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# PAPERMAKER NEWS

## KIMBERLY AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

FALL 2020 | ISSUE NO. 8 | [WWW.KIMBERLY.K12.WI.US](http://WWW.KIMBERLY.K12.WI.US)

### OUR MISSION REMAINS THE SAME

#### Message From The Superintendent



Our Mission to serve our community and provide a quality educational experience for children has never been needed more than right now. It certainly is not business as usual

for the school district or our community. Despite the many challenges, we opened our schools five days a week for in person learning. We also created an online option for students who did not want to come in person. You can be proud that your school district found a way to balance the need for safety while creatively educating all students every day.

Sincerely,

Robert Mayfield, Ed.D.  
Superintendent

### OUR VISION

Students will grow as problem solvers to reach their potential in academics, arts and co-curriculars.



### HIGH QUALITY PUBLIC EDUCATION

#### Kimberly Area School District is High Achieving and Low-Spending

The Kimberly Area School District (KASD) strives to provide a high-quality education to students while being responsible stewards of taxpayer funds. The community's investment in public education helps the next generation prepare for life after graduation and it also positively impacts property values. Here are a few highlights of how the District is providing the community a strong return on their investment:

- The property tax rate (mill rate) was reduced seven consecutive years.
- Due to being a low-spending district, the state allowed KASD to increase per pupil spending to bring it closer to the state average. The district is now back to the 2010-2011 revenue per pupil.
- Home values remain strong and the real estate market is very competitive in the District.
- Over one million square feet across 21 District facilities is maintained and improved through a 10-year capital improvement plan.
- Due to school closures in the 2019-2020 school year the district reduced costs in the areas of bussing, daily cleaning, and utilities.
- About \$72,000 in the 2019-2020 Budget was spent on various Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) supplies, preparing for the 2020-2021 school year.

We remain hopeful that we can continue to provide innovative opportunities for students through strong enrollment and the changes in state funds that would allow low-spending districts like ours to get closer to the state average.

Interested in reading more about District finances? Visit the Business Services website at [www.kimberly.k12.wi.us](http://www.kimberly.k12.wi.us)

Low Spending		High Achieving	
<b>Tax Rate</b> (Mill Rate) <b>\$7.52</b>	↓ <b>REDUCED</b> 8 Years in a Row	<b>District Test Scores</b>	↑ <b>ABOVE</b> State Averages
<b>Per Pupil Spending</b> <b>\$10,000</b>	↓ <b>LESS</b> Than State Average	<b>Academic and Career Planning</b>	↑ <b>IMPROVED</b> Students prepared for their future
<b>Private School Vouchers Cost Taxpayers</b> <b>\$1,263,932</b>	↑ <b>INCREASED</b> \$1,263,932 paid by District taxpayers the last 5 years	<b>Tuition Savings</b> <b>\$1,349,578</b>	↑ <b>RECORD HIGH</b> Advanced Credit Coursework
<b>Tax Levy</b> <b>\$16,044,129</b>	↑ <b>INCREASED</b> Due to vouchers	<b>Arts and Activities Recognition</b>	↑ <b>MORE</b> Local, State and National Honors

# A MORE EQUITABLE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

## Sights Set on Evolving Inclusion and Diversity within the District

As one of the highest achieving districts in the area and the state, we have committed to an ongoing curriculum and staff development approach. We strive to ensure that every student is allowed to reach their potential in a safe environment that not only supports diversity and inclusion, but reflects it as well. Kimberly Area School District (KASD) knows that to accomplish this, equity must be an perpetual initiative that is at the base of all District relationships and connections.

So what's next? The District must identify the current culture, challenges, and potential growth to move forward, defining steps of action and implementation. Lead by Woodland principal, Dr. Timothy Doleysh, Kimberly Area School District established an initiative to accomplish just that. Efforts are already being made at the staff level and will progress onto KASD students.



Key components of the equity initiative are tied to the District's culture and staff/student relations. "Collectively, we can do better," said Dr. Robert Mayfield, Superintendent. "There will always be room for improvement, but we will no longer allow the possibility of uncomfortable situations to deter us from our greater goal. We are committed to moving forward and getting to a place of cultural comfort for all staff and students."

## SPRING 2020 - STILL MUCH TO BE PROUD OF







### Successful Moments Amid a Pandemic

The end of the 2019-2020 school year was anything but routine. In March, Governor Evers ordered the closure of all K-12 Wisconsin schools due to the Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19). Despite the closures, students' needs did not change and in three days the KASD educational program was transformed. Beyond the academic changes, adjustments were also made to mental and behavioral health services in addition to meal services.

Undoubtedly there were challenges, but there is also much to be celebrated. The 2019-2020 accomplishments span from our KASD families, District employees and community members to the students. Although we cannot list each and every standout moment below, are a few notable feats:

### SENSATIONAL SUCCESSES

#### Due to COVID Closures

-  **3 DAYS** Transition to virtual learning made in only three days.
-  Every student and staff member was provided access to necessary technology for virtual learning.
-  An estimated 1.7 million district emails were sent within the first 30 days of closure, up 83%.
-  23,332 video meetings held within the first 28 days.
-  78,000 free meals served.
-  KHS students took 873 Advanced Placement (AP) Exams and had the District's highest pass rate, earning over \$1 million potential savings for college credit.

### OUTSTANDING ACADEMICS

#### 2019-2020 School Year

-  Students and staff won the Kohl Fellowship Award.
-  For the first time in four years, our ACT score increased in both Math and English.
-  Two J.R. Gerritts Middle School (JRG) students won the State National History Day competition.
-  KASD Elementary Principals were honored as a team by the Wisconsin State Reading Association with a State Literacy Award.
-  Mr. Leih, the choral director for JRG, was named the Outstanding Young Choir Director.
-  KHS had two state sport champions, boys' volleyball and girls' hockey.



