

WHO'S WHO AT THE VERNDALE SCHOOL

Superintendent - Jeannie Mayer ext. 317	Secretary/Community Ed Coordinator/Student Records - Ashley Hess ext. 302
Principal/Assessment Coordinator - Katie Bolland ext. 313	Accounts Payable & Receivable - Stacy DeMars ext. 315
Activities Director/Dean of Students - Greg Johnson ext. 319	Business Manager – Jordan Anderson ext. 315
School Counselor/Academic Advisor - Katie Tackmann ext. 321	Preschool Plus - Becky Ludovissie ext. 261/260
School Counselor/Academic Advisor - Heather Lehmkuhl ext. 320	Media Assistant - Haley Youngbauer ext. 317
School Nurse - Blair Loscheider ext. 312 School	Food Service Supervisor -Kelsea Desrocher ext. 210
Nurse - Jill Davis at WCPH 218-631-7629	Transportation/Buildings and Grounds Supervisor - Wade Kern ext. 304
Secretary/MARSS - Mary Gronlund ext. 301	IT Coordinator - Craig Zachman ext. 229
Payroll/Human Resources - Amber Nelson ext. 300	

www.verndaleschool.org

Look for our NEW website coming September 2024!

Verndale Public School

411 SW Brown Street
Verndale, MN 56481



NONPROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID IDS#818
VERNDALE, MN
56481 PERMIT NO.
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**Important
Back to School
Information Enclosed!**

Verndale Public School Back to School Information

Tuesday,
September 3, 2024
First day of school
for Kindergarten,
grades 1-7 and
grade 12



Wednesday,
September 4, 2024
First day of school
for grades 8-11

SCHOOL SUPPLY LISTS

Can be found on our website
(www.verndaleschool.org), on our
Facebook page, in the district office,
and at many local stores.

Burger Bash

Wednesday, August 28, 2024
4:00 pm - 6:00 pm
School Parking Lot

This event is free and is for ALL students, their
families, teachers, and school employees.
Sponsored by: Verndale Alliance Church

K-12 OPEN HOUSE 4-6pm

Wednesday, August 28th, 2024
Come meet teachers and administrators, pick
up class schedules, drop off your school sup-
plies, get your Chromebook and sign up for JMC
parent online access.

New Student/Parent

Orientation
3:30pm
Auditorium

7th Grade Student/Parent

Orientation
4:30pm
Auditorium

Chromebook Orientation
for Students/Parents in grades 5-12
will be online

Preschool Plus Open House

FOR FAMILIES CURRENTLY ENROLLED

Wednesday, August 28, 2024
4:00 pm - 6:00 pm
Preschool Classroom

If you are interested in enrolling your child, we encourage you to pick up an
application from the office. Fill it out and return to the school office and
someone will contact you about openings.

Preschool Plus:

- ☐ Offers developmentally appropriate play and learning experiences that set your child up for success in school;
- ☐ Provides a safe environment for children to play, develop social skills through friendship and play, participate in music, arts and discovery;
- ☐ Offers a sliding fee scale for tuition

Activities Calendar

go to our website
<http://www.verndaleschool.org/>

- Find "Activities" in the menu on the top of the page. A drop down menu will appear.
- Click on "Athletic Calendar"
- Once on this page about half way down on the right side click on "view schedules", a drop down menu will appear will numerous schedules. Scroll down to find your schedule (example: "Football — Boys Varsity" or "No School — Christmas Break").
- Once you find your schedule click on the box in front of the name and then click "view" (found below all schedule names).
- Once the schedule appears you can then print, email, download and/or subscribe.

DISTRICT GOALS

1. Optimize Student Achievement
2. Manage an Effective School District Budget
3. Retain Effective Staff Members

STUDENT HANDBOOK

The student handbook will be reviewed with students during the first day of school. Copies of the handbook can be found online at www.verndaleschool.org or are available in the school office.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Verndale Public School District is to provide a safe and innovative learning environment where all students are prepared for an ever-changing world through excellence. educational

SCHOOL BOARD MEETINGS

Location: Verndale Public School Media Center

- Monday, September 9, 2024 6:00pm
- Monday, October 7, 2024 6:00pm
- Monday, November 4, 2024 6:00pm
- Monday, December 2, 2024 6:00pm**

**Note: This is an annual Truth and Taxation Meeting. This is scheduled at the beginning of the regularly scheduled school board meeting.

DAILY SCHEDULES

Elementary Schedule

School Starts 8:15 am
 K Lunch 10:45 am – 11:10 am
 K Recess 11:20 am – 11:50 am
 1st grade Lunch 10:48 am – 11:15 am
 1st grade Recess 11:20 am – 11:50 am
 2nd grade Lunch 10:51 am – 11:15 am
 2nd grade Recess 11:20 am – 11:50 pm
 3rd - 4th grade Lunch 11:30 am – 12:00 pm
 3rd - 4th grade Recess 10:55 am – 11:25 am
 5th - 6th grade Lunch 11:20 am – 11:45 am
 5th - 6th grade Recess 11:45 am – 12:15 pm

High School Schedule

School Starts 8:15 am
 7-8 Lunch 12:36 pm – 12:58 pm
 9-12 Lunch 12:06 pm – 12:36 pm
 School Dismissal 3:09 pm
 Bus Departure 3:15 pm

Students being dropped off and/or picked up are not allowed in the school building before 7:45am or after 3:15pm unless they are under the direct supervision of a school staff member.

SUPERINTENDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Students, Families, and Community Members,

Greetings from Pirate Country! I am so excited to be back for my third year at Verndale Public School!! I thoroughly enjoy meeting people, and working with the amazing staff and students in our building. My door is open, my phone is on, my email is ready, please let me know how I can support this community and this school!

We are excited about the upcoming school year. I encourage you to read this year's Back to School Newsletter to get all information needed. This newsletter is filled with important information as we begin the year. If you still need more information, please refer to our school website at www.verndaleschool.org, or call the school office at 218-445-5184.

There are a few items I would like to bring to your attention as the school year begins. School meals are still free to all students. I am still asking you all to **please** take time to fill out the "Application for Educational Benefits," form. This form is used to determine grant eligibility and additional funds available at the state. Thank you, greatly, for filling this form out.

According to the Compulsory Instruction Statute, 120A.22, every child between the age of 7-17 must receive instruction unless the child has graduated. Once a pupil under age seven is enrolled in kindergarten or higher, the student is subject to the compulsory instruction statute. We are so excited your kids are here, and we want to provide them the best education possible, and to do that, we need them in attendance. You can find more information about the district's policy on attendance, in the handbook. Thanks for your partnership with us!

My goals as school administrator are to ensure all students show growth in every area of learning, financial stability for the school district, and providing a safe, supportive, collaborative learning and working environment for all. Here at the Verndale School, we value effective teaching in every classroom and a learning environment built on positive relationships, teamwork, and continuous growth. I feel these align well with our schools mission of providing a safe and innovative learning environment where all students are prepared for an ever-changing world through educational excellence. Thank you for going on this journey with us!

I look forward to seeing you at our back to school Open House which is scheduled for Wednesday, August 28th, from 4-6 pm.

Sincerely,
 Jeannie Mayer
 Superintendent

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

Scott Veronen	Chairperson	218-445-5230
Shyla Hess	Vice-Chair	218-445-5272
Jeremy Schwartz	Director	218-639-1958
Chris Youngbauer	Clerk	218-445-1218
Tahna Rurup	Director	218-640-0667
Tyler Fisher	Treasurer	218-371-7300

A NOTE FROM THE SCHOOL NURSE

IF YOUR STUDENT HAS A HEALTH CONCERN... Please complete a Health Questionnaire before school starts, so I can best inform the appropriate school staff of your child's condition. Confidentiality of this information is stressed upon and only the appropriate staff members will receive relevant information about your student. You can get a form from the school office or download one from the Verndale School website. If your child has a more serious, life threatening health condition, please contact me as soon as possible so an Emergency Health Plan can be created.

IF YOUR STUDENT NEEDS TO TAKE MEDICATION WHILE AT SCHOOL... For prescription medication, a consent form must be signed by both the parent and the prescribing health professional who prescribed the medication. This form is called the Consent for Administration of Medication (For Prescription Medication). For non-prescription medication, a similar consent form must be completed by the parent only. You can get one of these forms from the school health office or you can download a copy from the Verndale School website.

