

Howe School Mission Statement

We are a community of engaged learners, focused on academic and social growth, preparing for our changing world.

Paw Prints



**Howe Elementary School
221-8th Street North
Wisconsin Rapids, WI
54494
715-424-6772**

Mrs. Miller, Principal

June 2024

Hello Howe Families,

We made it to the end of another successful school year! I have been fortunate to watch your children grow and succeed for 8 years at Howe School. As shared with you in April, I will be transitioning to a different role in the educational field. I will work with schools and districts nationwide to support social and emotional growth strategies. I dearly love Howe School and Wisconsin Rapids, and I am so thankful for this chapter in my career. Your children make me laugh and smile and melt my heart!

Thank you for your feedback on what you are looking for in your next principal at Howe. The interviews will be held soon, and we will share information on the new principal as soon as it is board-approved.

As we look towards the summer, I wish you times of great memories and moments to relax and rejuvenate. There are many great reading opportunities this summer at McMillan Library, be sure to check them out!

Your partner in education,

Mrs. Ina Miller

Mark your calendar:

Tuesday, June 4th.....Last day for students, students dismissed at 1:00 p.m.

August 16th & 17th.....Stuff the Desk supplies pick up (see attached flyer)

Wednesday, August 28th.....Open House, 3:30-5:30 p.m. (Families will receive a link in August to sign up for a time slot)

Tuesday, September 3rd.....First day back for students

Tuesday, September 24th.....School Picture Day



Student Classroom Assignments

Student classroom assignments will be available for parents to view on Skyward Family Access August 23rd, 2024.



Free Summer Meals

WRPS will again be serving free summer meals for all children ages 18 and under. See the attached flyer for details.

School Supply Lists

A supply list for the 2024-2025 school year is attached to this newsletter. Lists will also be available this summer at area stores.

Stuff the Desk

Stuff the Desk will be held August 16-17, 2024. Students must be pre-registered by August 1st. To pre-register, visit uwsvac.org or dial 2-1-1 Monday through Friday between 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. More information is available on the attached flyer.



Food from Outside Vendors

Fast food is not allowed at school for breakfast, lunch, or snack options. This includes items such as kid's meals, sugary drinks, soda, coffee/shakes, or other treats. Thank you!

Mark Your Calendar for the Great Book Giveaway!

United Way of South Wood & Adams Counties is dedicated to preventing the summer slide & giving kids the tools they need to succeed—which is why every year, free books are available through the Great Book Giveaway!

At these events, volunteers read aloud, then each child picks books to keep. Reading with young children helps brain development, boosts literacy skills, and improves school readiness. Join us at this year's events listed below!

For more information contact Ben at 715-421-0390 or ben@uwsvac.org.

Monday, June 10th—10:30am @Building Blocks

Tuesday, June 11th—10:30am @THINK Academy

Tuesday, June 11th—1:30pm @Wisconsin Rapids Zoo

Wednesday, June 12th—10:30am @Port Edwards Elementary

Wednesday, June 12th—6:30pm @McMillan Library

Thursday, June 13th—10:30am @YMCA (Wisconsin Rapids)

Thursday, June 13th—1:30pm @Nekoosa Library

Friday, June 14th—10:30am @Adams County Library

Friday, June 14th—1:30pm @Rome Library

Tuesday, June 18th—12:30pm @Vesper Library





Summer 2024 - Free Meals for All Kids!

Stressing the importance of offering nutritious meals to children during the summer months, the School District of Wisconsin Rapids announces the sponsorship of the *Summer Food Service Program*.

The Summer Food Service Program provides nutritious meals to children during the summer when free and reduced-price school meals are typically unavailable. **Free meals will be made available to all children 18 years of age and under.** Persons over 18 years of age who are determined by a state or local public educational agency to be mentally or physically disabled and who also participate in a public or private non-profit school program during the regular school year may receive free meals as well.

