

November 2023 BlueSky Online Newsletter

Principal's Message

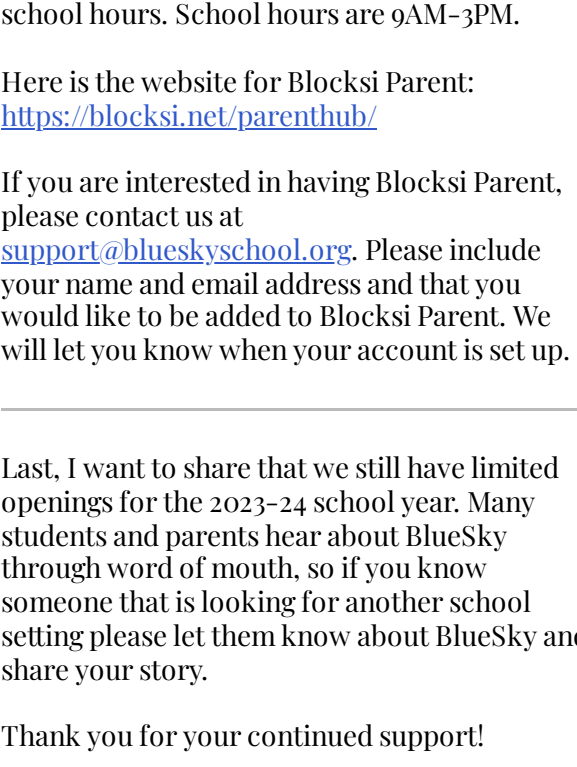
We are quickly approaching the end of the first quarter on November 30th. Middle school parents should expect report cards to be sent out through email no later than November 9th. If you would prefer your student's report card to be mailed, please complete the form below.

Most high school students will be reaching the semester midpoint at this time and you can expect communications from your child's Learning Center about BlueSky through word of mouth, so if you know someone that is looking for another school contact please let them know about BlueSky and share your story.

Thank you for your continued support!

Report card mailing request

We will be holding our second annual Virtual Activity Day on November 30th. Students in grades 6-8 should plan to attend at least three activities and students in grades 9-12 should plan to attend at least one activity. Attendance credits will be given to all participants! More information regarding activities and lines can be found in Moodle on the banner or in Student Committee. Join the fun!

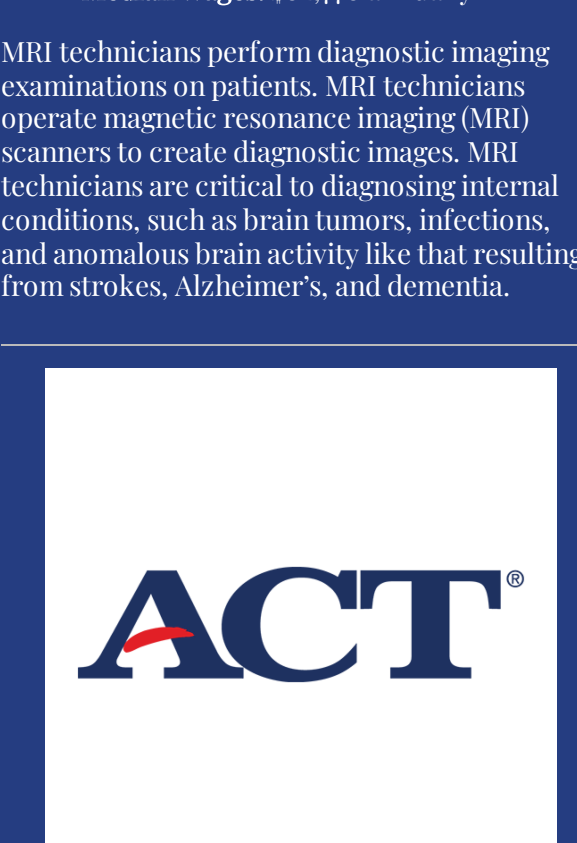


Blocks is our internet filtering program. Blocks for parents allows parents to add more parental controls beyond what the school does after school hours. School hours are 8AM-3PM.

