

Firebirds Newsletter

Folwell Community School

3611 20th Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55407

Office: 612-668-4550 folwell@mpls.k12.mn.us

Principal's Message

Happy February;

The Folwell introduction video will be up on our website for new and prospective families; included are the new updates that have been completed and other aspects of our caring community.

The groundhog saw his shadow, and according to legend we have another few weeks of winter. I personally hope that Punxsutawney Phil is wrong. I believe we could all use an early spring.

This month we are celebrating Black History, with different themes:

- History
- Leadership
- Courage
- Legacy

Lastly, we are having a reading quest, students are to write how many minutes they are reading, this can include audiobooks, being read to or picture books. We would like all students to participate from H5 to 5th grade.

A reminder about COVID prevention protocol:

- Please wear a mask when any person enters the building
- If your child is sick, please keep them home

Lacy Cannon

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Black History Month

February is Black History Month and throughout the month Folwell students will be learning about the contributions of black citizens.

Weekly themes will focus on black history, leadership, courage and legacy. We are also posting Black History Month Trivia questions on



social media. Play along at home and learn new things about the contributions of black citizens.

For more information about Black History Month visit,

<https://blackhistorymonth.gov>

I Love to Read Month

February is also I Love to Read Month, a month-long celebration of all things reading. Students will track their reading time and report it to their teacher. The class with the most reading minutes at

the end of the month will win a pizza party. All participating students will be entered in a prize drawing. Please encourage your student to read every day!



2022-2023 Budget Survey

Budget planning for the 2022-23 school year is underway and we need your input by February 18th to help us create an equitable budget for Folwell. Your feedback will be taken into consideration;

final decisions will be determined by Folwell Administration. Find the survey at these websites:

English,
<https://tinyurl.com/2p833nm8>

Somali,
<https://tinyurl.com/2p8w5st4>

Spanish,
<https://tinyurl.com/2nxj58rz>

Winter Parent-Teacher Conferences

Winter teacher conferences will be held on **Tuesday, February 22**.

You can choose to complete your conference in-person, virtually or by telephone. Register here, <https://www.myconferencetime.com/folwell>

What to expect at conferences:

- The purpose of conferences

is to talk about your student's educational progress.

- You will be asked to share information about your student. What are their strengths and interests?
- You will have time to ask questions. It's a good idea to write down your questions.

- The teacher will talk about your student's strengths and growth areas.
- Conferences are no longer than 20 minutes; it is important to be on time.



Through a partnership with Good In the Hood, Folwell will host a monthly Pop-Up Food Shelf on the third Tuesday of each month from 4-6pm.

Pop-Up Food Shelf

The next food shelf is on February 15, 4-6pm. Everyone is welcome, no registration or ID is required.

Food will be available on a first come, first served basis while supplies last. Questions? Call 612-668-6550.

What Do School Social Workers Do?

School social workers are here to help students do well in school academically, socially and emotionally. We do student groups, check-ins, and goal-oriented individual counseling with students. Some things we commonly help students with are grief and loss, trauma, anxiety, depression, difficulty with friendships, anger management, and divorce/family separation. We are also available to talk with parents and caregivers about social, emotional and behavioral difficulties and to help families access needed resources such as food and housing. An important part of our work is helping students who have disabilities, are in foster care, or are homeless.

Creating a safe and nurturing community and supporting our students to grow and thrive is important to us. We like to honor the cultures of our students and teach them to honor the cultures of others. We are working to

dismantle systemic racism in order to help all students have access to quality education. We also believe that students' social and emotional well-being is just as important as their academic achievement and that they go hand in hand. Another important goal of our work is to help students solve conflicts peacefully. Here is some more information we wanted to share about ourselves:

Linda Azure, School Social Worker Grades 3-5
Phone: 612-668-4563
Linda.Azure@mpls.k12.mn.us

I have worked at Folwell School since 2018. I have been a school social worker for 30 years and love working with students and their families. I am from three tribes; Nakota, Dakota, and Anishinabe from Wolf Point, Montana and grew up on the Fort Peck Indian reservation in northeastern Montana. I know that education is a

wonderful tool for our students and I am supportive of students and their families.

Natasha Kunin, LICSW, School Social Worker Hi-5-1st Grade, ECSE, ASD, and SB3
Phone: (612) 668-4562 office or (612) 361-4562 call/text
natasha.kunin@mpls.k12.mn.us

This is my first year at Folwell and my third year as a social worker in Minneapolis Public Schools. Before that I was a school social worker in the San Francisco Unified School District for 12 years. I grew up in Minneapolis and moved back here after living in the San Francisco Bay Area for 20 years. I love getting to know the students and families that I work with. I think it is important for each child to feel they are a loved and valued member of the school community.

After School Program

Looking for something fun and educational to do after school? Join the Folwell After School program! All of our classes are free, and a snack and transportation are provided.

To register, complete this online registration form: <https://forms.gle/Mm2zKZP8e53WDmm98> or the paper registration form your child brought home.

Call or email Alicia at alicia.robey@mpls.k12.mn.us or 612-668-4590 with your questions.



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Follow us on Social Media!
www.facebook.com/MPS.Folwell
www.twitter.com/MPS_Folwell
www.instagram.com/mps.folwell/

Summer Scholars Program

Summer Scholars is an innovative, immersive summer experience that challenges your child to explore a world of possibilities both in and out of the classroom. With five unique, engaging Summer Scholars Academies, there's a place for everyone to experience more while growing their learning:

- [Discovery and Learning Academy](#) (Grades K-5)
- [GEMS/GISE STEM Academy](#) (Grades K-8)

- [GEMS-GISE Virtual STEM Academy](#) (Grades 1-8, MPS students only)
- [Fast-Track Academy](#) (Grade 9)
- [Credit Academy](#) (Grades 10-12, qualifying students only)

For more information and to register visit,
<https://summerschool.mpls.k12.mn.us/>
or call 612.668.0730

No School February 21 & 22

School will be closed on Monday, February 21 for Presidents Day.

There is also no school on

Tuesday, February, 22 due to Parent-Teacher Conferences.

Upcoming Events/Important Dates

February

1 – Black History Month begins
15 – Food Shelf
21 – No School, Presidents Day
22 – No School, Parent Teacher Conferences

March

15 – Food Shelf
31 - Third Quarter Ends

April

1 - Teacher Record Keeping Day/No School
4-8 - Spring Break
11 - Fourth Quarter Begins
19 – Food Shelf

May

17 – Food Shelf
30 - Memorial Day

June

10 - Last Day for Pre-K-12
13-14 - Possible Make up days
15 - Teacher Record Keeping Day

June 20-July 28 - Summer school (Fridays off)

