districts from purchasing curricular and instructional materials that include 3-cueing. By 24-25, prohibits the use of 3-cueing in both core and intervention instruction and materials.
- All teachers who provide reading instruction in grades K-3 as well as principals and reading specialists will be required to receive specific professional development in early reading instruction by July 1, 2025
- Hiring of up to 64 statewide literacy coaches contracted by DPI
- Starting with the 24-25 school year, a universal screening (reading readiness) assessment will be used statewide for 4K-3rd grade. This assessment will be selected by DPI.
- Diagnostic assessments administered to all students 5K - 3 who score below the 25th percentile on the reading readiness screener.
- 2023 Wisconsin Act 20
- Wisconsin Reads - WI DPI Informational Site

– Day to Day at school continues to go really well. Everyone is working very hard to set and reach high expectations and standards for every student.

- KAT play was so much fun for an all-school field trip
- Global Play Day made for a memorable day of fun.
- Winter assessments are under way. State testing, Forward Exam, is right around the corner.
- Nice winter weather has made for many fun days of outdoor fun!

– Thank you for continuing to support your students each and every day!

#### Secretary's Report:

approved

#### Treasurer's Report:

attached

#### Old Business:

- Holiday Shoppe – went well, good number of volunteers: offered one day, and then kids who forgot money had the chance to shop the next day.
- PTO Conference meal – served Cousin's subs, staff appreciated the subs,  
The PTO extends a HUGE THANK YOU to all the families that donated food, drinks, or money for the meal!



### New Business:

- Spaghetti Dinner – Christine Spaay will chair. Thank you Christine! We are working on setting a date, typically held in April on a Thursday, tentatively looking at April 18<sup>th</sup>. Karissa Friday said she would organize basket raffle. Thank you, Karissa! Spaghetti Dinner needs lots of volunteers!
- Spring Parent/Teacher Conference Meal – subs again? Seemed to be well liked, send out request for donations tomorrow
- Additional Money for Mr. Hamm – motion to approve additional \$50 for Mr. Hamm
- Candy Bar Sales – consensus was to continue selling candy bars, Thank you Kim!!
- Adjust shopping policy for Holiday Shoppe? – policy was slightly adjusted
- Other –
  - Donation to bus garage – since all but one of our bus drivers are employed with Lamers, the Kennedy bus drivers would not benefit from this donation to the Stevens Point Bus Garage. Discussion included making treats for our bus drivers, or even cards or drawings.

### Treasurer's Report – February 12, 2024

Beginning Balance - \$26314.69

Ending Balance - \$26401.71

#### Deposits:

Walkathon - \$590.00  
Parent/Teacher Conference Meal donations - \$110.00  
Concert Seat Raffle – \$49.00  
MADA - \$209.30  
Holiday Shoppe - \$2341.00  
Candy Bar Sales - \$453.00  
KAT - \$534.00

**Total Deposits: \$4286.30**

#### Expenses:

Cousins Subs (PT conference meal) - \$147.68  
Stephanie Clubb (Veteran's Luncheon) - \$248.46  
Heidi Leahy (Taste Tester Tuesday) - \$160.15  
Amy Genskow (Holiday Shoppe) - \$690.75  
Rachel Metzler (Holiday Shoppe) - \$52.73  
Sara Stefan (Holiday Shoppe) - \$37.65  
Anne Raikowski (Holiday Shoppe) - \$46.87  
Cash withdrawal for stamps - \$13.20  
Amanda Hyman (Holiday Shoppe) - \$52.75  
Bee Heagle (Holiday Shoppe) - \$56.71  
Heidi Leahy (Taste Tester Tuesday) - \$94.93  
Amy Genskow (Holiday Shoppe) - \$107.66  
Holiday Shoppe start up cash - \$530.00  
Donations to classroom teachers - \$1400.00  
Heidi Leahy (Taste Tester Tuesday) - \$50.58  
Tessa Cash-Wenninger – KAT - \$395.00  
Nichole Becker – KAT - \$49.69  
Melissa Krebsbach – KAT - \$64.47

**Total Expenses: \$4199.28**

#### **Holiday Shoppe**

**Income: \$2341.00**  
*Includes donations in the amount of \$45.00*

**Expenses: \$1045.12**  
Start up cash: \$530.00

**Profit: \$765.88**

#### **KAT**

**Beginning balance: \$2809.92**

**Ending balance: \$2834.76**

**Deposits:**  
\$534.00

**Expenses:**  
\$509.16