Here is the website for Blocks Parent: <https://blocks.net/parentinfo/>

If you are interested in having Blocks Parent, please contact us at support@bluesky-school.org. Please include your name and email address and that you would like to be added to Blocks Parent. We will let you know when your account is set up.

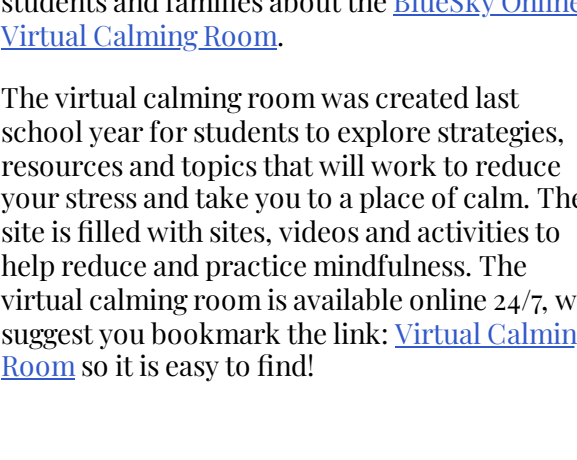
Counselor Corner



Featured Occupation: MRI Technician

Education Required: Medical Imaging, Technology Program or MRI Technology Training
Outlook: 11.4% growth to 2030
Median Wage: \$81,700 annually

MRI technicians perform diagnostic imaging examinations on patients. MRI technicians operate magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) scanners to create diagnostic images. MRI technicians are critical to diagnosing medical conditions, such as brain tumors, infections, and aneurysms of the brain. They also diagnose conditions such as stroke, Alzheimer's, and dementia.



ACT District Testing
Test Date: March 20th, 2024
Registration Deadline: January 26th, 2024
Posting Accommodations Request Deadline: January 26th, 2024

For more ACT information go to www.act.org/

Click [here](#) for more information on the Save the Date communication that was sent via email to 10th and 12th grade students and families earlier in the month.

Social Work Spotlight

The social work department wants to remind students and families about the [BlueSky Online Virtual Calming Room](#).

The virtual calming room was created last school year for students to explore strategies, resources and topics that will work to reduce your stress and take you to a place of calm. The site is filled with videos, audio and activities to help reduce and practice mindfulness. The virtual calming room is available online 24/7, we suggest you bookmark the link [Virtual Calming Room](#) so it is easy to find!

BlueSky Library Bookshelf

Hello again from the BlueSky Library Bookshelf.

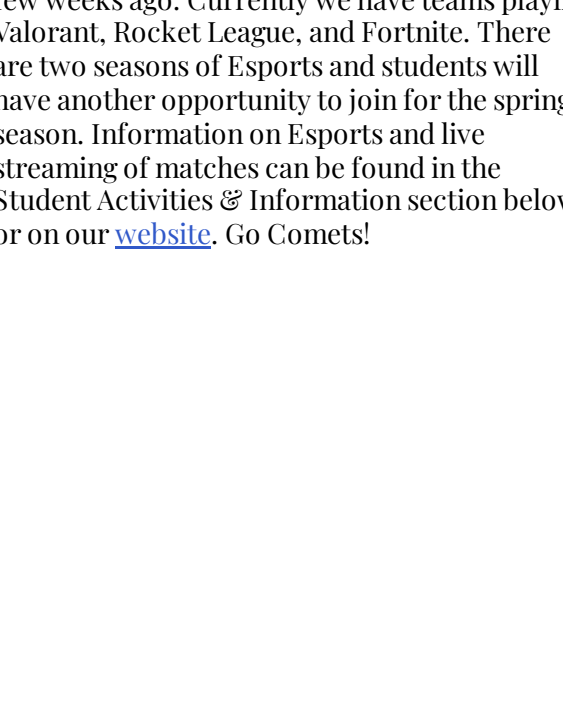
There are a lot of reading opportunities in the month of November:

- **Big Library Read:** This is a nationwide program through the Sora Library. This year Eric and the Wolf Moon will have unlimited check outs from November 2-9th in the Sora Library. We will be meeting as a community on November 9th at 3:00 pm to chat about the book. Here is a [link](#) for a video of the author talking about the book. No need to sign up for anything, just show up to chat about this graphic novel! There will be snacks around the country reading this same title!
- **High school book club:** We will be reading *The Firekeeper's Daughter* which can be found in the Sora Library resource. There are some gripping scenes in this book, so students can also read any choice novel and come chat about it during meeting. We will be meeting on November 9th at 2:00 pm.
- **Middle school book club:** We will be reading *The Graphic Novel Swim Team* which can also be found in the Sora Library resource. We will be meeting on November 9th at 2:00 pm.

