



Katie Boettger



Christa Bouwman



Jon Buysse



Emily Coequyt



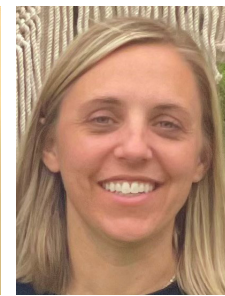
Martin Hennen



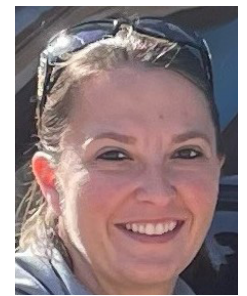
Lacy Richards



Tom Skorczewski



Abby Thostenson



Jeri Whortenbury

9 candidates for school board

By Scott Thoma

scott@thomabooks.com

Nine candidates are vying for four open spots on the Minneota School Board when the public votes on Tuesday, Nov. 8.

Dawn Van Keulen and Jeff Buysse, longtime school board members, have each decided not to run for re-election,

while two current school board members, Abby Thostenson and Tom Skorczewski, are each running for another term.

The Mascot contacted each of the nine candidates, six women and three men, to give voters a little background and perspective on each one.

Besides Thostenson and Skorczewski, the other seven candidates running this year



are Katie Boettger, Christa Bouwman, Jon Buysse, Emily Coequyt, Martin Hennen, Lacy Richards, and Jeri Whortenbury.

Only three of the six candidates grew up in Minneota, but all felt a need to support their

local school district by running.

The four candidates voted in on Tuesday will sit on the school board with current members Terri Myhre, Carmen Panka and Ryan Runia.

Each of the candidates had varying ideas about why they

decided to run, why they feel they are qualified to sit on the board, the top needs of the school district, the importance of the school budget, their ideas on keeping the school safe, and their opinion on livestreaming the board meetings in order for those who are unable to attend a meeting to view them.

Running for school board can be a challenging and excit-

ing experience as it allows an opportunity to contribute and improve your school district and community. Contributing your ideas while collaborating as a team with other school board members and administrators is vital to accomplish goals that can benefit students and faculty members.

Election Continued on Page 10



Trunk or Treat

The fifth annual Trunk or Treat hosted by St. Edward's in Minneota drew nearly 300 Trick or Treaters on a warm fall day on Saturday. Top photo: Janet Differding and Rhonda Buysse pass out treats from the back of their vehicle. Mascot photo by Scott Thoma

Photo right: Dodie Derynck, who operates Cakes and Bakes out of her home, gave away decorated cookies, cakes, homemade caramel corn and more. The large ghost cake was among items she gave for prize drawings. Photo far right: Bryson Javers was dressed as a cowboy riding a bull in a rodeo. Mascot photos by Scott Thoma

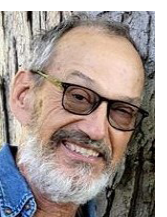


HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Swedzinski challenged by VanOverbeke in 15A

By Scott Thoma

scott@thomabooks.com



Incumbent Chris Swedzinski (R-Ghent) is being challenged by Minneota native Keith VanOverbeke (D-Marshall) in the general election for Minnesota House of Representatives in District 15A.

Swedzinski has been a state representative since 2010. for District 16, which will be changed to 15A in January.

Swedzinski, a Minneota High School graduate, currently farms between Taunton and Porter and also owns a small welding business near Ghent where he lives with his wife, Jessica, and their five children.

He received a B.S. in both History and Political Science

Swedzinski VanOverbeke

from MSU, Mankato.

"I am running for re-election because our rural economy is in a fragile recovery after our state was shut down in response to COVID-19, and we need leaders with a common sense, conservative approach to state government in order to develop a strong private sector," he said on his website.

House Continued on Page 9

Highway 68 to reopen Nov. 4

The Highway 68 Minneota-to-Marshall project will be completed and the road reopened by the end of the day on Friday, Nov. 4. Travelers may notice detour signage along the roadside until it is removed next week; however, the roadway will be open once the barricades are pulled to the side. Until then, drivers must continue to use the posted detour route for everyone's safety while work crews complete cleanup and punch list items.

The project included improvements to approximately 11 miles of Highway 68 from North Grant Street in Minneota to the Redwood River in Marshall, including shoulder widening and culvert replacements. Four feet of gravel were added to each side of the roadway. Drainage repairs near Porter were also included in the project.

Canby/Minneota girls qualify for state cross country meet

By Scott Thoma

scott@thomabooks.com

The old adage "Always the bridesmaid, never the bride" can no longer be used with the Canby/Minneota girls' cross country team after capturing the Section 3A title Thursday in Luverne.

The C/M girls will compete at state as a team on Nov. 7 at St. Olaf College in Northfield, as will Zach Ourada of C/M in the boys' race.

Following the awards ceremony, the team members placed a makeshift veil over coach Allyson Pesek as a way of telling her they had finally made her the bride.

With the top two teams in each section of the state qualifying for the state meet each year, Canby/Minneota had finished third each of the

past three seasons (2019, 2020 and 2021) before leaving no doubt this year with a second-place finish.

"The team humor was 'always a bridesmaid, never a bride' because we were so close," said Pesek. "Well, yesterday I became a bride."

Murray County Central took the girls' team title with 58 points, while Canby/Minneota amassed 67 points for second place. Luverne finished third with 74.

Braelyn Merritt finished in fifth place for C/M, with Claire Stoks placing seventh, Jordyn Jostock 11th, Mya Pesek 14th, and Nohemi Diaz 30th. Alternates Hannah Vlamincik and Charlotte Brungsvig were 36th and 37th, respectively.

State Continued on Page 3



The Canby/Minneota girls earned a trip to the state meet after finishing second on Thursday in Luverne. The team presented coach Allyson Pesek with a bridal veil as she jokingly overcame the "always a bridesmaid, never a bride" label. Left to right: Lillie Wollum, Jordyn Jostock, Hannah Fadness, Hannah Vlamincik, Braelyn Merritt, Claire Stoks, Coach Pesek, Mya Pesek, Charlotte Brungsvig, Nohemi Diaz. Contributed photo

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Veterans Day program Monday, Nov. 7 at Minneota Public Schools

The annual Veterans Day program at Minneota Public Schools will be held at 11 a.m. on Monday, Nov. 7 in the Viking Gym.

The public is invited to attend and support out veterans.



Minneota Memory

Several decorated vehicles helped celebrate the Fourth of July in Minneota by riding in the parade in this 1910 photo.

From the Mascot Files

100, 75, 50 and 25 Years Ago

100 Years Ago (Nov. 3, 1922)

Library here seeking donations of books

The Minneota library board will go out next week to solicit books for the library. Many valuable books have already been donated and made good use of by the patrons of the library. More books are needed and the library board has decided that the best way to get books is to appeal to those who are making use of the library.

Miss Cone to take high school chorus

Francis Cone, a new teacher here is to have charge of the high school chorus, it was announced. This will give Superintendent Halvorson more time and he plans to reorganize the high school orchestra in the near future.

Sundean to give lecture on Darwinism

A future attraction already being discussed is the coming of John L. Sundean to Minneota on Friday, Nov. 24. Mr. Sundean will deliver his lecture on "Darwinism" and receipts will go to the high school athletic association.

75 Years Ago (Nov. 7, 1947)

First snowfall hits Minneota Nov. 6

A blanket of very wet snow covered this community on the morning of Thursday, Nov. 6, the first snowfall of the season

and weather predictions were that more snow is expected to fall over the southern part of the state on Friday. Thursday morning's snow came on the heels of cloudy, rainy weather which has gripped this community for more than a week.

Novel advertising stunt on Saturday

Economy Auto Accessories will stage a novel advertising stunt on Saturday afternoon of this week, when a plant piloted by store manager Frank Janssen will fly over Minneota and distribute leaflets advertising Philco radios. To make the event more interesting for the public, \$5 bills and \$1 bills will be attached to some of the leaflets that are to be dropped. Mr. Janssen plans on dropping leaflets over the town about 3 p.m.

Dogs kill sheep valued at \$250

Seven head of purebred Southdown sheep, valued at around \$250, belonging to Kermit Skaar have been killed by dogs during the past two weeks, he informed the Mascot. About a month ago, six head of sheep were killed on the Nick Polejewski farm. It is thought that the same dogs killed the sheep at both places. Skaar said the dog, or dogs, killed one sheep on a farm about two weeks ago and then last Thursday night returned again and destroyed six more animals.

Dirks elected president of Farmers State Bank

Harry N. Dirks has been elected president of the Farmers and Merchants State Bank,

succeeding A.E. DeSutter, who resigned because of health considerations, the board of directors announced this week. Dirks, who joined the bank's official staff in September, served as executive vice president of the institution before his election for the presidency.

50 Years Ago (Nov. 2, 1972)

Interest in election light in Minneota

It may be that local people are "fed up" right now with candidates campaigning or that they just plain don't care, but those who have followed politics here for some years say there is little interest being displayed in next Tuesday's election in the Minneota community. It is predicted that voters will turn out in large numbers when the actual balloting is held with the total number of ballots used increased with younger voters going to the polls.

Pranksters do little damage on Halloween

There were no reports of mischievous pranks by Halloweeners Tuesday evening other than soaped windows in the downtown district and some toilet paper strung about lawns and trees of residences in Minneota. A quick survey Wednesday shows that there were fewer Trick or Treaters than in past years.

Vikings rally to tie Tyler, 14-14

A second-half comeback enabled the Minneota Vikings to

gain a 14-14 tie with Tyler as the two teams finished their 1972 football seasons at Minneota on Friday night. The Danes led 14-0 at halftime before Minneota rallied in the second half. Brian Boe threw a 25-yard touchdown pass to Randy Fox in the third quarter and Ken Hoffman ran for the two-point conversion. Boe then connected with Randy Obe on a touchdown pass with 50 seconds left in the game. The conversion try failed.

25 Years Ago (Nov. 5, 1997)

Ice and snow arrive, more on the way

Rain turning to ice, and then snow, arrived to start the month of November with winter scenery. Forecasters predict more snow showers are likely for mid-week with temperatures below normal for this time of the year. A slight warming is expected, but conditions out west remain unstable and those weather fronts are moving in our direction.

Vikings ousted in sub-section volleyball

Redwood Valley completely took Minneota out of its game on Saturday night in the Sub-section 11A championship at Southwest State University in Marshall. The Cardinals swept the Vikings 15-4, 15-10, 15-9. Minneota had defeated Redwood Valley earlier this season. Chrissi Boulton had nine kills and Brittany Dalager eight for the Vikings, who finished the season with a 22-5 record.

Outside Looking In



Goodbye Betsy

Every day someone loses a loved one, a pet or a friend and feel the hurt deep within themselves. But a vehicle?

