

A World of Learning



The Schools of Eastern Carver County/School District 112

CARVER - CHANHASSEN - CHASKA - VICTORIA, MINNESOTA



Adventure and Opportunity Ahead

More than ever before in our history, students are being trained for life in a world we adults cannot possibly imagine. They will use technology that does not currently exist to do work that does not currently exist and they will do it in places we have never seen.

More importantly, both their technology and their work will repeatedly become obsolete in their lifetime and they will need to adapt to new challenges over and over again.

Education today is about helping kids think critically and make good decisions; about helping them understand their world and its cultures; about helping them embrace technology and understand both its strength and its limitations; about helping them understand the difference between information and knowledge; and about giving them the self-confidence to be successful.

We also know that, in this 21st century world I describe, character will count as never before. For us, that means an emphasis on community values that are fundamental to developing today's students into tomorrow's servant leaders. We embed these values in our academic program as well as our athletic and co-curricular activities. We also emphasize the value of service learning, both as a way to "learn" and as a way to discover the meaning that comes with putting your mind and heart to work for the benefit of others.

The schools and the staff of District 112 have committed themselves to excellence at every level of what we do, and to program and opportunity that makes our schools relevant for kids and their future.

Join us for the journey. We see adventure and opportunity ahead.



David Jennings
Superintendent

Early Childhood Programs

District 112 offers a critical link to families with children age birth through age 5 before entering kindergarten. Our early childhood programs provide the choices parents want as their children learn and grow. All District 112 early childhood programs are taught by state-licensed teachers experienced in assisting little ones discover the wonders of their expanding world. Our mission is to provide education to support and strengthen families and to prepare children for success in school.



Early Childhood Family Education – Our Early Childhood Family Education Program (ECFE) brings children and their parents together in classrooms designed just for early learners. Licensed early childhood teachers and parent educators staff our program. Parents and children play together in developmentally appropriate activities, and then parents join a parent educator to learn about child development, sharing their questions and experiences. Children remain in the classroom with early childhood teachers for guided play. ECFE's mission is to strengthen families through parent education and our participants tell us that happens every day.

Kids Together Preschool – Our preschool program for children ages 3-5 is designed to assist children in developing the skills necessary for school success. Professional, licensed teachers document student progress through a curriculum aligned with our K-12 program. Children are introduced to world languages while experiencing a positive, joyful exploration of their world.

ECFE Preschool – The ECFE Preschool offers the same curriculum as our Kids Together Preschool, and also includes a parent education component.

Early Childhood Enrichment – Enrichment classes allow children and parents to explore specific activities without signing up for an entire series of classes.

Early Childhood Screening – District 112 offers the developmental screening required by Minnesota prior to enrollment in kindergarten.

Open Playtime – Come to our classrooms to meet other families with small children and use the age-appropriate toys and activities for 90 minutes of fun.

School Readiness – We help low-income families with 3-5 year-olds prepare for a successful school experience before they enter kindergarten. Financial assistance is available to qualifying families.

Field Trips – Explore the world around us with your child. Our field trips offer an opportunity for a family outing to “kid-approved” spots like the Minnesota Zoo.

For more information on early childhood programs, contact Community Education at 952.556.6224.

Kindergarten

Our award-winning kindergarten program offers an outstanding combination of curriculum and staff. Children discover and learn through listening, observing, experimenting and practicing across the curriculum. We introduce children to a wide range of practical knowledge and skills, providing experiences that promote social, emotional, physical, and intellectual growth.

Our teachers are early-learning specialists, skilled at inspiring children to wonder, create, dream and learn. They provide instruction appropriate to each child's development, building on the individual skills children bring to the classroom. Eight-five percent of kindergarten teachers hold Master's Degrees; all continue their professional development while working with children.

Families can choose between a tuition-based all-day kindergarten program and the traditional half-day program. Both offer the same curriculum and work to prepare students for academic success in first grade. The all-day program offers the curriculum in more depth through the year. The 6½ hour day is voluntary. Parents pay tuition; scholarships are available.

District 112 kindergartners are also served by teachers specializing in gifted/talented instruction, special education, speech and language, and adaptive physical education. We serve many students who are learning English for the first time in kindergarten and we provide teachers to help in that process, too. Other staff members include a social worker, school psychologist, nurse and media specialist. The media center at the Kindergarten Center focuses entirely on the needs of both emerging and new readers.

Parents are important partners with our kindergarten program. We offer multiple opportunities for involvement including classroom activities, a site council, working in the media center and being active in the outstanding PTO. We communicate frequently



with parents. Our commitment to parents earned special recognition when John Hopkins University named the Kindergarten Center a National Partnership School for its excellent and sustained parent involvement effort.

To be eligible for kindergarten, students must be five by September 1. Parents who have questions about the timing of their child's first year in school are welcome to call the Kindergarten Center to discuss what's best for their child.

We love children...and it shows. We invite you to visit our kindergarten program and see for yourself.

For more information, contact the Kindergarten Center at 952.556.6400.

Elementary Program

GRADES 1 - 5

District 112 elementary classrooms are lively places filled with students who are full of potential and eager to step into the world. And, because today's students will significantly impact both their community and the world, we have high expectations for each of them.



The curriculum emphasizes basic skill development using research-based instruction appropriate to the individual needs of students. Specialists in art, vocal and instrumental music, physical education, special education, and gifted/talented programming serve each building. Teachers use multiple assessments in evaluating student progress; flexible grouping in math and reading ensure students learn at the most appropriate level.

State test scores show District 112 elementary students exceeding state averages in both math and reading.

All of our elementary schools use technology to expand and enhance instruction. Students access technology in busy computer labs as well as their own classrooms.

Social workers, counselors and psychologists are available to help teachers and parents work on special student needs that may interfere with learning. They also meet with small groups of students to work proactively on issues facing today's children. District 112 elementary schools serve students with special needs within the regular classroom as much as possible.

Parents are welcome partners in our elementary schools. In addition to regular conference times, parents and teachers communicate informally through e-mail and telephone. Parents support the schools through active involvement in each school's PTO. The PTO organizes family events and raises money to provide additional programs such as artist-in-residency. Parents are represented on each school's site council to ensure the parent voice is heard as decisions are made.

Parent satisfaction with District 112 elementary schools tells a powerful story. In 2007, a parent survey showed that 98% felt welcome at school; 99% found their child's teacher to be approachable; 98% said their school's learning environment is positive; 97% said there were high standards for student behavior; 98% said school is a safe place; and 95% said there were opportunities for parents to be involved at school.

For more details on the District 112 elementary program, contact the Office of Curriculum and Instruction at 952.556.6100.

Middle School

GRADES 6 - 8

Students in grades 6-8 are explorers. They are testing new interests, making new friends, and looking hard to find their place and make their mark. Our middle school program allows for exploration while rooting students in the four core subjects: math, language arts, social studies, and science.

Middle School students currently attend Chaska Middle School East and Chaska Middle School West. In the fall of 2009, a third middle school will open at Pioneer Ridge. All of our middle schools adhere to the practices recommended by the Carnegie Council on Adolescent Development as well as research from the International Center for Leadership in Education and the National Middle School Association. The middle schools are participating in a secondary program re-design to strengthen student preparation for a rigorous high school program.

Students spend their day in learning communities called “families” taught by teams of core subject teachers. Teachers meet regularly to discuss student needs and plan interdisciplinary units. This commitment to knowing students individually is underscored by the Hawk Time program in which small groups of students meet with an advisor each morning to talk about issues and upcoming middle school events.

Technology continues to be an important learning tool at the middle level. Teachers integrate the natural interest and abilities of middle school students in technology to enrich instruction in every grade.

Middle schools offer new learning opportunities with world language instruction beginning in the 8th grade.

Orchestra joins band and choir as a music choice. Family and consumer sciences, industrial technology, and

opportunities for mentorships in the community increase the choices offered to students.

Our middle schools offer complete special education services as well as academic challenge for advanced students.

Activities increase at the middle level. Students can sign up for after school enrichment classes through Club Mid. Middle school students participate in intramural athletics and are eligible to join some high school athletic teams as provided in Minnesota State High School League regulations.

Parents can keep up-to-date on their child’s progress through the Parent Portal, an online system offering access to student grades, assignment completion, attendance, overdue library books, and more. Parents are active members of the middle level site council.

For more information on our middle school program, contact the Office of Curriculum and Instruction at 952.556.6100.



High School

GRADES 9 - 12

We believe high school is a 4-year opportunity to prepare for the future. We are committed to preparing every student for post-secondary education. To support that commitment, we are redesigning the entire secondary program based on the ideas described in current national research.

District 112's second high school, Chanhassen High, will open in September, 2009. At that



point, both high schools will welcome back the 9th grade from its current location at Pioneer Ridge

Freshmen Center. Pioneer Ridge will become a middle school. The 9th grade program will continue its unique transitional focus as a separate component in each high school.

Freshmen begin earning graduation credits at Pioneer Ridge in English, math, science and social studies. They also choose elective credits in areas like the arts and world languages.

More than 80 percent of Chaska High graduates continue their education after graduation. Many have already earned college credit through our extensive Advanced Placement program, college credit courses, and Project Lead the Way, our accredited pre-engineering

program. Strong academic programs reflect a strong faculty; more than 70 percent of staff have advanced degrees.

Expanding business and technology education departments are meeting a growing interest among students. From producing the high school in-house TV show, "Jump Start," to using CAD software, students are engaged in meaningful experiences. Several video students have earned regional Emmys for their original work.

Students choose from an extensive co-curricular activities program. CHS athletes are successful competitors: ▶ Girls' volleyball team—State champions, 2005, 2006; ▶ Girls' softball team, second in state, 2007; ▶ Boys' golf team—Lake Conference champions, 2007. ▶ Boys and girls track team, state champions in pole vault and high jump, 2007.

Students with a love of theater participate in a fall musical and a spring play. The DECA Club repeatedly sends members to national competition in areas like marketing, sales, interviewing and other business skills. Our students serve the community through activities like Key Club, International Club and through school-wide charitable activities designed to give back to the community. Chaska High is a perennial powerhouse in Quiz Bowl, Knowledge Bowl and Science Bowl state and national competition.

Parents have online access to their child's grades, attendance, assignment completion, etc. through the Parent Portal.

For more information, contact Chaska High School, 952.556.7100.

Community Education

District 112's outstanding Community Education program provides services beyond the traditional K-12 program. Thousands sign-up for hundreds of classes yearly, proving that learning never ends.

Club Care – Each elementary school offers before-and-after-school child care through this popular Community Education program. Club Care programming includes classes, activities and homework assistance.

Elementary Enrichment Classes – These after-school classes bring new experiences to elementary age students. From Mad Science to iCamp to art programs, our enrichment classes deliver on the promise to make learning fun.

Club Mid – Offered outside the school day, these activities are designed especially for the needs and interests of middle school-age students. Middle schoolers can sign up for everything from Garage Band to babysitting training while hanging out with their friends in a safe environment.

Early Childhood Programs – Community Education offers outstanding programs aimed at our youngest learners. Our families can choose from programs that offer parent education, preschool, learning readiness, early childhood screening, and more. Our teachers are early learning specialists. Their classrooms reflect the best in current curriculum and activities. Parent educators offer insight to child development and are valuable resources to families in our programs.

Adult Enrichment Program – Whether it's learning how to operate that new computer, checking on the stocks in your portfolio or belly dancing, our adult enrichment program is an inexpensive, convenient way to meet your needs.

Community Education also reaches out to those from other countries new to Minnesota, offering family literacy programs designed to help ease the transition for parents and their children.

All District 112 facilities are accessible to the public and scheduled through Community Education.

Year-Round Programming – Community Education offers programs year-round. Look for a complete listing of classes for all ages in the Community Education program brochure, delivered to every District 112 home three times each year. Or visit the Community Education website at www.ce4all.org.

For more information on Community Education, call 952.556.6200.



THE SCHOOLS OF EASTERN CARVER COUNTY/DISTRICT 112

ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Kindergarten Center

110600 Village Road, Chaska, MN 55318
952.556.6400

Bluff Creek Elementary – Grades 1-5

2300 Coulter Boulevard, Chanhassen, MN 55317
952.556.6600

Chanhassen Elementary – Grades K-5

7600 Laredo Drive, Chanhassen, MN 55317
952.556.6700

Chaska Elementary School – Grades 1-5

1800 Chestnut Street, Chaska, MN 55318
952.556.6300

Clover Ridge Elementary – Grades 1-5

114000 Hundertmark Road, Chaska, MN 55318
952.556.6900

East Union Elementary School – Grades 1-5

15655 County Road 43, Carver, MN 55315
952.556.6800

Jonathan Elementary School – Grades K-5

110300 Pioneer Trail West, Chaska, MN 55318
952.556.6500

Victoria Elementary School – Grades 1-5

9300 Red Fox Drive, Victoria, MN 55386
952.556.3000

SECONDARY SCHOOLS

Chaska Middle School East – Grades 6-8

1600 Park Ridge Drive, Chaska, MN 55318
952.556.7600

Chaska Middle School West – Grades 6-8

140 Engler Boulevard East, Chaska, MN 55318
952.556.7400

Pioneer Ridge Freshmen Center – Grade 9

1085 Pioneer Trail East, Chaska, MN 55318
952.556.7800

Chaska High School – Grades 10-12

545 Pioneer Trail, Chaska, MN 55318
952.556.7100

Chanhassen High School

Opening Fall 2009



District 112 Education Center/Administration

11 Peavey Road, Chaska, MN 55318
952.556.6100

District 112 Community Education

11 Peavey Road, Chaska, MN 55318
952.556.6200



District 112

The Schools of Eastern Carver County

11 Peavey Road

Chaska, Minnesota 55318

952.556.6100

www.district112.org

C O M M U N I T Y V A L U E S

CITIZENSHIP

ENVIRONMENTALISM

GENEROSITY

HUMAN WORTH AND DIGNITY

INTEGRITY

LEARNING

RESPECT FOR OTHERS

RESPONSIBILITY

The School Board adopted eight Community Values in 1989.
These values are the foundation of our high expectations for student behavior
and our relationships with our students, our community, and each other.