If students have not yet signed up for the student book club, they can email [Sam Saunde](mailto:Sam.Saunde@bluesky-school.org) to get on the mailing list. There are so many reading opportunities in the BlueSky community and we love it!



Dan Ondich
Principal/Assistant Director
651.223.2029
dandondich@bluesky-school.org



Our second year of Esports through the Minnesotaarsity League (MVAL) kicked off a few weeks ago. Currently we have teams playing Valorant, Rocket League, and Fortnite. There are two seasons of Esports and students will have another opportunity to join for the spring season. Information on Esports and live streaming of matches can be found in the Student Activities & Information section below or on our [Twitter](#). Go Comets!

National APPRENTICESHIP WEEK

November 13-19th is National Apprenticeship week! For those students who know or maybe just a little unsure, that a 4-year university is not a good fit for them, this is a great time to learn about other options. We appreciate you!

Apprenticeship Week in Minnesota is an opportunity for the apprenticeship community to tell their stories about registered apprenticeship and share with businesses, industry, labor, education, career-seekers, community-based organizations, students and workers the advantages of developing careers through adoption of the apprenticeship model. There will be several events that week and most of them will be online webinars. [Click here for more registration information.](#)

A different apprentice will be featured each day of the week. For those students who know more, spotlighters here: [Apprentice of the Day](#).

To see those featured last year, check this out: [Featured Apprentices from 2022](#).

Learn more about how to become an apprentice—or how to start a program for your business below!

Apprenticeship MN

1-800-245-7650

Student Activities & Information

Student Clubs
Student Clubs for the 23-24 school year have been approved. Please contact the staff facilitator if you are interested in joining or would like more information.

- Gaming Club (HS Only) - Grant Cameron
- Fiber Arts - Chris Peterson or Abby Haldrup
- PRISM - Abby Henderson or Ellie Haldrup
- Book Club - Sam Saunde
- Nature Club - Sam Saunde
- Soccer (HS Only) - Maria Hanson
- Watercolor Club - Gabra Locken

Coming to BlueSky:
If there is a need to come to the BlueSky campus, there is a [form](#) in Moodle for students to fill out called "Learning Center Registration". The form is on the homepage under the "Student Learning Center" tab. Once the form is filled out, someone will reach out to confirm the time and date and other information for the learning center.

Learning Center Registration

2023 Europe trip
This exciting summer adventure is for BlueSky's full-time and supplemental students. Their parents – and BlueSky alumni! A \$50 deposit reserves your spot and locks in the current price. Pricing, itinerary and enrollment information can be found [here](#). Contact [Gabri Locken](mailto:Gabri.Locken@bluesky-school.org) for more information.

December Sea:Life Field trip
Friday, December 8th. More details and how to RSVP coming soon!

BlueSky Stars

BlueSky Star

Peyton Job

Peyton Job is a new 9th grade student to BlueSky this year. He is featured as this month's BlueSky Star because he has had a fantastic start and has learned how to navigate the online environment very well. He is engaged in his classes and turns in quality lessons. He also does a terrific job of communicating with me and other BlueSky staff which is so important in this online environment. See below how he says when asked to share more about himself and what brought him here.

"Hello, my name is Peyton Job. I have a little brother 10 and a little sister 10. We all live with our mom. We have had a lot of challenges in life, as well as this world. After Covid I knew school "I person" wasn't for me. After many conversations with my mom, we decided it was time to go. We moved to try 9th grade High School. After one day in 9th grade, I knew it wasn't for me. We moved on week 3 trying online. Mom and I did our research, and I have several friends that do BlueSky. It was right for me. The flexibility with my schedule is what I like most about BlueSky. I also think the support of the teachers and advisor etc. is great. My hobbies are like hunting, fishing, and sports."