Old Betsy, who many people in Minneota have ribbed me about for hanging onto her for so long, finally breathed her last breath of gas last week.

Betsy was my 2001 Chevy Blazer that my father had purchased new from Amdahl Motors in Pipestone. When my father passed away in 2005, the vehicle had only 45,000 miles on it.

Because my father was more like a best friend to me than a father, I sold the vehicle I owned previously and replaced it with Betsy, as he had named it.

Even up to the day Betsy called it quits, each time I was about to open the door to get into the vehicle, I looked at the two "LT" letters attached near the driver's door that was the model of this particular Blazer. The "LT" stood for Luxury Touring. Ironically, those two letters were also the initials of my father, Lawrence Thoma, which also made it difficult for me to replace Betsy with a new vehicle.

Betsy had a lot of minor aches and pains. The driver's window didn't work, there was a big rusted hole below the driver's door, and it rode down the road like a lumber wagon. But I never had a major repair on the vehicle over the 17 years that I drove it despite the odometer reading 325,600 miles.

The day that old Betsy died, I was traveling from my home in Willmar to Benson to drop something off last Wednesday. As I approached Kerkhoven, which is halfway between Willmar and Benson, Betsy stalled and I coasted her into town. It finally came to a stop in front of Nolan Baker Ford, a small dealership in a small town.

I have known the mechanic there for many years and went inside to see if he could repair it so I could at least make it back to Willmar. But he assured me that Betsy needed to be put down instead of investing a lot of money into keeping it running for a few more miles.

It so happened that this dealership had a vehicle I really liked at a price that I liked even better. The driver's window works, there is no rust and it rides as smooth as silk; all things I'm still getting used to.

I don't miss Betsy as a vehicle, but I miss what she stood for. It was as if I was saying goodbye to my father all over again.

Bethel Thanksgiving

Minneota is one of the most generous and supportive towns I've ever seen. And one of the most kind and generous things I've come across is Bethel Fellowship's annual Thanksgiving dinner.

Pastor Tom Nomeland called to let me know that his church will again be serving the dinner on Thanksgiving Day, Nov. 24.

The free family-style sit-down dinner is open to the public and is prepared and served by members of Bethel Fellowship Church. Serving begins at noon.

The meal will consist of turkey, ham, mashed potatoes and gravy, corn, squash, stuffing, cranberries, bread, pie and ice cream, and beverages.

Konold's Cardinals

The Willmar Cardinals, coached by Minneota native Jon Konold, fell to Marshall 24-13 on Saturday night in the Section 2AAAA semifinals in Marshall.

Willmar, which finished the season 6-4, was seeded No. 3 and defeated Faribault 28-12 in the quarterfinals. Marshall (9-0), seeded No. 2, received a first-round bye.

It was just the second time all season that Marshall allowed double-digit points in a game. The Tigers came in against Willmar allowing only 4.4 points per game this season and have posted four shutouts.

Marshall will face top-seeded Hutchinson Friday in the championship in Hutchinson.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

To the Editor:

Did any of you get a chance to see the debate at Farm Fest between Walz and Jensen? At this event Walz got smoked by Dr. Scott. That is why Walz was so afraid to have a minimal amount of face-to-face debates.

Next question: Were you able to see the debate between Walz and Jensen on September 19? Most likely not because Walz wanted to have it broadcasted away from the Metro with no audience present. Once again, Jensen smoked Walz by bringing up all the failings when Minneapolis burned in the summer of 2020, the \$250 million dollar food fraud, the way he locked down the state during Covid, his flip-flopping on support for the ethanol industry, and his plan to have the state flooded with electric vehicles.

On Sunday, Oct. 23, a debate between the candidates for Attorney General, Secretary of State and Governor was planned. Guess who did not attend? Our "leader", Gov. Walz. It was his loss because Dr. Jensen smoked him again.

Walz cannot seem to rid himself of the "California Model" to have us fall in line with the Green Movement drivél. Therefore, on election day and those who plan to use early voting, cast your ballot for the Jensen-Birk ticket. While you are at it, cast your ballots for Schultz and Wilson.

Dan Markell
Marshall, MN



The Mascot

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FOOTBALL

Vikings oust top-seed BOLD, 21-0

By Scott Thoma
scott@thomabookscom

Minneota suffocated BOLD's high-powered offense, limiting the Warriors to just 140 total yards in a 21-0 whitewash in the Section 5A semifinals Saturday in Olivia.

On a mild late October day in which the mercury climbed to the mid-60s, Minneota (8-2) advanced to the section championship against neighboring Lakeview at 2 p.m. Friday at Southwest Minnesota State University. Lakeview topped Dawson-Boyd 38-32 in the other 5A semifinal game on Saturday.

This will be a revenge game of sorts for Minneota, which lost to Lakeview 30-13 on Sept. 22 in Cottonwood.

The Vikings, seeded No. 4, overcame eight penalties on an otherwise flawless showing against the top-seeded Warriors.

"We knew we needed to slow down their running game because that have always been a very good run-oriented team," said coach Chad Johnston. "We needed solid up-front play which is crucial to win the battle in the trenches."

BOLD was held to a season-low 39 yards on the ground by the Vikings.

The Vikings amassed 291 yards of total offense on a day in which the brisk wind either hindered or hampered passing, kicking and punting depending on the side of the field teams were on.

"Both teams went in with the same philosophy of grinding it out against the wind," said Johnston. "We wanted to try and use the wind to our advantage and not have to rely on passing or punting into it. The key part was we weathered the storm and didn't give up any points in the first quarter after we had to punt into the wind and gave them good field position."

After a scoreless first quarter, the Vikings got on the board in the second quarter following an 11-play, 84-yard drive capped by a one-yard touchdown run by Zack Fier. During the drive, Isaac Pohlen connected with Fier on a 37-yard pass play and hit Max Rost for 26 yards on another. The extra point kick was blocked, leaving Minneota with a 6-0 lead, which is how the first half ended.

BOLD had difficulty running the ball all day, averaging only two yards per carry. The Warriors then went to the air in an attempt to move the ball, although that route was just as hard. Owen Flann completed just 8 of 27 aerials for 101 yards.

Minneota scored twice more in the third quarter.

On their first possession of the second half, the Vikings marched 49 yards on 10 plays despite being flagged for three penalties in the drive. Facing first-and-goal from the 16, Pohlen tossed an out-let pass to Fier, who scampered untouched into the left side of the end zone. Max Rost ran in the two-point conversion to make it 14-0.

After holding BOLD to a three-and-out on the ensuing possession, a short punt into the wind gave Minneota excellent field position at the BOLD 32. Six plays later, Pohlen scored on a one-yard sneak and Peyton Gillund booted the conversion to cap the scoring.

The Warriors then put together a 67-yard drive to the Minneota 13 before turning the ball over on downs.

When kicking off with the wind to his back, the strong-legged Gillund boomed kickoff off well into the end zone, including on that bounced off the right goal post.

Fier ran for 84 yards in 17 carries to lead the Vikings' ground game. Ryan Meagher rushed for 33 yards, and Anthony Rybinski and Lucas Rybinski gained 26 yards each.

Pohlen completed 7 of 9 passes for 110 yards. Fier had two catches for 53 yards, Rost two for 35 and Gillund three for 22.

Parker Bradley had six tackles, Hudson Scholten five, and Anthony Rybinski, Alex DePestel and Eli Gruenes four apiece.



Vikings' quarterback Isaac Pohlen (12) and Anthony Rybinski (22) celebrate after Zack Fier (32) scores a touchdown against BOLD in the Section 5A semifinals Saturday in Olivia. Mascot photo by Brian Jeremiason

Minneota 21, BOLD 0

BOLD.....	0	0	0	0	-	0
Minneota.....	0	6	15	0	-	21

Scoring Plays

Min - Zack Fier 1 run (kick blocked)
Min - Zack Fier 16 pass from Isaac Pohlen (Max Rost run)
Min - Pohlen 1 run (Peyton Gillund kick)

Minneota Offensive Statistics

Total yards: Minneota 291, BOLD 140 Passing yards: Minneota 110, BOLD 101 ... Rushing yards: Minneota 181, BOLD 39 ... First Downs: Minneota 14, BOLD 7 ... Turnovers: Minneota 0, BOLD 0 Penalties: Minneota 8-55, BOLD 2-5.

Minneota Individuals

Passing (com-att-yds-td-int): Isaac Pohlen 7-9-110-0-0

Rushing (att-yds): Zack Fier 17-84, Ryan Meagher 6-33, Anthony Rybinski 8-26, Lucas Rybinski 5-26, Isaac Pohlen 9-11, Max Rost 1-1

Receiving: Zack Fier 2-53, Max Rost 2-35, Peyton Gillund 3-22

Minneota Defensive Statistics

Tackles (solo-assist-total): Parker Bradley 3-3-6, Hudson Scholten 4-1-5, Anthony Rybinski 1-3-4, Alex DePestel 1-3-4, Eli Gruenes 1-3-4, Destin Fier 2-1-3, Zack Fier 1-2-3, Max Rot 2-0-2, Joe Verschelde 0-1-1, Sawyer DeSmet 0-1-1

Tackles for Loss: Hudson Scholten 1, Destin Fier 1, Anthony Rybinski 1

Punting (no-avg.): Peyton Gillund 3-23.0

SECTION 5A

Quarterfinals Oct. 25

(1) BOLD26, (8) Lac qui Parle Valley 6
(4) Minneota 56, (5) Yellow Medicine East 14
(2) Dawson-Boyd 66, (7) MACCRAY 20
(3) Lakeview 50, (6) Canby 12

Semifinals Saturday

Minneota 21, BOLD 0
Lakeview 38, Dawson-Boyd 32

Final Friday, Nov. 4
at SMSU

Minneota vs. Lakeview, 2 p.m.

State Continued from Page 1

"We had a team meeting after school on Oct. 7," said Pesek. "That day, the girls decided they were going to prove it. Prove it they did."

On the boys' side, Ourada finished third and advanced to the state meet.

"We are so proud of Zach," said Pesek. "He ran his best race yet."

Teammates Blake Giese was 18th and Kolton Duis finished 20th.

"Kolton has been one of our leaders all season," said Pesek. "He's been sick all week and fatigue took over with about 800 meters left. He walked to the finish line as he had nothing left."

Luverne won the boys' section title with Redwood Valley second. Those two teams advanced to the state meet. Canby/Minneota placed fourth out of 18 teams.

"I am proud of every runner," said coach Pesek. "I'm proud of our alternates who are ready when

needed and cheering them on to the finish. I'm proud of our managers for keeping it all together. I'm proud of our teammates who come to watch. I'm proud of our parents for their constant support. Proud of our fans who know this sport is like no other. We are proud to be the coaches of Canby/Minneota cross country."

