

June 2022 BlueSky Online Newsletter

Director of Student Support Message

As the final days of the term come to an end, I would like to thank BlueSky families for your continued support during this past school year. BlueSky has one of its largest classes graduating this year with approximately 166 students. The extraordinary commitment made by all our staff, academic and support staff, helped make this possible. Thank you!

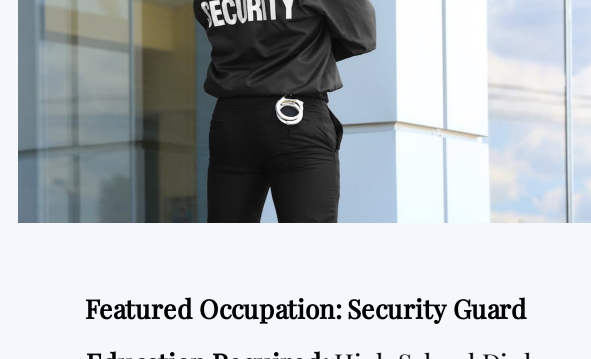
The leadership team has already commenced planning for the new academic school year, 2022-2023. Thank you to those that completed the student needs assessment as we had a great response. We plan to use this data to develop programming to support BlueSky students in the next school year. We will communicate additional information and support from your student's advisor or in upcoming newsletters.

Finally, I wish all BlueSky families the very best summer break and I look forward to welcoming you back on September 6, 2022, relaxed and refreshed for another great year. Thank you all for an amazing 2021-2022 school year.



Cathy Parker
Director of Student Support Services
651.642.0435
cathy.parker@blueskyonline.org

Counselor Corner



Featured Occupation: Security Guard

- **Education Required:** High School Diploma
- **Outlook:** 154,000 new openings by 2030
- **Median Wages:** \$31,090 per year

Security guards can find employment in a variety of settings. They may be employed to screen passengers for transit services, watch over customers and employees during business hours or secure buildings and warehouses after hours.

Summer is a great time to experience different activities in person! Check out this 2022 Minnesota Summer Camp Guide for enrichment opportunities. It's a great way to start building your resume.



Social Work Spotlight

Next school year our school social workers are excited to announce we will be offering our support group elective credit courses all school year. These classes will now be offered in both the first and second semester. This is a great way to get support while getting elective credit.

- The Real You
- Healing and Dealing
- Who Am I
- Mind Over Mood
- Attacking Anxiety

Check out the [course descriptions here](#).

Just a reminder that we are not available to support students over the summer break. Please click [here](#) to access a list of supports [here](#).



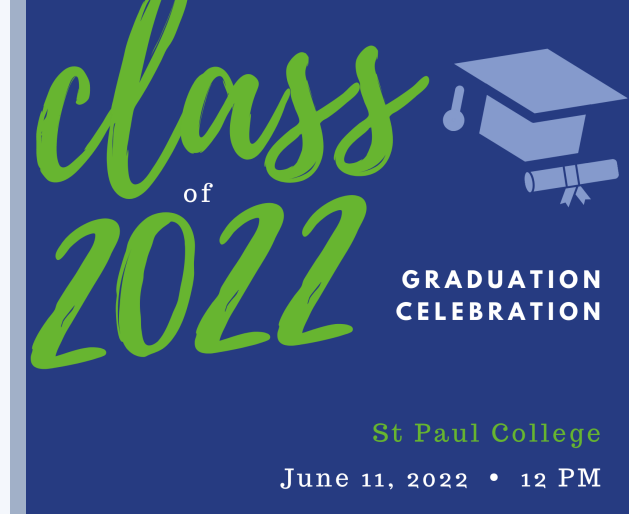
Hunger Impact Partners, is a non-profit organization that works with the Minnesota Department of Education to promote free summer meals for kids across the state. Hunger Impact Partners increase access to nutritious food for Minnesota children who are struggling with food insecurity. Download the app at [Apple App](#) or [Google Play](#) to locate free meals at schools and other sites across Minnesota this summer.

Supplemental



Thanks for a great year, supplemental students and families! We have loved supporting your students. Please reach out to [Heidi](#) if you would like to register for next year and haven't yet. If you had a good experience this year, spread the word to friends and family.

Student Activities



Congratulations graduates!!! Feel free to share the [live ceremony link](#) with friends and family that cannot attend in person but would still like to celebrate your accomplishments!

If you're looking for fun things to do around Minnesota this summer, here is a list of some fun and interesting places to visit!!!



BlueSky is joining an Esports League!

Do you play Valorant? Are you interested in playing on an Esports team? Will you be in 11th-12th grade next fall? If the answer is yes to all three of these questions, then contact [Grant Cameron](#) for more details!



Summer field trips are back!!! More information coming soon!



BlueSky full-time and supplemental students have the opportunity to travel to Puerto Rico next year for spring break from March 27-31, 2023!

Literary and pricing can be found [here](#). The price is subject to change so it's beneficial to enroll as soon as possible to lock in the price. Please contact [Gabriela Johnson](#) with any questions.