The following locations will be serving free meals this summer:



BREAKFAST ONLY (available Monday through Friday)

Lincoln High School

1801 16th Street South
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

Dates: June 6 – July 11 (no meals on July 4 or 5)
7:30 am – 8:30 am

Woodside Elementary School

611 Two Mile Ave
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

Dates: June 10 – June 28
8:00 am – 8:30 am

LUNCH ONLY (available Monday through Friday)

Mead Park – Near Splash Pad

14th Avenue South
between Chase and Alton Street
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495

Dates: June 10 – August 16 (no meals on July 4 or 5)
11:30 am – 12:30 pm

Witter Park – Shelter outside of Aquatic Center

681 Chestnut St.
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

Dates: June 10 – August 16 (no meals on July 4 or 5)
11:30 am – 12:30 pm

Meals are provided to all children regardless of race, color, national origin, age, gender or disability and there will be no discrimination during meal service.

Questions? Contact us at schoolnutrition@wrps.net.

Non-discrimination Statement: In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity. Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant's name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by:

MAIL: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410

FAX: 202-690-7442

EMAIL: program.intake@usda.gov



Verano 2024 - ¡Comidas gratuitas para todos los niños!

Al enfatizar la importancia de ofrecer comidas nutritivas a los niños durante los meses de verano, el Distrito Escolar de Wisconsin Rapids anuncia el patrocinio del *Programa de Servicio de Comida de Verano*.

El Programa de Servicio de Comida de Verano proporciona comidas nutritivas a los niños durante el verano cuando las comidas gratuitas o de precio reducido generalmente no están disponibles. **Las comidas gratuitas estarán disponibles para todos los niños de 18 años de edad y menores.** Las personas mayores de 18 años de edad que una agencia educacional pública estatal o local determine que tienen una discapacidad física o mental y que también participan en un programa escolar público o privado sin fines de lucro durante el año escolar regular también pueden recibir comidas gratuitas.

Los siguientes lugares servirán comidas gratuitas este verano:



SOLO ALMUERZO (disponible de lunes a viernes)

Lincoln High School

1801 16th Street South
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

Fechas: 6 de junio al 11 de julio (no hay comidas el 4 y 5 de julio)
7:30 am- 8:30 am

Woodside Elementary School

611 Two Mile Ave
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

Fechas: 10 de junio al 28 de junio
8:00 am – 8:30 am

SOLO LONCHE (disponible de lunes a viernes)

Mead Park – Cerca del Splash Pad

14th Avenue South
entre las calles Chase y Alton
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54495

Fechas: 10 de junio al 16 de agosto (no hay comidas el 4 y 5 de julio)
11:30 am – 12:30 pm

Witter Park – en el Refugio afuera del Centro Acuático

681 Chestnut St.
Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494

Fechas: 10 de junio al 16 de agosto (no hay comidas el 4 y 5 de julio)
11:30 am – 12:30 pm

Las comidas se proporcionarán a todos los niños, independientemente de su raza, color, origen nacional, edad, sexo o discapacidad y no habrá discriminación durante el servicio de comida.

¿Preguntas? Póngase en contacto con nosotros en schoolnutrition@wrps.net.

Declaración de no discriminación: De acuerdo con la ley federal de los derechos civiles y el Departamento de Agricultura de los E.U.A. (USDA) regulaciones políticas de los derechos civiles, esta institución tiene prohibido discriminar por motivos de raza, color, origen nacional, sexo (incluida la identidad de género y la orientación sexual), discapacidad, edad, o represalias o represalias por actividades anteriores de derechos civiles. La información del programa puede estar disponible en otros idiomas además del inglés. Las personas con discapacidades que requieran medios de comunicación alternativos para obtener información del programa (e.j., Braille, letra grande, cintas de audio, lenguaje de señas Americano), deben comunicarse con la agencia estatal o local responsable que administra el programa o con el Centro TARGET al (202) 720-2600 (voz y TTY) o con el USDA a través del Servicio Federal de Retransmisión al (800) 877-8339.