GIRLS TEAM SCORES

(1) Murray County Central 58 (2) Canby/Minneota 67 (3) Luverne 74 (4) Redwood Valley 110 (5) Lac qui Parle Valley/Dawson-Boyd 147 (6) Mountain Lake Area/Comfrey 199 (7) Windom Area 212 (8) Adrian/Ellsworth 230 (9) Springfield/Cedar Mountain 246 (10) Central Minnesota Christian 249 (11) Pipestone Area 268 (12) Jackson County Central 268 (13) Wabasso 389 (14) Russell-Tyler-Ruthton 393 (15) Yellow Medicine East 397 (16) Lakeview 410 (17) Southwest Minnesota Christian/Ellsworth 443 (18) Montevideo 539

GIRLS TOP 20

(1) Amanda Overgaauw, MCC, 17:34.74 (2) Ashley Overgaauw, MCC, 18:28.46 (3) Jenna DeBates, Luv, 18:30.10 (4) Kaylee Walklin, Win, 18:56.10 (5)

Braelyn Merritt, CM, 19:27.37 (6) Addie Thomas, RV, 19:43.41 (7) Claire Stoks, CM, 19:48.71 (8) Ella Schmuck, Luv, 19:52.06 (9) Katie Thram, Spr, 19:47.45 (10) Madalyn Munsell, RV, 20:02.49 (11) Jordyn Jostock, CM, 20:04.05 (12) Chloe Gloege, LQPV, 20:06.10 (13) Brylei Schreier, MCC, 20:12.26 (14) Mya Pesek, CM, 20:12.44 (15) Taylor Post, Pipe, 20:18.32 (16) Lola Luze, RV, 20:47.26 (17) Khloe Visker, Luv, 20:56.06 (18) Cora Pauling, JCC, 20:57.52 (19) Grace Ingebretson, Luv, 21:00.87 (20) Megan Bakke, MCC, 21:01.64

CANBY/MINNEOTA GIRLS

(5) Merritt (7) Stoks (11) Jostock (14) Pesek (30) No-hemi Diaz 21:36.63 (36) Hannah Vlamincik 21:57.51 (37) Charollette Brunsvig 21:57.78

BOYS TEAM SCORES

(1) Luverne 66 (2) Redwood Valley 82 (3) Windom Area 106 (4) Canby/Minneota 146 (5)Murray County Central 170 (6) Lac qui Parle Valley/Dawson-Boyd 186 (7) Mountain Lake Area 197 (8) Jackson County Central 207 (9) Montevideo 220 (10) Springfield/Cedar Mountain 264 (11) Lakeview 283 (12) Pipestone Area 285 (13) BOLD/Bufalo Lake-Hector 341 (14)

Adrian/Ellsworth 349 (15) Heron Lake-Okabena 406 (16) Southwest Minnesota Christian/Ellsworth 419 (17) Wabasso 440 (18) Russell-Tyler-Ruthton 532

BOYS TOP 20

(1) Will Ahrens, RV, 16:00.22 (2) Owen Janiszeski, Luv, 16:05.29 (3) Zach Ourada, CM, 16:35.17 (4) Kilen Cilek, RV, 16:36.20 (5) Kody Wassman, MLA, 16:36.94 (6) Evan Baumgardner, MCC, 16:37.08 (7) Ryan Fick, Luv, 16:38.54 (8) Caden Strasser, Pipe, 16:47.66 (9) Camden Janiszeski, Luv, 16:53.32 (10) Evan Paplow, JCC, 16:53.73 (11) Tim Salentiny, HLO, 16:55.19 (12) Thomas Green, Win, 17:01.01 (13) Gavin Carl, LQPV, 17:04.90 (14) Ethan Schwankl, Lake, 17:06.19 (15) Aaden Nauman, Win, 17:07.45 (16) Charlie Smith, Win, 17:10.31 (17) Brady Andrews, Mon, 17:18.61 (18) Blake Giese, CM, 17:20.80 (19) Kolton Duis, CM, 17:21.35 (20) Camden Cilek, Rv, 17:21.57

CANBY/MINNEOTA BOYS

(3) Ourada (18) Giese (19) Duis (52) Tallen Merritt 18:31.60 (60) Sam Skorczewski 18:55.15 (61) Hunter Danielson 18:57.56 (82) Logan Myhre 19:59.61

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One More Time: 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. - 50 percent off storewide.

J's Dream: 9 a.m. to noon - 10 percent off sales, snacks

City Hall Bar & Grill: 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. - BOGO smash burgers/fries, \$10

Minneota Library: 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. - silent auction

Bethel Fellowship Church - 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Santa will arrive via fire truck for pictures from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Vendors include: 3 Hearts Vintage, Tastefully Simple, Crochet Away Jane, St. Ed's Bake Sale, Cakes and Bakes, Usborne, Scentsy, Martha & Mary, Ebroidery/Quilting/Sewing, Jean's Sweets & Treats, Jewelz Jewelry, Midwest Concessions, Big Dipper Honey, Pottery & Homemade Cards

Sloppy Joe meal from 11 a.m.-1 p.m., proceeds to Musical Plays program

SILENT AUCTION BENEFITS CHRISTMAS ANGELS PROGRAM

Performers of the Week

Girls Cross Country

The Canby-Minneota girls cross country team captured the Section 3A title last Friday in Luverne and will compete at state Saturday in Northfield.

301 E. 1st St.

Minneota

507-872-6182

MINNESOTA

BOYS & GIRLS

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VOLLEYBALL

Vikings advance to 3A Final Four

Sweep RCW, Wabasso; to face MACCRAY in Sub-section North championship Nov. 3

By Scott Thoma
scott@thomabooks.com

After climbing two runs of the Section 3A ladder with relative ease, Minneota has two more rungs to go to repeat as section champions and advance to the state tournament.

The Vikings swept Renville County West last Friday at home, and then disposed of Wabasso in three sets 25-9, 25-19, 25-11 on Tuesday night in Sub-section 3A-North at Southwest Minnesota State University in Marshall.

Minneota now faces MACCRAY in the sub-section championship at 7:30 p.m. Thursday at SMSU. The winner meets the South half champion between Russell-Tyler-Ruthton and Tracy-Milroy-Balaton at 5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 5 at SMSU.

Ella Johnson led the Vikings with 10 kills and three ace blocks. Ireland Stassen finished with 24 assists, seven kills, three ace blocks and nine digs. Elivia Faris also had seven kills, Megan Krog five, Emma Bottelberghe 3 and Kenadi Arndt two.

Lyzah Sussner chalked up 21 digs. Grace Hennen had 11 and Abby Rolbiecki eight. Dakota Hennen had two of the Vikings' four ace serves.

Olivia Olson led the Rabbits with nine kills. Natasha Dubbler had seven kills.

The Vikings broke away from a 4-4 tie in the first set, going on a 10-1 run for a 14-5 lead. The closed out the set on a kill by Krog and an ace block by Stassen.

In set two, a kill from Faris broke a 9-9 deadlock and sparked Minneota to an 11-1 run that included three kills by Johnson, one each from Faris and Bottelberghe, and an ace block from Arndt. A kill by Stassen clinched the set.

The Vikings also dominated the third set. Leading 23-11, Arndt and Stassen combined for a stuff block and the match ended on a Wabasso hitting error.

Minneota 3, Wabasso 0			
Wabasso.....	9	19	11
Minneota.....	25	25	25

MINNEOTA STATISTICS
Serving (aces): Dakota Hennen 2, Lyzah Sussner 1, Abby Rolbiecki 1

Setting (assists): Ireland Stassen 24, Nevaeh Hennen 10

Kills: Ella Johnson 10, Ireland Stassen 7, Elivia Faris 7, Megan Krog 5, Emma Bottelberghe 3, Kenadi Arndt 2

Blocks (aces): Ireland Stassen 3, Ella Johnson 3, Megan Krog 2, Kenadi Arndt 2

Digs: Lyzah Sussner 21, Grace Hennen 11, Ireland Stassen 9, Abby Rolbiecki 8, Ella Johnson 4, Dakota Hennen 3

Section 3A-North Quarterfinals Oct. 28 Minneota 3, RCW 0

The Vikings opened their sub-section title defense with a sweep over the Blackjacks that took only 51 minutes.

Minneota notched 13 ace serves, including five from Ireland Stassen, three from Dakota Hennen, two each from Lyzah Sussner and Ella Johnson, and one from Grace Hennen.

Dawson-Boyd led 6-5 in the opening set before a kill by Kenadi Arndt made it 6-6. That led to the Vikings going on a 19-5 run to capture the opening set win. The final two points of the set came via consecutive ace served by Johnson.

Trailing 1-0 in set two, the Vikings scored the next eight points that included three kills by Johnson and two by Emma Bottelberge.

The Vikings dominated the third set, bolting to a 14-2 lead. Leading 22-5, Minneota closed out the match with Elivia Faris serving the final three points. A kill by Johnson accounted for match point.

Johnson finished with nine kills, while Bottelberghe and Stassen had six apiece, Megan Krog five, Arndt three and Faris two.

Stassen also had 22 assists and Nevaeh Henn added eight assists. Lyzah Sussner has 12 digs and Grace Hennen 11. Krog and Stassen had



Ella Johnson of Minneota digs up an attack against Renville County West during a Sub-Section 3A-North quarterfinal match last Thursday in Minneota. *Mascot photo by Brian Jeremiason*

Minneota 3, RCW 0			
RCW.....	11	13	5
Minneota.....	25	25	25

MINNEOTA STATISTICS
Serving (aces): Ireland Stassen 5, Dakota Hennen 3, Lyzah Sussner 2, Ella Johnson 2, Grace Hennen 1

Setting (assists): Ireland Stassen 22, Nevaeh Hennen 8

Kills: Ella Johnson 9, Emma Bottelberghe 6, Ireland Stassen 6, Megan Krog 5, Kenadi Arndt 3, Elivia Faris 2

Blocks (aces): Megan Krog 2, Ireland Stassen 2, Elivia Faris 1, Kenadi Arndt 1

Digs: Lyzah Sussner 12, Grace Hennen 11, Abby Rolbiecki 6, Ireland Stassen 5, Ella Johnson 2, Emma Bottelberghe 2

SECTION 3A-NORTH Results Oct. 25 Dawson-Boyd 3, CMCS 1 YME 3, Lakeview 2

Quarterfinal results Oct. 28
Minneota 3, Dawson-Boyd 0
Wabasso 3, RCW 1
MACCRAY 3, YME 1
Canby 3, LQPV 1

Semifinals Tuesday, Nov. 1 at SMSU
Minneota 3, Wabasso 0
MACCRAY 3, Canby 1

Final Nov. 3 at SMSU
Minneota vs. MACCRAY, 7:30 p.m.