BlueSky Library Bookshelf



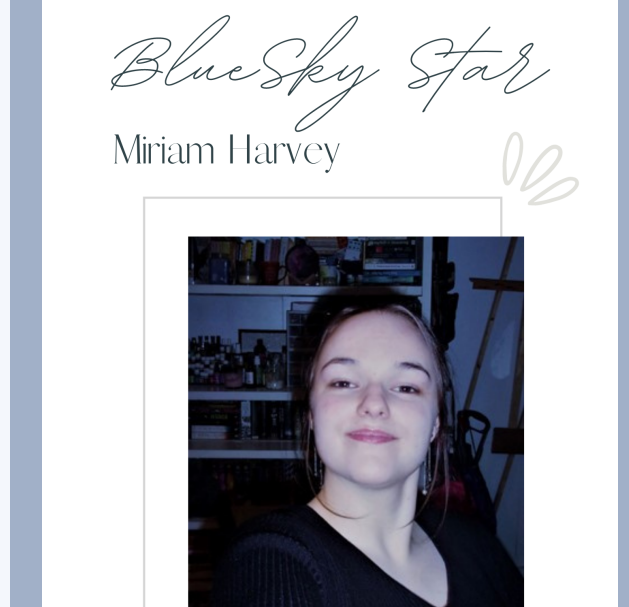
Justice is Julie Johnson's dog who plans to read some non-fiction over the summer

Hello again from the BlueSky Library Bookshelf-

Summer reading is a fun activity to fill the long summer days. Check out the summer reading link [here](#). You can find information about audiobooks that are available and how to get your home library added to your Sora app. There will be a prize at the end of the summer for students who participate in summer reading.



BlueSky Stars



Miriam Harvey, a graduate senior of the class of 2022, is featured as a BlueSky Star Student this month as she concludes her dedicated and successful journey as an online student. Miriam has attended BlueSky since 7th grade and has always given her best effort in classes, while also connecting with her teachers in beneficial ways. She has shared how the past six years have been a very positive school experience for her, stating, "It has taught me how to be self-disciplined, responsible, and self-motivated, all while allowing me the flexibility and independence of fitting school into my existing schedule." Her biggest piece of advice for other BlueSky students would be to contact teachers or advisors as soon as you find yourself stuck or with questions, as they are always happy to help and will prevent you from falling behind or stressing yourself out. Outside of school, Miriam enjoys reading, spending time with family and working in her garden. We are so proud of Miriam's efforts and are excited to see what the future holds for her. Best wishes, Miriam!

- Nominated by Hanna Coleman

Shoutout to our awesome students!

Kelsey Knickrehm is nominated as a BlueSky star as she graduates this spring because she has beautifully used the flexibility our school offers to continue her academic studies and balance them with her busy life outside of school ever since enrolling. The pandemic brought Kelsey to BlueSky. She realized she enjoyed learning independently from home and came to BlueSky to continue her online studies and found it to be a good fit. Through excellent time management and motivation skills, Kelsey has flawlessly finished her high school education while maintaining a busy schedule outside of school. When not working on school, Kelsey is a nanny for young twins, enjoys hunting, fishing, tripping, longboarding, four wheeling, hanging out with family and friends, and just being outdoors. After high school she will continue to nanny and work toward a daycare license so she can start her own daycare business. Kelsey's advice to fellow BlueSky students is to ask for help if you need it. If you ever fall behind, ask for help to catch back up and if you need support system, there is a fantastic one here at BlueSky. Congratulations, Kelsey!

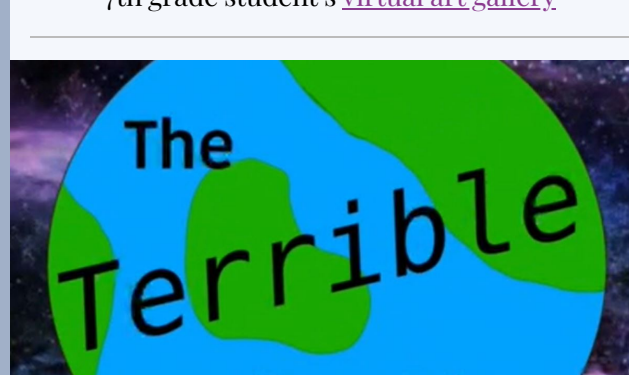
- Nominated by Laura Welckle



Student Work



7th grade student's virtual art gallery.



Video made by 6th graders Abby Waits & PJ Le Buhn for the catastrophic events unit.

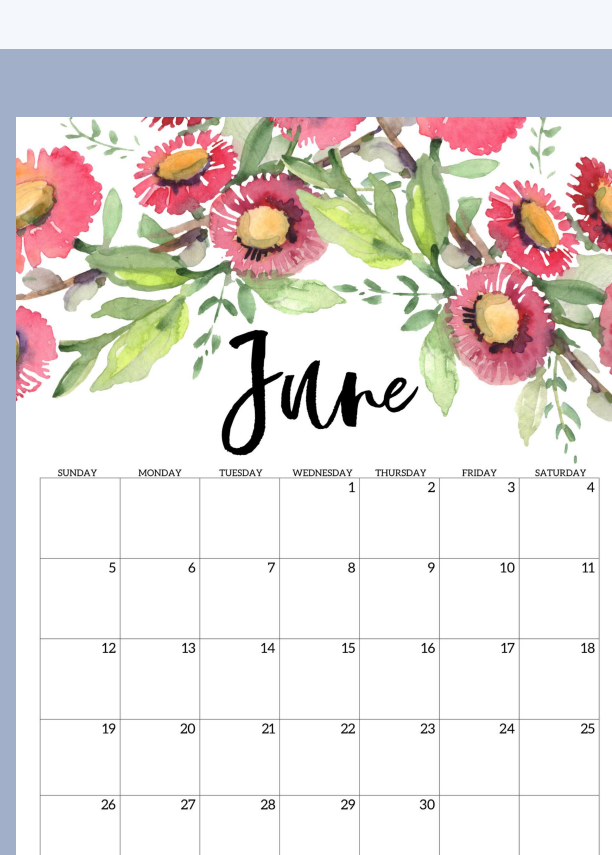


Photography by 11th grader Darc Stewart

Mark Your Calendar

- June 3, 2022: Last day of school
- June 11, 2022: Graduation

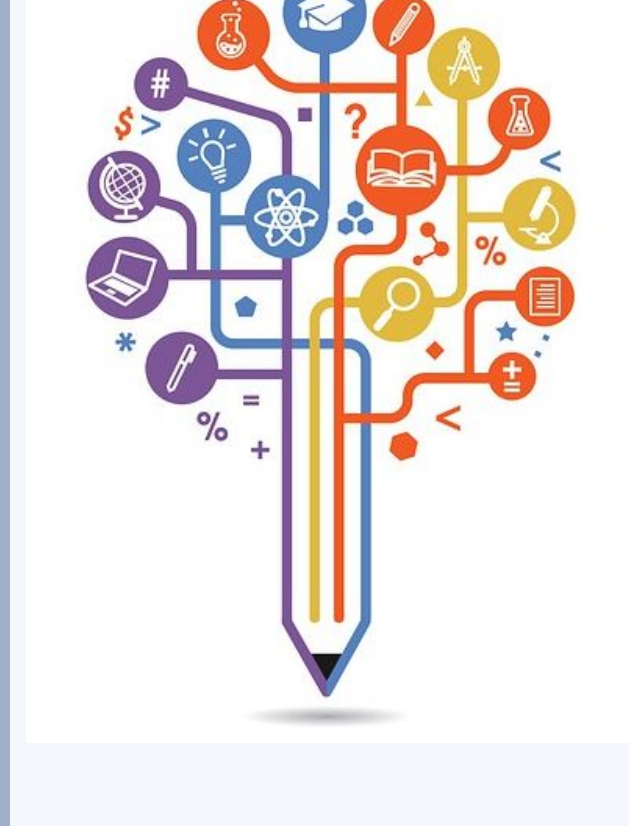
[READ MORE](#)



Resources

Contact Information for Questions and Resources
Main Line: 651-642-0888
[Staff & Student Contact Information](#)

Authorizer - Laurie Schroeder (651)-234-0900
Innovative Quality Schools



Office - enrollment, transcripts, record requests
Ann L. Larson - Superintendent/Executive Director
Dan Ondlich - Principal/Assistant Director
Cathy Parker - Director of Student Support Services
Beth O'Connell - Dean of Students
Heidi van der Haagen - Director of Special Education
Johna Mearns - Registrar
Melissa Daine - Testing Coordinator
Sarah Miner - Admin Assistant

Counselors - scheduling and class changes
Dawn Mensinger
Erin Cameron
Amy Chiofalo
Jennifer Anderson
Cark Anderson-Dickmann

Advisors - navigating school
Laura Welckle
Danielle Lockler
Dawn Nicol
Gerric Ostman
Sean Miller
Katy Hanson
Hanna Coleman
Katie Kozak
Patrick Barr

Social Workers - school, family, and personal concerns, well-being, crisis assistance
Carolyn Dirsch
Cassie Hammed
Cayla Butler
April Schamberger
Lynn Riebe

Supplemental
Heidi Johnson
Janette W. Becharins

COVID 19 Updates



Staying Sanitary

Staying healthy and safe is our number one priority for staff, students, and parents and guardians. At the office, we are practicing social distancing and keeping surfaces and offices sanitary.

Remember to check the CDC's guidelines and Governor Walz's regulations to stay safe!

<https://www.cdc.gov/epr/news/covid-19/news/>
<https://www.dhs.gov/coronavirus/2019-cvov/index.html>



Coming to BlueSky

If there is a need to come in, there is a form on Moodle for students to fill out if you are coming in. It is called "Learning Center Registration" and it is on the homepage under the "Student Learning Center" tab. Once they have filled it out, Katie Shealy will reach out to you to confirm if the time and date will work. Katie will also send out a reminder of the COVID protocols and other information for the Learning Center.

[BlueSky 2021-2022 COVID-19 Plan](#)