Para presentar una queja por discriminación en el programa, el demandante debe completar un formulario AD-3027, Formulario de Queja por Discriminación en el Programa del USDA el cual se puede obtener en línea en:

<https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf>, desde cualquier oficina del USDA, llamando al (866) 632-9992, o escribiendo una carta dirigida al USDA. La carta debe contener el nombre, la dirección, el número de teléfono y una descripción escrita de la presunta acción discriminatoria con suficiente detalle para informar al Secretario Asistente de los Derechos Civiles (ASCR, por sus siglas en inglés) sobre la naturaleza y la fecha de una presunta violación de los derechos civiles. El formulario o carta AD-3027 completado debe enviarse al USDA por:

MAIL: U.S. Department of Agriculture
Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights
1400 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, D.C. 20250-9410

FAX: 202-690-7442

EMAIL: program.intake@usda.gov



When School's Out, Summer EBT is Here to Help!

Summer EBT (Electronic Benefit Transfer) is an income-based program that helps families buy food for their children while school is out. Wisconsin will send \$120 for each child who qualifies. You can use these benefits anywhere that FoodShare benefits are accepted, like most grocery stores, many convenience stores, and some farmer's markets.

Your child should get benefits automatically if:

- Your child was approved to get free or reduced price meals at their National School Lunch Program school.
- You have given your child's school an alternate household income form that shows you meet the income requirements for Summer EBT.
- Your child is school-aged and your household is part of FoodShare, W-2, the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations, or an income-based Medicaid program; or if we know they are a migrant, in foster care, or experiencing homelessness.



Watch your mail towards the end of June! If your family qualifies, you'll get a letter about your child's benefits.



Getting Summer EBT will **not** affect your child's or family's immigration status.



WISCONSIN DEPARTMENT
of HEALTH SERVICES

Thanks to the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction's School Nutrition Team for their guidance in promoting the Summer EBT program to schools.



P-03603 (04/2024)

What if I think my child might qualify for benefits but my family does not participate in any of the programs listed on this flyer?

- If your child's school participates in the National School Lunch Program, you can apply for Free or Reduced Price Lunch (FRPL) through their school. If your child's application is approved, you will get Summer EBT.
- If you apply and are approved by August 29 for one of the state benefit programs mentioned on the front of this flyer, you will be able to get Summer EBT for your child. You can learn more about other state benefit programs by calling 211 or visiting [access.wi.gov](https://www.access.wi.gov).

We will continue to send benefits to eligible families throughout the summer as we get their information. If you have recently moved, update your address at [SummerEBT.wi.gov/s/SummerBenefitInfo](https://www.SummerEBT.wi.gov/s/SummerBenefitInfo).

How will my family get benefits?

If your child qualifies for Summer EBT and you already have a QUEST card or a P-EBT card from the pandemic, we will put your benefits on that card. If you don't, we'll mail you a new QUEST card.

What if my family doesn't get Summer EBT in June and we think we should have?

If you do not get benefits in June, we might not have enough information to know if your child qualifies for Summer EBT. For us to get that information, you should complete a Summer EBT Application. You can access the Summer EBT application at [SummerEBT.wi.gov/s/SummerEBTApp](https://www.SummerEBT.wi.gov/s/SummerEBTApp).

Can our family still use other summer food benefits if we get Summer EBT?

Yes! If your child gets Summer EBT they can still participate in other programs like the Summer Food Service Program or the Seamless Summer Option.

Learn More

Scan the QR code or go to dhs.wi.gov/forwardhealth/summerebt.htm to get details about Summer EBT.



April 8, 2024



Dear Parents/Guardians,

Unfortunately, due to a lack of available licensed staff members to operate our annual summer swim program, the Wisconsin Rapids Public Schools will not be offering summer swimming lessons during the summer of 2024. We sincerely hope this is a temporary situation and that qualified employees will be available to operate swim lessons in the summer of 2025.