SECTION 3A-SOUTH Results Oct. 25
Edgerton 3, Red Rock Central 0
Murray CC 3, Hills-Beaver Creek 0

Quarterfinal results Oct. 28
RTR 3, Edgerton 0
Southwest Christian 3, Westbrook-WG 0
Tracy-Milroy-Balaton 3, Murray CC 0
Adrian-Ellsworth 3, HL-Okabena/Fulda 2

Semifinals Nov. 1 at Worthington
RTR 3, SW Christian 0
TMB 3, Adrian-Ellsworth 0

Final Nov. 3 at SMSU
RTR vs. TMB, 5:30 p.m.

SECTION 3A Championship Nov. 5 at SMSU
North winner vs. South winner, 5 p.m.



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WHAT'S HAPPENING

November

Thursday, Nov. 3

10 a.m. - Exercise at Minneota Senior Center
1 p.m. - BINGO at Minneota Senior Center
5:30 p.m. - Volleyball: Sub-Section 3A finals at SMSU

Friday, Nov. 4

12:45 p.m. - "Bien" at Minneota Senior Center
1 p.m. - "500" at Minneota Senior Center
1 p.m. - Quilting at Minneota Senior Center
2 p.m. - Football: Section 3A Championship at SMSU

Saturday, Nov. 5

9 a.m. to 2 p.m. - North Pole Extravaganza, Minneota
Noon - Girls Cross Country: State Meet at St. Olaf College, Northfield
1 p.m. - Boys Cross Country: State Meet at St. Olaf College, Northfield
5 p.m. - Volleyball: Section 3A Championship at SMSU

Sunday, Nov. 6

5-7 p.m. - Swedish Meatball Supper at Hope Lutheran Church. See ad for details.

Monday, Nov. 7

11 a.m. Veterans Day program at Minneota High School
1 p.m. - Mahjong at Minneota Senior Center
7 p.m. - Minneota-Taunton VFW meeting

Tuesday, Nov. 8

Election Day. Don't forget to vote.
10 a.m. - Exercise at Minneota Senior Center
12:45 p.m. - "Bien" at Minneota Senior Center
1 p.m. - "500" at Minneota Senior Center
1 p.m. - Quilting at Minneota Senior Center

Wednesday, Nov. 9

1 p.m. - "Hand, Knee & Foot" at Minneota Senior Center

John
Hennen

1944-2022



Mass of Christian Burial for John Hennen, 78, of Marshall, will be Monday, Oct. 31, 2022, at 11 a.m. at Holy Redeemer Catholic Church in Marshall. A livestream and recording of the service will be available at www.holy-redeemer.com. Visitation will be Sunday from 4-7 p.m., with a prayer service at 7 p.m., at the Horvath Remembrance Center in Marshall. Visitation will continue one hour prior to the service at the church. Interment will follow at St. Eloi

Catholic Cemetery in Ghent.

John Arnold Hennen was born Sept. 26, 1944, in Marshall, the son of Arnold H. and Emma (Loyson) Hennen. He attended St. Eloi Parochial in Ghent and Central Catholic High School in Marshall. On May 25, 1968, John married Mary Joan Dero at St. Edward Catholic Church in Minneota, with his brother Father Joe Hennen officiating the wedding. This union was blessed with three children. John and

heir family farm seven miles south of Minneota until they moved to Marshall in July of 2006. They enjoyed gathering with family and friends at their lake home on Smith Lake near Alexandria. The couple also took many trips over the years throughout North and Central America.

John was a witty, fun-loving person with a great sense of humor. He was a fan of all Minnesota sports, especially the Twins and Vikings. He was a kind and gentle soul who loved spending time with his grandchildren. In his free time, John enjoyed playing cards, bowling, and fishing. He also made sure to take time every "Holy Wednesday" for golf. In his retirement years, he also liked working in the spring and fall for Lyon County Farm Service, delivering product to local farmers.

John passed away on Thursday, Oct. 27, 2022, at the Av-era Morningside Heights Care Center in Marshall, after a 10-year battle with Progressive Supranuclear Palsy.

He is survived by his wife of 54 years, Mary Joan of Marshall; children Brenda (Randy) Anderson of Brandon, SD, Jodi (Lee) Painschab of Buffalo, and Chad (Amy) Hennen of Brandon, SD; grandchildren Ashlin (Nick) Wiebe and Kaeli (Tony) Meyerink, Emma, Sophie, and Aiden Painschab, and Garrett, Grant, and Lauren Hennen; siblings Ernie Hennen, Dan (Judy) Hennen, Father Joe Hennen, Jeannie (Ken) Saffert, and Bob (Cara) Hennen; as well as many nieces, nephews, relatives, and friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents and sister-in-law Jane Hennen.

Norma
Serumgard

1933-2022



Norma Marilyn Serumgard, 89, of Golden Valley, and longtime resident of Robbinsdale, passed away Oct. 24, 2022. Norma is now in the presence of Jesus and reunited with many friends and loved ones who preceded her.

Norma was born to Nikolai and Mabel Enga, the sixth of nine children. She was raised on a picturesque farm that straddled a tributary of the Yellow Medicine River, nestled in the rich, rolling hills near Minneota, MN. Over the years she shared many stories of her adventures and challenges of growing up in this beautiful and supportive farming community.

Norma survived five episodes of cancer with grace, showing a positive outlook and indomitable spirit through her health challenges and recoveries. She was always grateful for the care and support she received from friends, family and medical staff. She looked forward to each new day and couldn't wait to share what she experienced with her family, neighbors, and friends.

Norma was a consummate hostess, welcoming family and friends, and offering conversation as well as a wonderful treat or meal. Every holiday was her favorite and she couldn't wait to celebrate with her friends and loved ones. Fiercely proud of her Norwegian heritage, she passed down that knowledge, tradition and appreciation to her children and grandchildren. Norma had a strong faith in Christ and was certain that she would be joining her loved ones in eternity.

Norma was preceded in death by her parents and seven siblings. She is survived by her devoted husband of 64 years, Harold; her beloved children, George (Janice) Serumgard of Golden Valley, MN; and JoAnn (Richard) Hirth of Chelsea, Michigan; her dear grandchildren, Andrew (Kennedy) Serumgard, Lauren Hirth (financé Sam Donahue) and Caroline Hirth; sister Joan Mosher; and many nieces, nephews and cousins.

A Celebration of Life Service will be on Friday, Nov. 4, 2022, at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 12th and Nicollet in Minneapolis. Viewing at 10 a.m. and service at 11 a.m.

Elaine
Hennen

1940-2022



Mass of Christian Burial for Elaine Hennen, 82, of Marshall, will be Friday, Nov. 4, 2022, at 10 a.m. at St. Eloi Catholic Church in Ghent. Visitation will be Thursday from 4-7 p.m., with a rosary at 4 p.m. and a prayer service at 7 p.m., at the Horvath Remembrance Center in Marshall. Visitation will continue one hour prior to the service at the church. Interment will follow at St. Eloi Catholic Cemetery in Ghent.

Elaine Mary Hennen (Doom) was born on Feb. 9, 1940, to Emil and Marie Doom at home on the farm in Lake Marshall township. She grew up on the farm with her four siblings and attended Catholic grade school in Marshall. She graduated from Central High School in 1957, attended Presentation School of Nursing in Sioux Falls, SD following the path of her older sisters. She graduated with a Diploma in Nursing in 1960. She married Conrad Hennen on Nov. 26, 1960, at Holy Redeemer Catholic Church. Together, they farmed northeast of Ghent and were life-long members of St. Eloi Church. In 2001, they retired and moved to Marshall. She enjoyed being a farm wife and mother, sewing, embroidery, antiquing, and watching birds. In addition, she volunteered at church and was a founding member of Birthright in the area in 1977.

Elaine died on Sunday, Oct. 30, 2022, at her home at Boulder Estates Assisted Living in Marshall.

She is survived by her children: son Doug (Cindy) Hennen of Cottonwood, and child Elizabeth; son Brad (Barb) Hennen of Ghent, and their children Robert (Caroline), Danny, Audrey (Mark), Grant (Emilee), Susie (Matt), Beth, Thomas, Jacob, and Leo; daughter Julie (Joey) Freyberg of Mankato, and their children Ben (Amber) and Anna; daughter Mary Susan (Timothy) Drake of Isanti, and their children Elias, Claire, Leo, Elena, and Peter; and son Martin (Laura) Hennen of Ghent, and their children Zachary, Kate, Evan, and Elise; seven great-grandchildren; sisters Maurine Goblirsch and Catherine Verkinderen, and many nieces and nephews.

She was preceded in death by her parents, her husband Conrad, brother William Doom, sister Sharon Zender, and brothers-in-law Greg Goblirsch and Joe Verkinderen.

Memorials may be directed to St. Eloi Catholic Church or Sisters of Mary Morning Star or donor's choice.



Ask the Chief
By Minneota
Police Chief Bill Bolt

Highway open

Highway 68 is open again and people are very happy. This is great news but it also means that we need to be extra careful as we drive. People will be so excited to use Hwy 68 again that I anticipate above-average speeds and unsafe passing. A few things you can do to increase safety:

1. Slow down. The posted speed limit is the maximum speed you can drive. Going a few MPH under the limit will give you extra time to stop in an emergency.
2. Stay off of your phone, even with Blue Tooth. If you know people will be driving too fast give 100% of your attention to the road.
3. Turn on your headlights at all times. This gives people

a better chance of seeing you at a distance. Remember daytime running lights don't turn on your tail lights.

4. Increase the distance between yourself and the car in front of you. The more space you have the greater chance you have of stopping and not rear-ending someone.

5. Avoid passing and watch for those that are passing. Many people are killed every year when they try to pass other vehicles. It isn't worth it.

6. Deer will be moving and you don't want to hit one of them.

7. Farmers are still moving crops and equipment.

8. Watch for road workers on the shoulder who will be picking up signs and doing the finished work. Everyone wants to make it home at the end of the day.

— Minneota Area Community Churches —

Healing Waters Parish

Augustana, Clarkfield; Bergen, Clarkfield;
St. Lucas Lutheran, Cottonwood

Worship Times: Augustana Lutheran Church: Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

Bergen Lutheran Church: Sundays at 8:30 a.m. with Sunday school during church on 2nd & last Sundays of the month.

St. Lucas Lutheran Church: Sundays at 10:30 a.m.

Vicar Mort Meyenburg
Church Contact No. 320-841-1085

Yellow Medicine
Lutheran Church

PO Box 119, 101 Main Street, Hanley Falls
www.yellowmedicinelutheran.org

Worship Time: All Sunday services are in-person and also live-streamed at 10:30 a.m. Sundays on Facebook (visit Yellow Medicine Lutheran Church). Please watch the website and Facebook for more information.

