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## Education notes: News from schools near you

Pioneer Press

POSTED: 11/03/2013 12:01:00 AM CDT

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Education notes

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DAKOTA COUNTY

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-- The West St. Paul-Mendota Heights-Eagan district was awarded \$24,710 in state early-education funding for a **kindergarten transition** program. The funds, Pathway II scholarships, are given to highly rated preschool programs.

-- The Farmington High School wind ensemble will play with the 451st Army Band at 6:30 p.m. Nov. 9 at the school. The program, "**Inspiring Generations**," will honor area veterans and is free.

-- Inver Hills Community College was recognized by Victory Media as a **military-friendly school**. The designation is given to the top 20 percent of colleges nationwide working to help veterans succeed on campus.

-- The **Canadian Pacific Railway** donated \$10,000 to the Dakota County Technical College Foundation to fund 10 scholarships for students in the railroad conductor training program.

RAMSEY COUNTY

-- **Liberty Classical Academy in Maplewood** will host an open house at 7 p.m. Nov. 14 at its upper campus, 2696 Hazelwood St. Families will have a chance to meet with teachers, parents and students.

-- **Chief Justice John Roberts Jr.** of the U.S. Supreme Court will teach in William Mitchell College of Law's London program next summer. The St. Paul school's London program is a five-week study abroad experience open to law students from across the country. Roberts will teach a course called "The United States Supreme Court in Historical Perspective."

-- **Delores Henderson**, a veteran principal in St. Paul Public Schools, received a lifetime achievement award from the Givens Foundation for African-American Literature. Henderson, the principal of Hazel Park Preparatory Academy, will be recognized at the foundation's biennial "Culture Matters!" education conference for her leadership in serving black students.

-- Students at St. Paul's Cretin-Derham Hall High School will witness a historic moment when the school hosts the investiture ceremony for **Edward Cleary** as chief judge of the Minnesota Court of Appeals. Cleary is a 1970 graduate of the school. The ceremony will be at 1:30 p.m. Nov. 4.

## WASHINGTON COUNTY

-- Rachel Huset, a senior, is starting the "**Spread the Word to End the Word**" campaign at Forest Lake Area High School. The campaign educates students about the negative impact of using the word "retarded." Huset heard about the campaign at the Minnesota Special Olympics Summer Games in Stillwater. A kick-off rally will be held Nov. 6, where speakers will include Angela Nelson, a social studies teacher at the school; Danielle Liebl, who works with Special Olympics Minnesota; and students Zach Anderson and Mike Shaw.

-- Students at Oneka and Hugo elementaries in Hugo have been busy creating **outdoor learning boxes** -- also known as field desks -- for use in the school's forest, which was designated in conjunction with the state Department of Natural Resources. A Boy Scout working toward his Eagle Scout badge built 33 outdoor learning boxes, and a fifth-grade Oneka student worked with her family to get donations and materials and build and outfit another 35 boxes. Another Oneka student brought in money for clipboards and magnifying glasses to stock the boxes.

-- **Carol Geiger**, a teacher at Wyoming Elementary, received \$1,000 worth of supplies for her classroom from OfficeMax. The office products retailer joined with [AdoptAClassroom.org](http://AdoptAClassroom.org) (<http://AdoptAClassroom.org>) to create "A Day Made Better," when supplies were donated to more than 1,000 teachers. Geiger was nominated for the gift last spring by former Wyoming principal Mike Conway.

-- **Laura Anton**, an art teacher at the Forest Lake Area Learning Center, will receive the Secondary Art Educator of the Year award from Art Educators of Minnesota. She will be honored at the association's fall conference in Duluth on Nov. 8-9.

-- Art teacher Pam Fioritto has been leading seventh-grade students at **St. Croix Catholic School** in Stillwater through a unit on equine study. Students visited an exhibit of equine art at the Stillwater Art Guild Gallery and learned how to research their subjects. Their art of horses was on display at the school's recent open house.

-- Students at **Lake Middle School in Woodbury** will perform the world premiere of "How to Hide Your Zombies" Nov. 14-16. Lake students have performed two other shows by playwright Edith Weiss, and she was so impressed by their performance that she asked them to premiere her newest work. The play is about accepting differences. Tickets are \$3 and \$5 at the door.

-- Andersen Windows has donated tool kits for science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) studies to Stillwater area elementary schools, and the Andersen Corporate Foundation donated \$156,000 so 20 teachers could attend the **STEM-certification** program at St. Catherine University in St. Paul. Those teachers will now teach others in the district, until all 160 teachers in nine elementary schools have learned the STEM concepts. The tool kits contain supplies for hands-on learning, including wooden dowels, pipe cleaners, magnet wire, batteries, mini LED lights and simple circuits.

-- Food and drinks from local restaurants and businesses will be featured at the third annual "**Taste of District 622**" from noon to 2 p.m. Nov. 9 at Tartan High School in Oakdale. Other activities include a silent auction, a "balloon lady" and cookie decorating for kids. Tickets will be sold at the door and are \$10 for adults, \$8 for students, and free for children younger than 5. Proceeds benefit the 622 Education Foundation, which raises funds for North St. Paul-Maplewood-Oakdale schools and students.

-- The **Pony Express**, the student-run newspaper at Stillwater Area High School, and the Stillwater Gazette are teaming up. Starting the week of Nov. 4, about three articles a week written by seniors will appear in the Gazette as opinion pieces, arts and entertainment stories, or features.

Information for Education Notes may be sent to Mila Koumpilova, [mkoumpilova@pioneerpress.com](mailto:mkoumpilova@pioneerpress.com) (<mailto:mkoumpilova@pioneerpress.com>), for St. Paul schools; Christopher Magan, [cmagan@pioneerpress.com](mailto:cmagan@pioneerpress.com) (<mailto:cmagan@pioneerpress.com>) for Dakota County schools; Deb Mazzocco, [dmazzocco@pioneerpress.com](mailto:dmazzocco@pioneerpress.com) (<mailto:dmazzocco@pioneerpress.com>), for Washington County schools; David Knutson, [dknutson@pioneerpress.com](mailto:dknutson@pioneerpress.com) (<mailto:dknutson@pioneerpress.com>), for north suburban schools; and Andy Rathbun, [arathbun@pioneerpress.com](mailto:arathbun@pioneerpress.com) (<mailto:arathbun@pioneerpress.com>), for Wisconsin schools.

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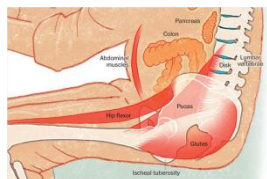


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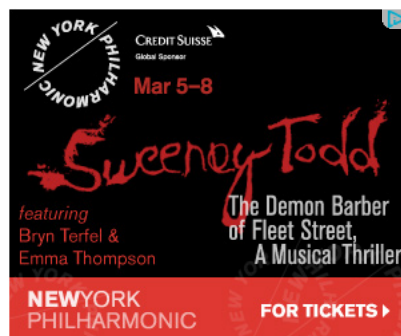
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