As an alternative, the District is going to be offering two open swim sessions per day, Monday through Thursday, throughout the summer as indicated below:

WRPS 2024 SUMMER OPEN SWIM PROGRAM

Lincoln High School Pool – 1801 16th Street South, Wisc. Rapids

TIME: 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. **or** 1:00-3:00 p.m.

Monday through Thursday during the weeks of:

- 🌊 June 10, 2024
- 🌊 June 17, 2024
- 🌊 June 24, 2024
- 🌊 July 8, 2024
- 🌊 July 15, 2024 (Last day of open swim will be July 18th)



Children under the age of 12 are welcome, **but must be accompanied by an adult.**

COST:

\$5 per day per child (they can attend both the 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. and 1:00-3:00 p.m. session)

\$10 per day per family (can attend both sessions)

Another Option:

Summer Swim Card

\$20/month - unlimited uses

\$50/individual - for entire summer with unlimited uses

\$100/family for the entire summer with unlimited uses

You can plan to pay upon arrival at the pool on the date you attend.



QUESTIONS? PLEASE CONTACT:

Summer Academy:

Leslie Anderson, Summer Academy Principal at leslie.anderson@wrps.net

Pool Programming Questions:

Scout Gerndt, Aquatics Director at scout.gerndt@wrps.net



Our school is using ParentSquare!

Dear Parents & Guardians,

We are excited to let you know that for the 2024-2025 school year we'll be using ParentSquare to communicate with you at the school, and in your classrooms and groups.

ParentSquare provides a simple and safe way for everyone at school to connect.

With ParentSquare you'll be able to:

- Receive all district, school and classroom communication via email, text, or app
- View the school and classroom calendar and RSVP for events
- Easily sign up to volunteer and/or bring items
- Securely receive report cards, IEPs and other important student documents

Activate your Account

You will soon receive an invitation email or text to join ParentSquare starting around July 29th, 2024. Please click the link to activate your account. It takes less than a minute.

You can use ParentSquare on any device. You can download the free mobile app for iOS or Android or use the desktop version at www.parentsquare.com.

Our goal is for every family to join ParentSquare and engage with our school community.

Thank you so much!

KINDERGARTEN

- Clorox wipes
- 3 boxes of washable "classic colors" markers (not thin markers)
- 3 boxes of 24 crayons
- 6 large glue sticks
- 1 spiral notebook, wide-ruled
- 2-3 boxes of Kleenex
- Headphones (no earbuds)
- 1 school bag or backpack – *no wheels*
- 1 Pink Pearl eraser (no pencil top erasers)

- 1 Kindergarten vinyl folded mat
(Due to a shortage of storage space, we are requesting the red/blue thin mats)
- 1 box of Easy Zip/Slider Ziploc bags (girls-gallon size boys-quart size)
- Non-perishable snack to share with class
(ex. fruit snacks, cereal, crackers)
- School box (for crayons, markers, etc.)
- Gym shoes to be kept at school

Only label rest mat, backpack, headphones, school box and non-perishable snack

GRADE 1

- 1 box colored pencils, 12 pack
- 2 boxes of Kleenex
- 2 boxes thick markers – 8 pack
- 1 spiral notebook, wide-ruled
- 2 boxes of 24 count crayons
- Backpack – *No wheels*
- Hard school box (for crayons, markers, etc.)
- Gym shoes **to be kept at school**
- 1 pack of **black** dry erase markers (minimum of 4 total)
- Watercolor paints

- 2 dozen pre-sharpened pencils
- 2 containers of disinfecting wipes
- 2 glue sticks – no bottles
- 2 plastic pocket folders
- Boys - gallon Ziploc bags
- Girls - quart Ziploc bags
- Scissors
- No pens, rulers or pencil sharpeners***

Label only backpack, school box, scissors

In addition to classroom supplies, students in the following programs will also need:

Special Education students: 1 wide-lined notebook, 1 pocket folder, 1 box of Kleenex

*Students new to Howe School: headphones (no earbuds)