Sunday, November 6: Worship at 10:30 a.m.

Church: 507-768-3417
Pastor Steve Quist: (507) 337-0068
Tim Velde, Lay Minister: (507) 828-5343

St. Leo Catholic Church

St. Leo, MN

Mass Times: See Bulletin

Father Ron Huberty
Parochial Vicars: Fr. Michael Doyle and
Fr. Keith Salisbury

Winds of the Prairie Ministry

Bethany Lutheran, Arco and
Bethany-Elim Lutheran, Ivanhoe

Worship Times: Online Worship see Facebook page.

Pastor Jeff Greathouse

Cell #: 330-234-1317
pastorgreathouse@gmail.com
Church Contact No. 507-694-1238
windsministry@gmail.com

Hope Lutheran Church

Minneota

www.hopeminneota.org

Worship Times:
Sunday, November 6: Service at 9:00 a.m., Worship with Communion
Wednesday, November 9: GLOW Supper 5:30

Pastor Allen Campbell

Church Secretary Chris Pesch:

hopelutheran87@gmail.com
Church Contact No. 507-872-6446

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Minneota

Worship Times: Service at 10:30 a.m.

Pastor Allen Campbell
Church Secretary: Chris Pesch
hopelutheran87@gmail.com
Church Contact No. 507-872-6446

Hemnes Lutheran Church

Rural Minneota

Sunday Worship
Minneota Manor Worship, 2:30 p.m., fourth Thursday of the month.
Pastor Ellen Munter

St. Eloi Catholic Church

Ghent, MN

Mass Times:
Thursday, November 3: Noon Mass at Convent
Friday, November 4: Noon Mass at Convent
Saturday, November 5: Noon Mass at Convent
Sunday, November 6: Mass at 10:30 a.m.

Father Todd Peterson

Church Contact No. 507-428-3285

Bethel Fellowship Church

Hwy 68 - Minneota

Ephesians 2:8 - By grace you are saved.

Sunday Worship: 10 a.m.; Sunday School 8:50-9:45 a.m.
Wednesdays: Kids' Zone 6-7:20 p.m.; Prayer and Devotional 7:30 p.m.

Pastor Thomas Nomeland

Contact No. 507-828-1637

St. Edward Catholic Church

Minneota

Mass Times:
Thursday, November 3: Mass at 7:00 a.m.
Friday, November 4: Mass at 7:00 a.m.
Saturday, November 5: Mass at 5:30 p.m.
Sunday, November 6: Mass at 8:30 a.m.
Sunday, Novembr 6: Sunday FIRE at Knights' Hall 9:30 - 10:30

Father Todd Petersen
Church Contact No. 507-872-6346

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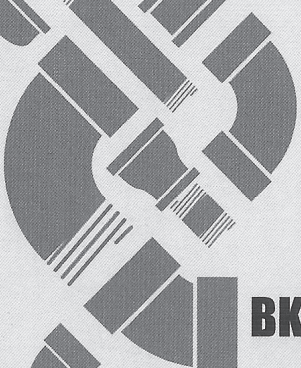
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THE SEARCH IS OVER ...

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Thursday, November 3, 2022

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Lyon County Notice

The Lyon County Auditor/Treasurer's office will be conducting a test of the automatic precinct tabulating equipment (DS200s) that will be used to count the votes cast for all candidates to be voted on at the November 8, 2022 General Election and a test of the Omniballot assistive voting device that will be available as an optional ballot marker to assist voters to vote privately and independently at the November 8th, 2022 General Election.

The test will be held on Friday, November 4, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. in the Commissioner Room at the Lyon County Government Center, 607 West Main Street in Marshall. This test will be open to representatives of the political parties, candidates, the press, and the public.

Aurora Heard

Thank You

A big thank you to all the 10th grade students who raked leaves at my yard last week. Thanks also to Heather Anderson and the teachers, and others, who helped. Awesome job and greatly appreciated. Thanks to Ben Vlaminc for his volunteer help to clean up.

Sincerely,
Pauline Wambeke

For Rent

FOR RENT: Westview Apartments have available to rent a 2 bedroom apartment at 700 N. Jefferson St. Water, sewer, garbage and on-site laundry included. \$525 per month. If interested, call Steve at **507-530-6272** or Kathy at **605-480-1547**.

Bid Notice

REQUEST FOR QUOTES – PROPERTY, LIABILITY, WORKERS COMP & AUTO INSURANCE

The Minneota Public School, District # 414, is accepting quotes for the following insurance coverage effective December 7, 2022 through December 8, 2023; Property, Liability, Workers Comp and Automobile. Detailed information may be obtained from the Superintendent's office.

Quotes are due on or before November 15, 2022, at 3:00 p.m. Quotes are to be firm for 30 days.

The Minneota School Board reserves the right to accept, reject or negotiate modifications of coverage and quotes.

Send quotes to: Scott Monson, Superintendent, Minneota Public School, 504 N. Monroe, PO Box 98, Minneota, MN 56264

For Sale

10 LEGION WOODEN TABLES
GOOD FOR GARAGE SALES. \$20 per table.
Contact: Jim Fink 507-828-6183

Public Notice

RESOLUTION RELATING TO THE ELECTION OF SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS AND CALLING THE SCHOOL DISTRICT GENERAL ELECTION

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Independent School District No. 414 State of Minnesota as follows:

(a) 1. It is necessary for the school district to hold its general election for the purpose of electing four school board members for terms of four (4) years each.

(b) The clerk shall include on the ballot the names of the individuals who file or have filed affidavits of candidacy during the period established for filing said affidavits, as though they had been included by name in this resolution. The clerk shall not include on the ballot the names of individuals who file timely affidavits of withdrawal in the manner specified by law.

2. The general election is hereby called and elected to be held in conjunction with the state general election on Tuesday, the 8th day of November 2022.

3. Pursuant to Minnesota Statutes, Section 205A.11, the precincts and polling places for this general election are those polling places and precincts or parts of precincts located within the boundaries of the school district and which have been established by the cities or towns located in whole or in part within the school district. The voting hours at those polling places shall be the same as for the state general election.

4. The clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause written notice of said general election to be provided to the county auditor of each county in which the school district is located, in whole or in part, at least seventy-four (74) days before the date of said election. The notice shall include the date of said general election and the office or offices to be voted on at said general election. Any notice given prior to the date of the adoption of this resolution is ratified and confirmed in all respects.

The clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause notice of said general election to be posted at the administrative offices of the school district at least ten (10) days before the date of said general election.

The clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause a sample ballot to be posted at the administrative offices of the school district at least four (4) days before the date of said general election and to cause two sample ballots to be posted in each polling place on election day. The sample ballot shall not be printed on the same color paper as the official ballot. The sample ballot for a polling place must reflect the offices, candidates and rotation sequence on the ballots used in that polling place.

The clerk is hereby authorized and directed to cause notice of said general election to be published in the official newspaper of the school district for two (2) consecutive weeks with the last publication being at least one (1) week before the date of said election.

The notice of election so posted and published shall state the offices to be filled set forth in the form of ballot below, and shall include information concerning each established precinct and

polling place.

The clerk is authorized and directed to cause the rules and instructions for use of the optical scan voting system to be posted in each polling place on election day.

5. The clerk is authorized and directed to acquire and distribute such election materials as may be necessary for the proper conduct of this election, and generally to cooperate with election authorities

conducting other elections on that date. The clerk and members of the administration are authorized and directed to take such actions as may be necessary to coordinate this election with those other elections, including entering into agreements or understandings with appropriate election officials regarding preparation and distribution of ballots, election administration and cost sharing.

6. The clerk is further authorized and directed to cause or to cooperate with the proper election officials to cause ballots to be prepared for use at said election in substantially the following form, with such changes in form, color and instructions as may be necessary to accommodate an optical scan voting system.

GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 414 MINNEOTA, MN
NOVEMBER 8, 2022

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS

To vote, completely fill in the ovals(s) next to your choice(s) like this:

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER
VOTE FOR UP TO FOUR

☐ CANDIDATE U

☐ CANDIDATE V

☐ CANDIDATE W

☐ CANDIDATE X

☐ _____
write-in, if any

Optical scan ballots must be printed in black ink on white material, except that marks to be read by the automatic tabulating equipment may be printed in another color ink. The name of the precinct and machine readable identification must be printed on each ballot. Voting instructions must be printed at the top of the ballot on each side that includes ballot information. The instructions must include an illustration of the proper mark to be used to indicate a vote. Lines for initials of at least two election judges must be printed on one side of the ballot so that the judges' initials are visible when the ballots are enclosed in a secrecy sleeve.

7. The name of each candidate for office at this election shall be rotated with the names of the other candidates for the same office in the manner specified in Minnesota law.

8. If the school district will be contracting to print the ballots for this election, the clerk is hereby authorized and directed to prepare instructions to the printer for layout of the ballot. Before a contract in excess of \$1,000 is awarded for printing ballots, the printer shall, if requested by the election official, furnish, in accordance with Minnesota Statutes, Section 204D.04, a sufficient bond, letter of credit, or certified check acceptable to the clerk in an amount not less than \$1,000 conditioned on printing the ballots in conformity with the Minnesota election law and the instructions delivered. The clerk shall set the amount of the bond, letter of credit, or certified check in an amount equal to the value of the purchase.

9. The individuals designated as judges for the state general election shall act as election judges for this election at the various polling places and shall conduct said election in the manner described by law. The election judges shall act as clerks of election, count the ballots cast and submit them to the school board for canvass in the manner provided for other school district elections. The general election must be canvassed between the third and the tenth day following the general election.

10. The School District clerk shall make all Campaign Financial Reports required to be filed with the school district under Minnesota Statutes, Section 211A.02, and received on or after November 15, 2022, available on the school district's website. The clerk must post the report on the school district's website as soon as possible, but no later than thirty (30) days after the date of the receipt of the report. The school district must make a report available on the school district's website for four years from the date the report was posted to the website. The clerk must also provide the Campaign Finance and Public Disclosure Board with a link to the section of the website where reports are made available.

Dated: Oct. 25, 2022

BY ORDER OF THE SCHOOL BOARD

By: Abby Thostenson
School District Clerk

Minneota School Board Minutes

INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT #414 MINNEOTA SCHOOL BOARD MEETING, DAWN VANKEULEN, VICE-CHAIR, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20, 2022 6:30 PM

1. Regular Order of Business
1.1. Call to Order by Vice Chair Dawn Van Keulen at 6:30 p.m.

1.2. Pledge of Allegiance

1.3. Board Members Present: Terri Myhre, Ryan Runia, Dawn Van Keulen, Carmen Panka, Tom Skorczewski, Jeff Buysse

Board Members Absent: Abby Thostenson

Admin Present: Superintendent Scott Monson, Elementary Principal Jennifer Mahan-Deitte, High School Principal Heather Anderson

Guests: Kim Gades, Christa Bouwman, Patty Myrvik, Caryn Hetland, Tara Skorczewski, Ruth Bot

1.4. Acknowledge Visitors.

1.5. Positive Comments by School Board Members: Our student section has been amazing! We would like to extend our sympathy to the Rolbiecki family once more for their loss. Thank you to UFP for allowing some of our student activities to help with the family picnic! Thank you again to the whole custodial staff!