Congratulations Peyton!
-Nominated by Dawn Nicol

If a student would like to see a title added to the Sora Library, please email bluesky.library@bluesky-school.org. Happy reading!

BlueSky Esports
Watch BlueSky Esports teams live on [Twitch](#)

- Valorant Matches - Wednesday's at 2:00pm
- Rocket League Matches - Thursday at 2:00pm
- Fortnite matches - Thursday at 4:00pm

BlueSky's Twitch Channel

Glenesh Mansion Field Trip
We are taking a trip to Glenesh Mansion in Duluth on Friday, November 10th. There is a \$50 fee per student and must be paid in advance through the BlueSky [Pay2Go](#). Limited spots are available and will be filled on a first come, first serve basis. Please RSVP below no later than November 9th.

Glenesh Mansion RSVP

School Store
Have you been looking for a place to purchase some BlueSky apparel? Well look no further than our school store. There are several different styles, brands, and items to choose from so there is something for everyone's taste!

BlueSky School Store

Shoutout to our awesome students!

Keviden Koehcher, a Senior at BlueSky, has been a consistently great worker since starting his Freshman year in 2020. Keviden came to BlueSky because he figured out that he liked working in an online environment after Covid hit. He found that the freedom flexibility that it gave him helped him a lot with his work and allowed him to work on his hobbies more. Keviden does a great job of asking for help when he has questions for teachers and to keep things organized.

Outside of school, Keviden has a lot of projects that he works on, but not enough time. He loves programming and is pretty fluent in many programming languages, but is still learning new things. He is good at using Java, JavaScript, TypeScript, and Swift, but would like to learn to use C++, Rust, or C# and learn an engine like Godot to try to make a game. He also enjoys meteorology, because of the storms and photography, specifically of space. After BlueSky, he plans on going to school for Computer Science and getting a job in the field.

Congratulations Keviden!
-Nominated by Sean Miller

BlueSky Star

Keviden Koehcher

Student Work

Laila Lewis shared her MN State Fair story!

"I joined the crochet and knitting and cnc club at BlueSky in hopes of learning and finding a new hobby. I enjoyed joining the club as the first time I had ever crocheted and once I started I couldn't stop! I joined the club and I would make a blanket for a charity. I showed it at the county fair and got a state fair trip opportunity for it. I took the trip and ended up getting a blue ribbon at state! I am very thankful for all of the knowledge I learned from joining the club!"

Natalie Lacko completed a very successful service learning project in her community.

Pictures From My SCA Diaper Drive

Natalie Lacko

This is a picture of just one of the bins I filled with donations at SCA. I ended filling three more bins that day! From here, the donations were taken inside to be given to the families.

This is a picture of one result of one of my diaper pickup trips. My mom's car was being filled with donations from Saint Michael's Church!

This is a picture of one of the bins I had set up in the Church. As you can see, the donations are overflowing!

NHS Inductee Ceremony

CONGRATULATIONS

NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY

CONGRATULATIONS

CONGRATULATIONS

CONGRATULATIONS

CONGRATULATIONS

CONGRATULATIONS

Karla Olson went to the MN state fair and won a ribbon for the quilt she made for her niece.

Photos taken by Geryson Carberry

In this assignment, students were asked to research an aspect of Media Literacy that piques their interest, then create a multimedia presentation based on their findings.

La Roed's Project on the Effects of Mass Media

Photos from the Middle School Fall Festival

Resources

Contact Information for Questions and Resources
Main Line: 651-642-0888
bluesky@bluesky-school.org
Authorizer: Laurie Schrader (651)-234-0900
Minnesota Quality Schools

Connectors - scheduling and class changes

Robbie Lane
Laurie Schrader
Amy Anderson
Heather Anderson
Lana Anderson (Facilities)

Advisors - navigating school
Mick Anderson
Heather Anderson
Heather Anderson
Lana Anderson
Sean Miller

Social Workers - school, family, and personal concerns, well-being, crisis assistance
Lana Anderson
Jenni Sanderberg
Jenni Sanderberg
Mikael Anderson

Supplemental - Students taking up to 50% of their course at BlueSky
Heather Anderson
Lana Anderson

Mark Your Calendar

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| SUN | MON | TUE | WED | THU | FRI | SAT |
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