GRADE 2

- 1 box of 24 crayons
- 1 dozen #2 Ticonderoga pencils
- 1 - 12 pack of colored pencils
- 4 permanent glue sticks – **no bottles**
- 2 packs wide markers, classic colors
- 1 wide-ruled composition notebook – (*no spirals*)
- 3 three-pronged plastic pocket folders (red, blue, green)
- No pens, rulers or sharpeners needed**

- 1 large container of disinfecting wipes
- 1 large supply box (plastic only)
- Scissors
- 2 boxes of Kleenex
- Gym shoes **to be kept at school**
- Boys – gallon bags
- Girls – quart bags

PLEASE DO NOT LABEL ANY SUPPLIES

In addition to classroom supplies, students in the following programs will also need:

*Students new to Howe School: headphones (no earbuds)



*****Please complete the Online Verification before attending Open House.***

Go to www.wrps.org for more information about this process. Thank you.

****A box of crayons for each student in Kindergarten through 3rd grade is being donated district wide thanks to "Kids Growing Flowers For Kids" located in Vesper and their collaboration with our local Wisconsin Rapids Wal-Mart.***

GRADE 3

4 sturdy folders
 4 WIDE lined spiral notebooks
 Scissors
 Crayons, 24 count
 1 container of disinfecting wipes
 2 packages pencil top erasers
 2 dozen #2 pencils (Ticonderoga preferred), pre-sharpened
 Pencil box

4 glue sticks
 4 boxes of Kleenex
 Box of colored pencils
 Gym shoes ***to be kept at school***
 Water bottle
 Girls – sandwich size bags
 Boys – gallon size bags

In addition to classroom supplies, students in the following programs will also need:

Special Education students: 1 wide-lined notebook, 1 pocket folder, 1 box of Kleenex

*Students new to Howe School: headphones

GRADE 4

1 dozen Ticonderoga #2 pencils
 Colored pencils
 Markers
 Crayons
 Pencil box (should fit all art supplies)
 Highlighter
 Scissors
 2-4 no click blue or black pens

3 sturdy folders, your choice
 Gym shoes ***to be kept at school***
 4 boxes of Kleenex
 2 containers disinfecting wipes
 4 glue sticks
 2 wide-lined spiral notebooks
 1 pink pearl eraser
 2 black Expo dry erase markers

In addition to classroom supplies, students in the following programs will also need:

Special Education students: 1 wide-lined notebook, 1 pocket folder, 1 box of Kleenex

*Students new to Howe School: headphones

GRADE 5

3 dozen #2 Ticonderoga pencils
 2-4 Expo markers
 Pencil top erasers
 2 boxes of Kleenex
 Washable markers
 Gym shoes ***to be kept at school***
 3 matching folders and notebooks, *any color*
 At least 2 pens

Pencil box or case
 2 highlighters
 1 scissors (not child size)
 Colored pencils
 2 packs of glue sticks
 2 containers of disinfecting wipes

In addition to classroom supplies, students in the following programs will also need:

Special Education students: 1 wide-lined notebook, 1 pocket folder, 1 box of Kleenex

*Students new to Howe School: headphones



*****Please complete the Online Verification before attending Open House.***

Go to www.wrps.org for more information about this process. Thank you.

****A box of crayons for each student in Kindergarten through 3rd grade is being donated district wide thanks to "Kids Growing Flowers For Kids" located in Vesper and their collaboration with our local Wisconsin Rapids Wal-Mart.***

STUFF THE DESK

Registration Opens On May 1st!

Students in-need can register to receive a backpack filled with school supplies they need to start the school year.

HOW TO PARTICIPATE:

- Students must be registered to receive supplies.
- Register between May 1st and August 1st, 2024
 - Online at www.uwsvac.org
 - By phone, dial 211 (or 877-947-2211)
 - By scanning the QR code
- Select preferred pickup time during registration (pick-up times limited to August 16th and 17th)
- Pick-up will be at East Junior High School, located at 311 Lincoln St., Wisconsin Rapids
 - Pick-up line on 6th St. (back of school)



Stuff the Desk Committee Partners:

