



Message from Superintendent Rick

First Day of School Monday, August 28

Dear LqPV Students, Parents, Staff and Communities:



Rick Ellingworth
Superintendent

As Superintendent of Schools, it is a wonderful feeling to be able to welcome our Lac qui Parle Valley (LQPV) students, staff and parents to the start of another school year. I also want to extend a warm welcome to families new to the district. We are excited to have you join the Eagle family.

Due to amazing support from the residents making up LQPV, (and also considerable patience on your part over the last four years), I'm excited to share that construction at all three of our school sites is completed. As always, there are a few "punch list items" to complete but overall we are pleased that all of our school buildings are first class and ready for our students' return to schools. We are genuinely grateful for your support!

I am also excited to share some things we have been working on that you have or will be hearing about:

- On March 17, 2023, Governor Walz signed the MN Free School Meals bill into law. Because LQPV participates in the National School Lunch Program and the School Breakfast Program, it means ALL LQPV STUDENTS can have one breakfast and one lunch at NO COST at school. The Free School

Meals Program began on July 1, 2023. Look elsewhere in this publication for more information about this change. However, please know because lunches will now be free, it remains VITALLY important that ALL families continue to fill out the "Free and Reduced Lunch Form" as you have done in the past. Even though there will be no cost for meals, our school district qualifies for significant funding (approximately \$1,000 per qualifying student) based on the number of students that would have qualified for free/reduced lunches. We are dependent on those funds to support students who are learning to read, compute and in some cases learning the English language. It is very important families continue to fill out the forms. Doing so helps our chances of qualifying for significant fiscal funds used to support our students!

- I am more than excited to share that ALL of our elementary K-4 teachers are in the process (or have already completed) certification to become trained in LETRS—a rigorous "Science of Teaching Reading" initiative! This is a big deal and I could not be more excited for our entire staff's willingness to sign on to this initiative. This commitment together with small class sizes makes both of our elementary schools very desirable places to teach our youngest learners. We have already begun to see significant gains in our reading achievement! Congratulations to our staff and students on the growth they are experiencing.
- With additional Compensatory and

English Language Learner funds provided in the recent Minnesota legislative session, the District has been able to add two additional teachers to our middle school significantly reducing class sizes in our fifth and sixth grades. We have also added two full-time teachers to our English Language Learning staff providing significant support in addressing the needs of our English Language Learners.

We are also excited to roll out the new Modified Block High School Schedule at LQPV High School. This new schedule provides a combination of longer and shorter class periods—some as long as 96 minutes as well as the traditional 48-minute classes. It has been a lot of work for our school staff to plan for but we think it will better serve our overall student population. The new schedule lends itself to more adequate amounts of time for Career Tech classes such as Agriculture, Business, Culinary Skills, Small Engines, Welding, Science, etc. yet meets the needs of classes requiring a shorter amount of time.

Again, we look forward to the excitement of the new year and we thank you for your support of our District, our communities and the students and families that we serve. I wish everyone a great first day and a productive school year.

Respectfully,
Rick Ellingworth

LQPV AT A GLANCE

98%
Graduation
Rate

4+2=6

777
Students
Enrolled

17:1
Student to
Teachers

1:1
Technology
Devices

179
Total Staff

3
School
Sites

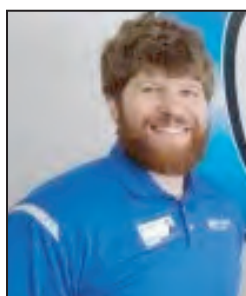
LQPV High School
LQPV Middle School
A/M Elementary
MMN Elementary

Lac qui Parle Valley School District strives to offer the best education possible. We are committed to providing a safe environment for students, staff and community members.

LQPV SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS



Scott Conn
District 1 Appleton



Matt Carmody
District 2



Erik Bjerke
District 3 MMN Area



Shannon Boehnke
District 4



Cory Thorsland
District 5 Milan Area



Danny Perseke
District 6 Appleton Area

Upcoming School Board Meeting:

Mon., Aug. 28
7-9PM
2860 291st Ave.
Madison, MN

Our school website can answer many school-related questions...

- Your child's progress & schedules
- School & activity calendars
- School policies
- Employment opportunities
- Education links
- Facility/equipment rental requests

Activity Tickets,

Grades,

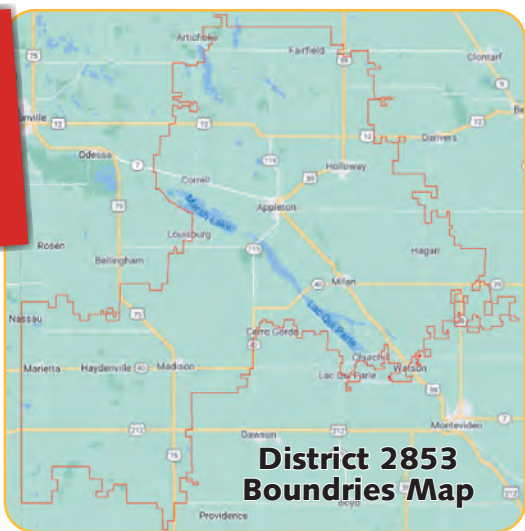
& more

EXTRACURRICULARS...
COMMUNICATION

District 2853 is one of the largest square footage districts in the State of Minnesota!

Our district provides quality education in a caring and inclusive learning environment from birth to graduation.

WE SOAR AS ONE



ParentSquare



Online tickets only



LQPV Public Schools will utilize the Parent Square messenger system, email, phone calls, newspaper, social media, and the LQPV Public School website to keep families informed.

FIND MORE INFORMATION **LQPV.org**

Join.Learn.Live.

BE the EXPERIENCE.

#WEARELQPV

BACK TO SCHOOL

Students are

1st day:
Aug. 28th

Have a
safe
school
year!



It's school time again! You're probably feeling excited and maybe a little sad that summer is over. Some kids feel nervous or a little scared at the start of school because of all the new things: new teachers, new friends, and maybe even a new school. Luckily, these "new" worries only stick around for a little while.

A few tips for a fantastic school year

- 1 Get enough sleep.
- 2 Eat a **HEALTHY** breakfast.
- 3 **TRY YOUR BEST.**
- 4 Use *good work habits* – write down assignments & turn in your homework on time.
- 5 Take *your time* with school work. If you don't understand something, ask the teacher.
- 6 Keep a sense of humor. **SCHOOL IS FUN!**

Did You Know: School buses are the most regulated vehicles on the road; they're designed to be safer than passenger vehicles in preventing crashes and injuries; and in every state, stop-arm laws exist to protect children from other motorists.

DRIVERS, slow down and remain alert in school zones and near bus stops. Prepare to stop when you see flashing yellow or red lights from a school bus, and never pass a stopped school bus that is picking up or unloading students. Remember that kids are often excited about the start of school and may not be paying attention at all times. It's our responsibility to be aware and keep them safe!

ISD #2853 2023-24 School Calendar

July 2023						
SU	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

August 2023						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
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27	28	29	30	31		

September 2023						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
					1	2
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30

October 2023						
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

November 2023						
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19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

December 2023						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

January 2024						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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28	29	30	31			

February 2024						
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March 2024						
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

April 2024						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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28	29	30				

May 2024						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
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19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

June 2024						
S	M	Tu	W	Th	F	Sa
						1
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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

Adopted April 24, 2023	
	Vacation Day (No School)
	Faculty Work Day (No School for Students)
	3 hour early out (** Q Comp 1/2 day)
174	School Days
9	Faculty Work Days
1	Conference Day
184	Total Days

- The first day of emergency closings will not be made up
- Emergency days 2-6 will be e-Learning days
- Make up of additional emergency closings may be at discretion of the school board

Get On Board With These

School Bus SAFETY TIPS



A refresher course in school bus safety

The dawn of a new school year is a time marked by change and fresh opportunities. For many children, school marks the first time they are away from their parents for an extended period of time. It also may be the first time they ride in a vehicle other than their parents' cars.

Each school day, 25 million children ride a bus to school in the United States. A school bus is among the safest modes of transport and one of the most regulated vehicles on the road, according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

Riding a school bus can be a novel experience no matter a student's age or grade. Kindergartners may be introduced to the school bus on their first day of school, while older students are no doubt familiar with life inside a school bus. But all students and families can benefit from a refresher course on school bus procedures to ensure this school year begins on safe footing.

- **Be a smart pedestrian.** Riding the school bus is very safe, but injuries can occur walking to and from the bus stop. Watch for cars backing out of driveways and always look both ways multiple times before crossing streets.
- **Remember school bus laws.** Most areas of the country have specific

school bus laws that include stopping when red lights are flashing on the school bus. Cars must stop whether they're behind the school bus, next to it or on the opposite side of the street facing the bus. Stopping allows passengers to enter or exit the bus safely.

- **Stand away from the curb.** The National Safety Council advises keeping six feet, or five giant steps, away from the curb while waiting for the bus. Young children should be carefully supervised.
- **Be visible.** Always cross in front of the bus, making eye contact with the driver so that they know your intentions before crossing. If you drop something, do not bend down to pick it up. Tell the driver instead.
- **Remain seated.** Find a seat promptly and remain seated for the duration of the ride. Do not stand up and proceed down the center aisle until the bus has stopped.
- **Minimize distractions.** Always speak softly and behave so that you do not distract the driver.

School buses are safe vehicles, but passengers need to do their part to avoid injury.

PROUDLY SUPPORTING OUR SCHOOLS!

AgCountry Farm Credit Services
Agralite Electric Co-op.
AMVETS Post 151
Appleton Area Chamber
Appleton Dental Care
Appleton Oil Co.
Appleton Press
Appleton Sportsmen's Club
Appleton Veterinary Clinic
Arlen's Auto Clinic - Auto Plus
Boraas Crop Insurance
Conroy Eye Care
Culligan Water Conditioning
Dauntless Air
Farmers & Merchants Insurance

Farmers & Merchants State Bank
Farmers Mutual Telephone Co.
Federated Telephone Co.
Fragodt Auction Co.
Glacial Plains Cooperative
House of Spirits
John's Machine & Diesel Repair
KLQP-FM "Q-92"
Lewis Family Drug
Lowell Schmidt Construction
Mid-Minnesota Lumber
Minnesota Farms Company
Minnesota Valley Tools
Myers Electric & Infrared
One Stop - Sinclair

Piotter Construction
Prairie Sun Bank
Prairie Sun Insurance Agency
Shible Insurance Agency
Shooter's Bar & Grill
State Bank of Danvers
State Farm/Nate VanderVelde Ins.
Subway
Tosel's Concrete
Tubbs of Soft Water, Inc.
Veterans of Foreign War Post 4955
Wojtalewicz Law Firm, Ltd.
Zion Lutheran Church
Zniewski Funeral Home
- Vaala Chapel