2. Business Agenda

2.1. Motion by Myhre, seconded by Runia to approve the agenda. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

2.2. Motion by Skorczewski, seconded by Panka to approve the minutes from the August 16, 2022 Regular School Board Meeting. MOTION PASSED Buysse Abstained

2.3. Motion by Runia, seconded by Myhre to approve the bills as presented for check #'s 48359 through 48479. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Reports	
Fund 01	\$429,803.26
Fund 02	\$16,145.70
Fund 04	\$14,308.97
Fund 07	\$3,200.00
Total	\$463,457.93

3.1. Athletics/Activities Director by Patty Myrvik: I am very proud of our students and student athletes for their great sportsmanship! Varsity players have been signing thank you cards to the officials to show them how much we appreciate their commitment to the sport! There is a new contract from Avera for our sports medicine that you will be deciding on later tonight. I took several student athletes to the Camden Conference meeting and it was a great experience!

3.2. Enrollment Report by Scott Monson: Minneota has a positive trend upwards.

3.3. Student Activity Account Report by Scott Monson: All accounts have healthy balances and there has been no true movement yet.

3.4. Financial Report by Scott Monson: I am still working with Tara to make sure I understand the whole budget. We will be revising the budget in January. Tara is still currently working on finishing up the audit for FY2022.

3.5. Elementary Principal/Curriculum Coordinator Report by Jen Mahan-Deitte: Teachers that are participating in LETRS or Reading Horizons will be exempt from MRVED. It will be a very beneficial day for teachers to work on those two programs. I am working hard on getting assessments and observations done.

3.6. High School Principal Report by Heather Anderson: I have put together a "Spirit Committee" of students. They meet together and they decide on the dress up theme that night for the game, create cheers

to do that night, and they have taken it upon themselves to make sure everyone is being respectful and showing Viking leadership. Minneota will be welcoming two foreign exchange students to our school!

3.7. Superintendent Report by Scott Monson: I will be attending the MREA at Cragun's. The Back to School workshop was a huge success. I sent out a survey to all staff members and the overall census was it was a great informational time.

4. Consent Agenda Motion by Skorczewski, seconded by Buysse to approve the consent agenda as presented. MOTION PASSED Van Keulen Abstained

4.1. Approval of the following open enrollments:

One 1st Grader from the Canby School District.

One Kindergartener from the Canby School District One 9th Grader from the Canby School District.

One 7th Grader from the Lake Benton School District.

4.2. Approval of an agreement between Minneota Public Schools and United Community Action Head Start for the 2022-23 school year.

4.3. Approval of the agreement between Minneota Public Schools and HELP me.

4.4. Approval of Jackie Skorczewski's resignation effective October 28, 2022 as a part time paraprofessional.

4.5. Approval of the following volunteers: Jessica Swedzinski (Volleyball); Colleen Ludwikowski (Dance); Joseph Chealde and Jeff Van Keulen (Musical)

4.7. Approval of the following advisers: Aubree Cheadle (Musical); Seraphim Surprenant (Assistant Director); John Voit

(Orchestra); Sue Schreier (Vocal); Robyn Condelli (Choreography).

4.8. Approval of Kristi Buntjer as the Junior High Girls Basketball Coach for the 2022-23 school year.

4.9. Approval of Bryce Jeppesen as the Assistant Girls Basketball Coach for the 2022-23 school year.

4.10. Approval of Emily Citterman's Maternity request from December 21, 2022 through February 24, 2023 (returning on February 27, 2023).

4.11. Approval of Brock Citterman as the C-Squad Boys Basketball Coach for the 2022-23 school year.

4.12. Approval of Jessica Laleman as a part time paraprofessional with a start date to be determined, dependent on enrollment, for the 2022-23 school year.

5. New Business

5.1. Personnel

5.2. Business Affairs

5.2.1. Motion by Buysse, seconded by Runia to approve the 2022-23 Elementary Faculty Handbook. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

5.2.2. Motion by Panka, seconded by Myhre to approve the Minneota Public Schools' Return to Learn Plan for the 2022-23 school year. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

5.2.3. Motion by Skorczewski, seconded by Runia to approve the first reading of the following policy: Policy #208. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

5.2.4. Motion by Runia, seconded by Myhre to approve the second and final reading of the following policy: Policy #524. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

5.2.5. Motion by Buysse, seconded by Runia to approve a contract between Minneota Public Schools and Avera Athletic Training for the 2022-23 school year. MO-

TION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

5.2.6. Motion by Panka, seconded by Skorczewski to approve calling for snow removal bids for the 2022-23 school year, due in the district office by October 18, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

5.2.7. Motion by Runia, seconded by Myhre to approve calling for property, liability, auto, and worker's compensation insurance, due in the district office by November 15, 2022 at 3:00 p.m. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

5.2.8. Motion by Skorczewski, seconded by Buysse to approve the 2022 Pay 2023 Levy Limitation and Certification at maximum and set date for Public Discussion on December 20, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in the conference room. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

5.2.9. Motion by Myhre, seconded by Buysse to approve to declare 35 iPad Minis surplus and accept a bid from iPhone Antidote. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

5.2.10. Motion by Skorczewski, seconded by Myhre to approve the Planned Service Agreement from Simplex for the 2022-23 school year. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

6. Meeting & Dates

6.1. Regular School Board Meeting, October 18, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. in the conference room.

7. Adjournment Motion by Runia, seconded by Panka to adjourn the meeting 7:38 p.m. MOTION PASSED UNANIMOUSLY

Dawn VanKeulen
Vice-Chair

SAMPLE BALLOT

Official Ballot

State General Election Ballot
Lyon County, Minnesota
November 8, 2022

Judge _____
Judge _____

Instructions to Voters:

To vote, completely fill in the oval(s) next to your choice(s) like this: ●

Federal Offices	State Offices	County Offices
U.S. Representative District 7 Vote for One ☐ Travis "Bull" Johnson Legal Marijuana Now Republican ☐ Michelle Fischbach Republican ☐ Jill Abahsain Democratic-Farmer-Labor ☐ _____ write-in, if any State Offices State Senator District 15 Vote for One ☐ Gary Dahms Republican ☐ Anita Gaul Democratic-Farmer-Labor ☐ _____ write-in, if any State Representative District 15A Vote for One ☐ Chris Swedzinski Republican ☐ Keith VanOverbeke Democratic-Farmer-Labor ☐ _____ write-in, if any Governor and Lieutenant Governor Vote for One Team ☐ Steve Patterson and Matt Huff Grassroots - Legalize Cannabis ☐ James McCaskel and David Sandbeck Legal Marijuana Now ☐ Scott Jensen and Matt Birk Republican ☐ Tim Walz and Peggy Flanagan Democratic-Farmer-Labor ☐ Hugh McTavish and Mike Winter Independence-Alliance ☐ Gabrielle M. Prosser and Kevin A. Dwire Socialist Workers ☐ _____ write-in, if any Secretary of State Vote for One ☐ Kim Crockett Republican ☐ Steve Simon Democratic-Farmer-Labor ☐ _____ write-in, if any	State Auditor Vote for One ☐ Will Finn Grassroots - Legalize Cannabis ☐ Tim Davis Legal Marijuana Now ☐ Ryan Wilson Republican ☐ Julie Blaha Democratic-Farmer-Labor ☐ _____ write-in, if any Attorney General Vote for One ☐ Jim Schultz Republican ☐ Keith Ellison Democratic-Farmer-Labor ☐ _____ write-in, if any County Offices County Commissioner District 1 Vote for One ☐ Thomas Dean Andries ☐ Charles Sanow ☐ _____ write-in, if any County Commissioner District 2 Vote for One ☐ Todd Draper ☐ David E. Sturrock ☐ _____ write-in, if any County Commissioner District 3 Vote for One ☐ Paul Graupmann ☐ _____ write-in, if any County Sheriff Vote for One ☐ Eric Wallen ☐ _____ write-in, if any County Attorney Vote for One ☐ Abby Wikelius ☐ _____ write-in, if any	Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor District 2 Vote for One ☐ Allen Deutz ☐ _____ write-in, if any Soil and Water Conservation District Supervisor District 4 Vote for One ☐ John Lanoue ☐ _____ write-in, if any City Offices Mayor City of Balaton Vote for One ☐ Lonnie Lambertus Sr ☐ _____ write-in, if any Council Member City of Balaton Vote for Up to Two ☐ ☐ _____ write-in, if any Mayor City of Cottonwood Vote for One ☐ Corey E. Moseng ☐ _____ write-in, if any Council Member City of Cottonwood Vote for Up to Two ☐ ☐ _____ write-in, if any Mayor City of Florence Vote for One ☐ Susan Johnson ☐ _____ write-in, if any

Vote front and back of ballot

SAMPLE BALLOT

State General Election Ballot
Lyon County, Minnesota
November 8, 2022

Instructions to Voters:

To vote, completely fill in the oval(s) next to your choice(s) like this: ●

City Offices	City Offices	City Questions
Council Member City of Florence Vote for Up to Two ☐ Troy Lange ☐ Charles Anderson ☐ _____ write-in, if any Mayor City of Garvin Vote for One ☐ Jim Julien ☐ _____ write-in, if any Council Member City of Garvin Vote for Up to Two ☐ Paulette Stefanick ☐ Joe Stefanick ☐ _____ write-in, if any Mayor City of Ghent Vote for One ☐ Doug Anderson ☐ Jeffrey Gruhot ☐ _____ write-in, if any Council Member City of Ghent Vote for Up to Two ☐ Zachary Boerboom ☐ Adam DeRoode ☐ _____ write-in, if any Council Member City of Lynd Vote for Up to Two ☐ Diane Boe ☐ Josh Bruley ☐ David Reaves ☐ _____ write-in, if any	Council Member City of Marshall Ward 1 Vote for One ☐ John Alcorn ☐ _____ write-in, if any Council Member City of Marshall Ward 2 Vote for One ☐ See Moua-Leske ☐ _____ write-in, if any Council Member City of Marshall Ward 3 Vote for One ☐ Craig D Schafer ☐ _____ write-in, if any Mayor City of Minneota Vote for One ☐ John Rolbiecki ☐ _____ write-in, if any Council Member City of Minneota Vote for Up to Two ☐ Nancy Reisdorfer ☐ Timothy Koppien ☐ _____ write-in, if any Mayor City of Russell Vote for One ☐ Hilary Buchert ☐ _____ write-in, if any Council Member City of Russell Vote for Up to Two ☐ Glen Grant ☐ Joel Van Damme ☐ Matt Kerkaert ☐ _____ write-in, if any	To vote for a question, fill in the oval next to the word "Yes" on that question. To vote against a question, fill in the oval next to the word "No" on that question. City Question 1 CITY OF RUSSELL BALLOT QUESTION Shall the City Council be allowed to issue on-sale licenses for the sale of intoxicating liquor on Sundays? ☐ Yes ☐ No City Offices Mayor City of Taunton Vote for One ☐ Mike Breyfogle ☐ _____ write-in, if any Council Member City of Taunton Vote for Up to Two ☐ Jim Pesch ☐ Laurie Fales ☐ _____ write-in, if any Mayor City of Tracy Vote for One ☐ Tony Peterson ☐ _____ write-in, if any Council Member City of Tracy Vote for Up to Three ☐ Jeri Schons ☐ Dave Tiegs ☐ _____ write-in, if any Special Election for Council Member City of Tracy To fill vacancy in term expiring January 6, 2025 Vote for One ☐ Tom Dobson ☐ _____ write-in, if any