# GOOD NEWS FROM OUR SCHOOLS



## One of the Nation's Best for Music Education

KASD was named one of the Nation's Best Communities for Music Education by the National Association of Music Merchants.

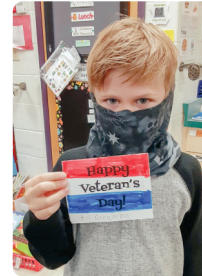
## 176 AP Scholars

For the 2019-20 school year, 176 KHS students were recognized by the Advanced Placement (AP) program. Seven of those students also earned the highest level of accolades - National AP Scholar recognition.



## McGinnis Recognized for Ethics in Coaching

Over the summer, Athletic Director and baseball Head Coach Ryan McGinnis was named a 2021 American Baseball Coaches Association (ABCA)/Dave Keillitz Ethics in Coaching Award Recipient!



## Students Honor Veterans

Students recently honored veterans and their families who have served our country past and present. Through their moving video messages, handmade cards and songs, students expressed their gratitude to our veterans for protecting our freedom.

## All-State Children's Choir

Kashia Yang and Brooklyn VanGompel, Woodland Intermediate School students, were accepted into the All-State Children's Choir. Congratulations to these students for pursuing excellence in the arts.



# THE SHOW WILL GO ON

## Kimberly High Theatre Program Prepares for Rare Year

As Todd Wegner enters his 17th year of teaching Theatre Arts at Kimberly High School (KHS), he's preparing for a year unlike any other. Since last spring he's become quite familiar with "COVID" related changes. The KHS theatre department has had to grapple with a number of schedule adjustments and cancellations including the highly anticipated production of Chicago. Nonetheless, the old adage "the show must go on," rings true.

Preparations to return to the stage are already underway. Three co-curricular mainstage productions are scheduled for the 2020-2021 school year. "We had to revise our original show selection to allow for a range of flexibility," said Wegner. "The shows selected are written in a way that maximizes social distancing for the actors and allows for separated staging."

The unique storytelling featured in this year's selected material supports the District's risk mitigation strategies. For instance, Kimberly High Theatre's first production, "Women and War" is presented through a collection of letters and monologues, supporting social distancing between cast members. The Spring musical, "Songs for a New World," allows for flexible casting that can feature a large number of students.

All is not solved with the selection of material alone. Planning and considerations will be carefully shaped in every aspect of the production. Auditions, rehearsals, set design, costumes, and opening night will need to be refigured based on current health and safety standards. "This experience is challenging for all of us but I am amazed at our students' ability to adapt and run with it," said Wegner. "Although this year will be unlike any other, students are excited to get back on stage."

Although there are still many unknowns, the determination to perform and move forward is clear. To learn more and get additional KHS Theatre event information go to <http://kimberlytheatre.weebly.com/>.







Kimberly Area School District  
425 S Washington Street  
Combined Locks, WI 54113

## KIMBERLY RESIDENTS!

### It's Time to Enroll Your Newest Papermaker for 2021-2022 School Year!

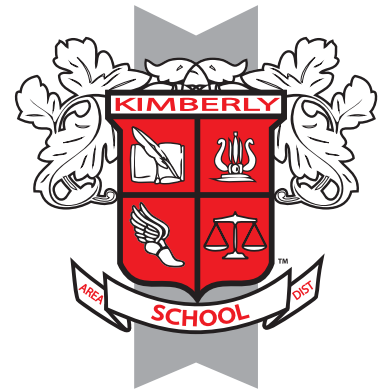
Is your child going to be 4 or 5 years old by September 1, 2021? Kindergarten registration for Kimberly residents is now open. At Kimberly schools, every student is given the opportunity to reach their potential through academics, the arts and co-curricular activities. Our 4-year old kindergarten students have their own full-service 4K Center (including a wrap-around daycare option). Registration is quick and easy! Visit [www.kimberly.k12.wi.us/departments/enrollment/kindergarten](http://www.kimberly.k12.wi.us/departments/enrollment/kindergarten) for more information.



## BOARD OF EDUCATION

- Ammie Ebben
- Tim Handrich
- Mary Pribbenow
- Deb Roberts
- Dr. Montgomery Elmer
- Penny Hoh
- Brad Siebers

Upcoming meetings are scheduled for January 11, January 25, February 8, February 22, March 8, March 22, April 12, April 26, May 10, May 24 and June 14, 2021. View upcoming meeting dates, agendas and minutes online at [www.kimberly.k12.wi.us](http://www.kimberly.k12.wi.us).



## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

### ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

Welcome to the Eighth edition of this publication from the Kimberly Area School District. Contact Jill Peeters, Marketing & Community Coordinator with questions or concerns at (920) 788-7900 or [jpeeters@kimberly.k12.wi.us](mailto:jpeeters@kimberly.k12.wi.us).


### PUPIL NONDISCRIMINATION STATEMENT

The Kimberly Area School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, sex, (including transgender status, change of sex or gender identity), or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability ("Protected Classes") in any of its student programs and activities.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

For information about KASD, visit our website, call our District Office or find us on facebook.

 [www.kimberly.k12.wi.us](http://www.kimberly.k12.wi.us)

 (920) 788-7900

 @KimberlyAreaSchoolDistrict

In order to be good stewards of taxpayer funds, a cost-effective bulk mailing service was used for this publication. There are limitations to the service and we cannot fully match the mailing list with our school district borders without adding significant cost. If you do not live within the Kimberly Area School District and received this publication due to this limitation, we ask for your understanding.