



# Celebrating *A-TEAM* PRIDE

*Our students, staff and alumni continue to make us proud.*

*It's a good time to be a Cardinal! #CardinalPride*

Discovery Middle School 8th grade students provided a day of community service, completing various outdoor projects for the school's "Day of Caring". Collaboratively supported by United Way, it's a rewarding student experience in giving to others.



The school district is proud to welcome 39 new teachers to our A Team! These new team members will be supported through our New Teacher Induction Program, a three-year mentorship program that embeds professional development and peer support.



A Team District Office staff volunteered August 3 on the Habitat for Humanity of Douglas County build site. Two teams, totaling 15 staff, helped install insulation and poly providing support for safe, stable, affordable housing for Douglas County families.



## 2021-22 Cardinal Nation Recap

What a year for Cardinal sports and activities! Our students excelled in activities and athletics as they earned:

- 8 CLC Championships
- 11 Section Titles
- 240 State Competitors
- 11 State Champions (Girls Track & Field; Girls Golf)
- 1 State Title (Girls Golf)
- 1 Sportsmanship Award (Girls Soccer)
- 10 Section Academic Gold Team Awards
- 2 Section 8AA Academic Champions (Gymnastics, Boys Golf)
- 39 International DECA Qualifiers
- One Act Play - Section Champions & Star Rating at State Festival
- 9 Section Head Coach of the Year Awards
- 2 Section Assistant Coach of the Year Awards
- 1 State Head Coach of the Year



## Points of Pride

- 23 Alexandria Area High School graduates and current students have been named 2022 AP Scholars based on their performance on Advanced Placement (AP) exams.
- 121 students, about 60% Alexandria Public Schools students, had the opportunity to participate in the Summer Challenge Academy, a one-week, intense class offered in the summer for students in gifted high ability programs.
- 192 professional certifications obtained by Alexandria Area High School students.
- 106 students received their Ford Automotive Career Exploration (ACE) safety certification.
- 24 students obtained their CNA (Certified Nurse Assistant) certification through AAHS coursework.
- 29 students in the high school Emergency Medical Responder course were successfully certified as EMR's.
- 33 CAPS Healthcare students received their CPR/First Aid certification.
- 170 Honor Graduates in the Class of 2022. Honor Graduates maintain a cumulative GPA of 3.33+ all four years of high school.

AP®

CollegeBoard



Challenge Academy



Three individuals will be honored for a lifetime of distinction after graduating from, or service to, Alexandria Public Schools.

### The 2022 Hall of Fame Inductees include:

Lisa Grimes, Class of '78; Thomas Kiehne, Class of '65; and Terry Quist, Class of '71. Tickets \$30, available at Cherry Street Books, Elden's, online [www.alexeducationfoundation.org](http://www.alexeducationfoundation.org).

## AAHS Ag Program plants Kernza grain test plot

AAHS is one of the first high schools in MN to grow Kernza with guidance from the U of M. Kernza is a perennial grain related to wheat that has multiple uses including being beneficial to water quality and the environment. The school's agricultural program is helping students learn more about the versatile grain by having them plant a two-acre test plot. Alexandria School Board member Alan Zeithmaer brought up the idea of Kernza research. "We have always been looking for opportunities to find partnerships that are more authentic and real world," Zeithmaer said. The project has been featured in the Echo Press, AgWeek, and a recent video news story on Twin Cities PBS. Visit [alexschools.org](http://alexschools.org) to learn more.



## Upcoming Events:

- Sept 28: Elementary Run, 3:30pm, Discovery Middle School
- Sept 30: Alexandria Education Foundation Alumni Hall of Fame Luncheon, 12:00-1:15pm, Broadway Ballroom. 2022 Inductees: Lisa Grimes '78, Tom Kiehne '65, and Terry Quist '71.
- Sept 30: Homecoming – Community parade, downtown Alexandria, 4:00pm; Food Concessions following parade, 5:00pm, AAHS Stadium; Varsity Football game vs. Brainerd, 7:00pm
- Oct 11: Early Education Center Addition Ribbon-Cutting, 4:00pm
- Oct 15: Early Education Center Addition Open House, 9am-Noon. Enjoy free play, snacks & beverages.

On November 5, 2019, voters approved a phased-in operating levy providing additional funding to bridge our budget gap and help maintain our excellent academic programs, student support services and class sizes.

## Here's an update on our referendum commitment to Expanding Mental Health Support:

- **Early Childhood** Special Education (ECSE) has a part-time social worker that works with staff and families.
- Each of the **GMC Schools (Garfield, Miliona, Carlos)** has a full-time social worker with a few additional district responsibilities (Coaching teachers in Teacher-Child Interaction Training - TCIT). In addition, the district works with the Village Family Service Center for co-located mental health services as needed.
- **Woodland Elementary** currently has 3 social workers (1.0 in special education, 2.0 in general education/intervention) and 2 board-certified behavior support (BCBA) specialists - one intervention and one in special education. In addition, students are serviced through co-location with the Village on site.
- **Voyager Elementary** currently has 1 social worker and 1 board-certified behavior support (BCBA) specialist split between special education/intervention/general education. In addition, students are serviced through co-location with the Village on site.
- **Lincoln Elementary** currently has 2 social workers (split between special education/intervention/general education). In addition, students are serviced through co-location with the Village on site.
- **Discovery Middle School (DMS)** currently has 2 social workers - one works with students in special education and the other in general/intervention. There are 2 deans/counselors working with students in the building. Additional support is provided by 2 board-certified behavior support (BCBA) specialists - one intervention and one in special education. In addition, students are serviced through co-location with Lakeland Mental Health on-site.
- **Alexandria Area High School (AAHS)** currently has 2.5 social workers who split their time between special education/attendance/intervention and general education. Four counselors work at AAHS, providing guidance to students in 9th grade and through each Academy. AAHS has one Dean at the ninth-grade level. In addition, students are serviced through co-location with Lakeland Mental Health on-site.
- Additionally, the **district** has one social worker that collaborates with each building, manages Alternative Delivery Specialized Instructional Services (ADSIS), and provides coaching district-wide.

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