Vote front and back of ballot

SAMPLE BALLOT

State General Election Ballot
Lyon County, Minnesota
November 8, 2022

Instructions to Voters:

To vote, completely fill in the oval(s) next to your choice(s) like this: ●

Town Offices	Town Offices	Town Offices
Town Supervisor Seat 3 Town of Amiret Vote for One ☐ Jason Ormberg ☐ _____ write-in, if any Town Treasurer Town of Amiret Vote for One ☐ _____ write-in, if any Town Supervisor Seat 2 Town of Eidsvold Vote for One ☐ Lance Boerboom ☐ _____ write-in, if any Town Supervisor Seat 3 Town of Eidsvold Vote for One ☐ Eric V Buysse ☐ _____ write-in, if any Town Treasurer Town of Eidsvold Vote for One ☐ Trent Hennen ☐ _____ write-in, if any Town Supervisor Seat 1 Town of Fairview Vote for One ☐ Derek Rignell ☐ _____ write-in, if any Town Supervisor Seat 2 Town of Fairview Vote for One ☐ Kenny Bossuyt ☐ _____ write-in, if any Town Supervisor Seat 1 Town of Grandview Vote for One ☐ Thomas Welsh ☐ _____ write-in, if any Town Supervisor Seat 3 Town of Grandview Vote for One ☐ Daren Van Keulen ☐ _____ write-in, if any	Town Treasurer Town of Grandview Vote for One ☐ Pat VanKeulen ☐ _____ write-in, if any Town Supervisor Seat 1 Town of Lynd Vote for One ☐ Donald Girard ☐ _____ write-in, if any Town Supervisor Seat 3 Town of Lynd Vote for One ☐ Larry Evans ☐ _____ write-in, if any Town Treasurer Town of Lynd Vote for One ☐ Ronald Prorok ☐ _____ write-in, if any Town Supervisor Seat 2 Town of Monroe Vote for One ☐ Jane Muedeking ☐ Steve Hansen ☐ _____ write-in, if any Town Supervisor Seat 1 Town of Nordland Vote for One ☐ Allan Telste ☐ _____ write-in, if any Town Supervisor Seat 3 Town of Nordland Vote for One ☐ Bruce Jeremiason ☐ _____ write-in, if any Town Treasurer Town of Nordland Vote for One ☐ Shirley Maeyaert ☐ _____ write-in, if any	Town Supervisor Seat 1 Town of Rock Lake Vote for One ☐ Troy Lawrence Wendland ☐ _____ write-in, if any Town Supervisor Seat 2 Town of Rock Lake Vote for One ☐ LeRoy Johnson ☐ _____ write-in, if any Town Treasurer Town of Rock Lake Vote for One ☐ Mary Jo Henkel ☐ _____ write-in, if any Town Supervisor Seat 1 Town of Shelburne Vote for One ☐ Troy Chandler ☐ _____ write-in, if any Town Supervisor Seat 2 Town of Shelburne Vote for One ☐ Pat O'Toole ☐ _____ write-in, if any Town Treasurer Town of Shelburne Vote for One ☐ Joy Wichmann ☐ _____ write-in, if any Town Supervisor Seat 2 Town of Sodus Vote for One ☐ Gary Lavoy ☐ _____ write-in, if any Town Supervisor Seat 3 Town of Sodus Vote for One ☐ Bradley Paradis ☐ _____ write-in, if any Town Treasurer Town of Sodus Vote for One ☐ Larry Labat ☐ _____ write-in, if any

Vote front and back of ballot

SAMPLE BALLOT

State General Election Ballot
Lyon County, Minnesota
November 8, 2022

Instructions to Voters:

To vote, completely fill in the oval(s) next to your choice(s) like this: ●

Town Offices	School District Questions	School District Offices
Town Supervisor Seat 2 Town of Westerheim Vote for One ☐ Jon Buysse ☐ _____ write-in, if any Town Supervisor Seat 3 Town of Westerheim Vote for One ☐ Ross Thompson ☐ _____ write-in, if any Town Treasurer Town of Westerheim Vote for One ☐ Jerik Gossen ☐ _____ write-in, if any School District Offices School Board Member Independent School District No. 413 (Marshall) Vote for Up to Three ☐ Sara Runchey ☐ Trudy J. Madetzke ☐ Heather M. Anderson ☐ Anne Marie Vorbach ☐ Jeff Chapman ☐ Sara Brink ☐ Ben Walker ☐ _____ write-in, if any	To vote for a question, fill in the oval next to the word "Yes" on that question. To vote against a question, fill in the oval next to the word "No" on that question. School District Question 1 Approval of School District Referendum Revenue Authorization The board of Independent School District No. 413 (Marshall Public Schools) has proposed to increase its general education revenue by \$675 per pupil. The proposed referendum revenue authorization would be applicable for ten years beginning with taxes payable in 2023 and increase each year by the rate of inflation beginning with taxes payable in 2024 unless otherwise revoked or reduced as provided by law. Shall the increase in the revenue proposed by the board of Independent School District No. 413 be approved? ☐ Yes ☐ No BY VOTING "YES" ON THIS BALLOT QUESTION, YOU ARE VOTING FOR A PROPERTY TAX INCREASE. School District Offices School Board Member Independent School District No. 414 (Minneota) Vote for Up to Four ☐ Lacy Richards ☐ Christa Bouwman ☐ Jeri Whortenbury ☐ Jon Buysse ☐ Emily Coequyt ☐ Thomas Skorczewski ☐ Abby Thostenson ☐ Martin Hennen ☐ Katie Boettger ☐ _____ write-in, if any	School Board Member Independent School District No. 415 (Lynd) Vote for Up to Three ☐ Mark DeJaeghere ☐ Ryan Rathman ☐ Crystal Pochardt ☐ Bob Elton ☐ _____ write-in, if any School Board Member Independent School District No. 635 (Milroy) Vote for Up to Three ☐ Kathleen Kesteloot ☐ Sara Lipetzky ☐ Scot Bowman ☐ Adam Snyder ☐ _____ write-in, if any School Board Member Independent School District No. 2167 (Lakeview) Vote for Up to Four ☐ Joel Timm ☐ Alan Grube ☐ Korey Herrick ☐ Vicki Myers ☐ _____ write-in, if any

Vote front and back of ballot

Election: Nine candidates vying for four seats on Minneota school board

Continued from Page 1

Katie Boettger

Katie grew up in Boyd and graduated from Dawson-Boyd High School in 2012. Katie and her husband, Matt, live in Minneota and have one son, Hayes, who turns two in February. Katie is employed with Fixen Chiropractic in Minneota as a chiropractor assistant.

Why did you decide to run for school board?

I decided to run for school board as I would like to become even more involved with the school. I have been an assistant softball coach for the Minneota/Canby softball team since 2019. I love being involved with the community/ students in that respect, but would like the opportunity to be involved on the other spectrum of the district as well.

Why do you feel qualified to be a school board member?

I feel I am qualified to be on the school board as I have worked in the community for over four years and I have been involved with the school for three years as a softball coach. Throughout my time of working at Universal Forest Products before beginning my career with Fixen Chiropractic, I have learned the value of working as a team as I was working with various departments at our facility on a daily basis. I also needed to understand situations that arose from all perspectives before taking action to either resolve an issue or handle a task at hand. This is not something that is figured out overnight, it takes time and effort—both of which I put forth in that position to the best of my ability.

What do you feel are the top needs of the school district?

I believe the top needs of the school are as follows: Continue to evaluate how we can make the education for our students better and ensure their success in the future, and ensure our food programs continue to thrive as we know that is crucial for our children, no matter what age.

What do you feel are the budget priorities?

The budget priorities for me include technology for the students and staff, security updates for the school and transportation to ensure all children have a safe and reliable way to get to school each day.

What would you like to see done to make the school safer?

Minneota School currently has several processes/procedures/technologies in place to ensure the safety of the students and staff. The one process I would like to see implemented to make the school safer as well as create a learning opportunity to see law enforcement personnel in a positive setting is to have the local agencies visit the school and interact with the students/staff more often. There are currently law enforcement agencies who have officers come into the school on occasion but having that presence be more often, if possible, I think will help the students and staff get to know the officers on a positive note to be more comfortable around them if anything should arise.

Christa Bouwman

Bouwman grew up in Swea City, IA and graduated from North Kossuth High School. After high school, she attended Waldorf College and earned an Associate of Arts degree as well as a Bachelor of Arts degree in Finance. She also played softball collegiately. Christa and husband Drew have lived in Minneota for 15 years. They have one daughter, Keatyn, 10; and one son, Colt, 9. Christa is a credit manager for U.S. Bank in Marshall where she has worked for over 20 years.

Why did you decide to run for school board?

The main reason I decided to run for the school board is to be an advocate for our kids along with the faculty and staff within our district.

Why do you feel qualified to be a school board member?

I feel that I have the ability to listen and offer sound advice and suggestions. I have not and will not shy away from the tough topics and will always put ALL students, ALL staff members, as well as our community, as a priority when making decisions.

What do you feel are the top needs of the school district?

It's extremely important to grow and excel our programs

within academics and encourage our students that we have the tools and resources to help them achieve success. Secondly, to continue with the improvements and modernizations to our facilities to make sure we give our students, staff, and community the best experience possible when within our facilities. We need to continue to ensure we create a safe space for all.

What do you feel are the budget priorities?

In my opinion, our budget priorities should be adding programs to build and maintain academic success, have a plan for long-term facilities, and most importantly doing this while being fiscally responsible to our taxpayers. This will all help to ensure all our students have the best tools possible to grow our school district.

What would you like to see done to make the school safer?

Our school, today, does an excellent job in keeping our school safe by partnering with our local law enforcement in Chief Bill Bolt and ensuring that communication is clear and transparent. We also have an excellent administration in place to ensure all students and staff are safe each day.

Jon Buysse

Jon, born and raised in Minneota, and a high school graduate here, lives and farms near town with his wife, Mandi, and their two children, Max, 8; and Emma, 5.

Why did you decide to run for school board?

I decided to run because I have children in the school and would like to understand what the school board does and help in any way I can.

Why do you feel qualified to be a school board member?

I have been on the Westernheim township board for many years and I'm a business owner.

What do you feel are the top needs of the school district?

To continue to put education and safety first while being mindful of the taxpayer's dollars.

What do you feel are the budget priorities?

I would like to get a full understanding of the budget and financial position of the school before I would have a priority.

What would you like to see done to make the school safer?

It seems that we currently have a safe school. I would just like to continue growing in school safety as the needs change.

Emily Coequyt

Emily grew up in Canby and graduated high school there. She and husband Matt live in Minneota and have four children – Bretten, 15; Jaylyn, 13; Nolan, 10; and Daxton, 4. Emily is a National Accounts Executive for Westrock. She also works as an EMT and educator, and is co-director for the Minneota First Responders.

Why did you decide to run for school board?

I have four children within the walls of our school. I feel a need to be giving back to our school and community, and this would be one opportunity to do that.

Why do you feel qualified to be a school board member?

As a contracted educator in the high school and a substitute teacher, I have a unique insight as to what the needs of the district could be. I see where we excel and areas that we need to look at and improve upon. In my position at Westrock, one area I specialized in is looking for ways to become more efficient and to cut costs without a reduction in productivity or quality. I feel that this background will be very beneficial as a member of our school board.

What do you feel are the top needs of the school district?

Top needs include ensuring all students have access to the supplies and materials that they need along with access to nutritious meals. I would also like to see the school work to have greater partnership with local colleges to offer a greater range of post-secondary education options. However, I feel there is a great opportunity for

our school to work directly with trade schools to provide post-secondary options in various trade vocations. There is high demand for new workers to enter the trade industry, and a partnership within our high school could set up several students for future success.

What do you feel are the budget priorities?

Fiscal responsibility is of the utmost importance. We need to understand and respect that the money we spend is taxpayer dollars. We need to weigh the balance between expending tax dollars to be a benefit that will be provided to our students. If the expense does not provide benefit to students, the money should not be spent. Our current priorities need to focus on the ability to keep the quality educators we have and be able to attract new quality teachers. Other priorities need to center around student needs. We need to stay current with technology and ensure all of our students have access to the materials needed for a quality education.

What would you like to see done to make the school safer?

With the tragic events that have occurred in schools throughout our country we cannot afford to turn a blind eye and say it will not happen here. Although our school has taken some fantastic steps in bolstering school security, we need to be proactive in the safety of our students. I would support personal safety education for our students, push for education of pre-violence warning signs for our staff, and expect that reports of concern are brought forward regardless of how minor. It is all too often that we can look back at a tragic incident and see all the red flags. I would also support school staff training with local emergency responders. Aside from the school building we need to review school safety plans for off-campus locations such as the athletic fields, and on the school bus.

Martin Hennen

Martin grew up in Minneota and graduated high school here. Martin and wife, Laura, live on the farm outside of Minneota that Martin grew up on. They have four children, three in the Minneota school system and one in college.

Why did you decide to run for school board?

I decided to run for the Minneota School Board because I wanted to be involved in the decision-making process for the education of my children.

Why do you feel qualified to be a school board member?

I work well with others and feel that I am level-headed in my decision making.

What do you feel are the top needs of the school district?

One of the top needs of the school district is to make sure all of our students receive the highest education possible. We need to make sure that there aren't students who fall between the cracks and get behind.

What do you feel are the budget priorities?

I feel that there are a couple of budget priorities for our school district. One of the priorities is to make sure that our teachers and staff members are compensated fairly so that we can have consistency (rather than a large turnover). Another budget priority would be the regular maintenance/up keep of our school buildings and grounds.

What, if anything, would you like to see implemented to make the school safer?

I feel that our administration is doing a great job of keeping up with the safety needs of our school. As time goes on, there are always improvements that come along. We need to keep up with safety measures as needed.

Lacy Richards

Lacy is a native of Lidgerwood, ND, where she also graduated from. Lacy and her husband, Ted Gregoire, live in Minneota and have two sons, Bensyn, 9; and Elliot, 2. Lacy works for U.S. Bank in Marshall in Default Management.

Why did you decide to run for school board, and why do you feel qualified?

As a parent of young children and a member of our rural community, I am aware of the challenges that our youth face. Whether it be improving access to school meals or reimagining proactive approaches to deter bullying, I have both the desire and time to dedicate to our school district.

What do you feel are the top needs of the school district?

According to 2020 Census data, over 41 percent of households in Minneota earn less than \$50,000 annually while the median household income sits at \$58,824. This equates to, at least, 174 households that are living in or just above poverty. Children cannot focus, learn or retain information if they're hungry, so it is critical that we make changes to improve access to sufficient and healthy meals during the school year (and beyond). Additionally, I feel strongly that the districts' Bullying Prohibition Policy should be reevaluated and expanded to include programming that engages families and community members. While I'm aware that the school cannot monitor this at all times and does not have jurisdiction over children outside of school, it is abundantly clear that parents, families, and community members get involved, stay engaged, and remain proactive.

What do you feel are the budget priorities?

I would advocate for additional funding to further offset the cost of school meals for all students, not just those eligible for free and reduced meals. I'd like to explore grant programs, local angel or foundation-type support or additional federal dollars to fund this line item. I believe that our teachers should receive higher pay and that the district establishes a set-aside fund for school supplies. Families are often unable to provide adequate school supplies, which subsequently falls on the teachers' shoulders. Teachers continue to support their students by purchasing supplies out-of-pocket. To offset this, the district could explore programs like Impacks, a non-profit, Minnesota-based start-up that works with districts and communities to provide school supply kits tailored to classrooms' needs.

What would you like to see done to make the school safer?

Poverty, access to food, educational resources, as well as mental health and bullying concerns all contribute to a students' educational success. I think we should consider sourcing funding mechanisms and implementing programs to improve the students' experience and safety.

Tom Skorczewski (I)

Tom grew up in Marshall

and is a Marshall High School graduate. He and Tara have been married for 10 years and have lived in Minneota for nine years. They have five children; Ben, 20; Sam, 17; Eva, 8; Lydia, 5; and Emelia, 3. Tom is employed with AgPlus and works out of the Minneota office in Energy Sales.

Why did you decide to run for another term?

I'm running because I feel our school is a great place and I want that to continue.

Why do you feel qualified to be a school board member?

I feel I'm qualified with my wide range of business knowledge and having four children currently in our school, I feel I have a pulse on what is happening there.

What do you feel are the top needs of the school district?

The top "needs" are; always making sure our students are getting the best education, making sure our staff (Kitchen staff, Teachers, Paraprofessionals, Custodial staff, Office staff and Administration) have a voice and for them to know they are valued and essential. I feel it is also very important for parents to be involved in their child's education.

What do you feel are the budget priorities?

Our budget should always be child driven first. Their education is the main priority.

What would you like to see done to make the school safer?

As someone that lives near our school, I feel a "drop off zone" would be a great addition to our school.

Abby Thostenson (I)

Abby was born and raised in Minneota and graduated here in 2002. She and husband, Joe, have three children; Hudson, eighth grade; Alexis, sixth grade; and Ivy, first grade. Abby is a Project Coordinator at Meier Electric.

Why did you decide to run for another term?

I decided to run for another term for the students and staff and to continue to serve our community. The last four years have been very rewarding and challenging. I would like to continue to be invested and make an impact on the school and continue to have a safe and fun environment for everyone who enters the building. All three of my kids are currently attending Minneota Public Schools, and it is rewarding to see firsthand how invested the teachers and staff are. I want to continue to make sure we can provide the best opportunities for all our students.

Why do you feel qualified to be a school board member?

As I finish my first term as a School Board member, I feel the qualifications that make me a great candidate are I am a committed person, work well with others, a good listener, and asking the questions from a parent/community member perspective as well as a board member serving the district and having the district, staff and student's best interest.

What do you feel are the top needs of the school district?

For the school district to continue to be transparent by communicating with the staff, students, parents, and community. Keeping our staff energized and not burnt out and providing the best possible tools and support we as a school board and community can. For the district to continue

to focus their priority to prepare the students for their future and making the transition from middle school to junior high to high school to their future after high school successful and to help shape them to be a purposeful citizen.

What do you feel are the budget priorities?

To work closely with our administration and business manager on how the district's budget looked pre-pandemic to now and evaluating how the pandemic and the COVID funds impacted the district and evaluating how the rising costs and supply chain shortages are impacting the current budget and how will it impact our future budget.

What would you like to see done to make the school safer?

I feel we currently do a great job in keeping our school safe. The improvements the district has made over the years provide the school with lots of great safety features. The district has cameras, fire doors, security doors, has implemented only one entrance into the school building once school is in session, added crosswalk supervisors and implementing the designated areas for student drop off and pick up, and increased outdoor lighting around the school property. The district has implemented safety and crisis teams and training.

Jeri Whortenburg

Jeri was born and raised in Canby, graduating from Canby High School. Jeri and her husband, Tom, have lived in Minneota the past nine years. They have three sons, Gavin, Mason and Brenten. Jeri works at First Independent Bank as a Loan Technician.

Why did you decide to run for school board, and why do you feel qualified?

I served on the school board previously; during that time, I learned how the budgets work, the policy and procedures processes and how everyone within the school district (administration and all staff) collaborate together to keep our children and school system their top priority. I'm a firm believer in there is always more to learn; however, with the platform of knowledge I've obtained while previously serving, it was a privilege learning those starting points and I hope I am able to continue to learn more for our district.

What do you feel are the top needs of the school district?

Maintaining the resources and continued education for our teachers to continue implementing the lessons. Technology is always changing, allowing the resources for those changes allow the teachers to teach the children.

What do you feel are the budget priorities?

As mentioned above, maintaining the resources for teachers is a high priority. As everything around us changes, the budgets change too and how to prioritize them as well. Keeping an open mind on what needs to be addressed and how to address them are key factors.

What would you like to see done to make the school safer?

With three children currently in the school district, I believe the administration and staff do a tremendous job at keeping our children safe. For example, when I enter the building, the doors are locked and visitors need to be let in. This is a positive way in protecting our children and the staff.



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