Medication given at the school must be brought in by an adult. All medications must be brought to the school in its original container/prescription bottle with the student's name on it, along with dosage information. (A duplicate bottle can be obtained from the pharmacist upon request.) The label on the bottle must match the doctor's order on the consent form. Please provide the school with a one-month supply at a time. It is strongly encouraged that you try to give your child medication before or after school if possible.

IF YOUR STUDENT NEEDS IMMUNIZATIONS... Please plan to get your child's necessary immunizations done prior to the first day of school. Certain immunizations are required prior to Kindergarten and 7th grade entrance. Kindergarten students must have their booster doses of DTaP, Polio, Varicella and MMR. All 7th graders will need the meningococcal vaccine, along with the Tdap booster. All high school students should have a Tdap booster and a meningococcal shot. If your high school student has not had these yet, please do so before school starts. If you choose to not vaccinate your student, please contact the school for an exemption form that must be signed and notarized. You can get vaccines at your primary health clinic or at Wadena County Public Health if you qualify for the state vaccine program. If you have questions, please contact Jill Davis at Wadena County Public Health at 218-631-7629 or Blair Loscheider at the Verndale School.

PIRATE CARE PROGRAM

AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM ONLY

The district offers a **fee-based after school program for students in PK-6th grade**. The Pirate Care Program will operate every day that school is in session from 3:10pm to 5:00 pm, starting September 5th. The program will be staffed by school district personnel, will provide assistance with homework, and a safe place for students to interact with their friends.

The fee for the Pirate Care Program, after school session, will be \$5, per child, per day, with a cap of \$65 per week, per family. It is very important that children are picked up by 5:00 pm, therefore, there will be a \$5 per minute, per child, rate charged after 5 pm. Please contact the district office at 218-445-5184 if you have any questions or to get registration papers for Pirate Care.

CURRICULUM ADVISORY REVIEW COMMITTEE

The district is seeking individuals to serve on the District Curriculum Review Advisory Committee beginning in November. The purpose of the committee is to ensure active community participation in planning and improving the instruction and curriculum and to make recommendations to the School Board on issues including education standards, curriculum, assessments and program evaluations. The committee meets five times during the school year to review the work of teacher curriculum committees and provide feed-back. Parents/guardians and interested community members are encouraged participate. Please contact Katie Tackmann at 445-5184 ext. 321 for more information.

YEARBOOKS

The Verndale School yearbook, which includes both high school and elementary photos and activities, will be offered for the discount price of \$42 for a regular yearbook until the December holiday break. After the break, the minimum price of a regular yearbook will be \$47. There are extra charges for add-ons. This year, the only way to order a yearbook is to go to Lifetouch online and pay with a credit card. **NOTE: If you do not order with Lifetouch online you will not be guaranteed a yearbook.** There will be **NO extra yearbooks available at the end of the year.** If you have any questions, contact Mrs. Youngbauer at kyoungbauer@verndaleschool.org or call and 1-218-5184 ext. 408.

The Verndale School has scheduled eight (8) late start/early release days during the 24-25 school year. Buses will run two hours late on late start days. On those days *elementary students (K-6)* may be brought to the school at 8:00 AM and will be supervised by paraprofessional staff. Breakfast will be available for our elementary students at 8:00 am. We request you call the school at 445-5184 to let us know if your child(ren) will be coming to school before 10:00 AM on late start days, so we can provide the appropriate supervision. All students are to leave the building at the completion of the school day on early release days.

LATE STARTS

- October 2, 2024
- November 6, 2024
- December 4, 2024
- January 8, 2025
- February 5, 2025
- March 5, 2025
- April 2, 2025
- May 7, 2025

EARLY RELEASE

- December 20, 2024 @ 12:30
- May 23, 2025 @ 12:30 pm

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

- Aug 26: No School/Staff Workshop
- Aug 27: No School/Staff Workshop
- Aug 28: Open House (4:00-6:00)
- Aug 29: No School/Staff Workshop
- Sept 2: No School/Labor Day
- Sept 3: First day of school for Kindergarten, 1s – 7th and 12th grade
- Sept 4: First day of school for 8th – 11th grade
- Oct 2: Two Hour Late Start/School starts at 10:15am
- Oct 17: No School/MEA Break
- Oct 18: No School/MEA Break
- Oct 21: No School/Parent Teacher Conferences 12:15pm-8:30pm
- Nov 6: Two Hour Late Start/School starts at 10:15am
- Nov 11: No School/Teacher Workshop
- Nov 28: No School/Thanksgiving Break
- Nov 29: No School/Thanksgiving Break
- Dec 4: Two Hour Late Start/School starts at 10:15am
- Dec 20: Early Release 12:30pm
- Dec 23: No School/Christmas Break
- Dec 24: No School/Christmas Break
- Dec 25: No School/Christmas Break
- Dec 26: No School/Christmas Break
- Dec 27: No School/Christmas Break
- Dec 30: No School/Christmas Break
- Dec 31: No School/Christmas Break
- Jan 1: No School/Christmas Break
- Jan 2: School Resumes
- Jan 8: Two Hour Late Start/School starts at 10:15am
- Jan 17: End of 1st Semester
- Jan 20: No School/Staff Workshop
- Feb 5: Two Hour Late Start/School starts at 10:15am
- Feb 14: No School Staff workshop
- Feb 17: No School/President's Day
- Mar 5: Two Hour Late Start/School starts at 10:15am
- Mar 20: No School/Parent Teacher Conferences 12:15pm-8:30pm
- Mar 21: No School/Staff development
- Apr 2: Two Hour Late Start/School starts at 10:15am
- Apr 18: No School/Easter Break
- Apr 21: No School/Easter Break
- May 7: Two Hour Late Start/School starts at 10:15am
- May 23: Last day of school for students/Early Release 12:30pm/End of 2nd Semester
- May 23: Graduation @ 7:00pm
- May 26: No School/Memorial Day
- May 27: No School/Teacher Comp day

*The dates on this calendar are subject to change

ANNUAL PARENT NOTICE

Right to Request Teacher Qualifications

Our school district receives federal funds to support our Title programs that are part of the No Child Left Behind Act.

We would like you to know that you have the right to request information regarding the professional qualifications of your child's classroom teacher(s). Upon your request we will provide the following information:

- If the teacher has met state licensing requirements for the subjects and grade level he/she teaches
- If the state licensing requirements have been waived for the teacher under emergency status
- The type of college degree the teacher holds
- If your child is receiving Title I services, the qualifications of the paraprofessional

Please contact Jeannie Mayer at 218-445-5184 if you would like to request any of the information.

Legal Notices

Verndale School Compliance with State and Federal Laws Prohibiting Discrimination Verndale School District #818 does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, parental status, status with regard to public assistance, disability, sexual orientation, including gender identity and expression, or age. Any person who has a complaint alleging that the school district is not complying with this policy or alleging any actions prohibited by this policy shall present the complaint in writing along with the reasons for the complaint to the school district's Superintendent within 30 days. The Superintendent will initiate an investigation and resolve the complaint. (Verndale School District Policy #102 – Equal Educational Opportunity)

Title IX

Verndale School District #818 complies with all regulations prohibiting discrimination on the basis of gender in school. The school district's Title IX Officer is Katie Bolland, the school district's Principal. Inquiries regarding compliance with Title IX may be directed to the Title IX Officer or to the Director at the Office of Civil Rights, Department of Health, Education, Welfare, Washington D.C. (Verndale School District Policy #522 – Student Sex Nondiscrimination)

Section 504

Verndale School District #818 supports Section 504 regulations that eliminate discrimination on the basis of disability in any program or activity receiving federal funds. Katie Bolland is the District 504 Coordinator. (Verndale School District Policy #521 – Student Disability Nondiscrimination)

Notice Concerning Use of Pest Control Materials

A Minnesota state law went in effect in 2000 that requires schools to inform parents and guardians if they apply certain pesticides on school property. Schools that apply these pesticides are required to maintain an estimated schedule of pesticide applications and to make the schedule available for review or copying at the school office. State law also requires that you be told that the long-term health effects on children from the application of such pesticides or the class of chemicals to which they belong may not be fully understood. If you would like to be notified prior to pesticide applications made on days other than those specified in the estimated schedule (excluding emergency applications), please contact Wade Kern at (218) 445-5184.

Annual Asbestos Notification

In accordance with federal regulations, Verndale School District #818 has an asbestos management plan documenting the location and condition of all known or assumed asbestos containing building materials (ACBM) in the school building. Every six months, an accredited inspector visually inspects the condition of the ACBM. The management plan is available for public inspection at the school office during normal business hours. Questions related to the plan should be directed to the account manager under contract with Institute for Environmental Assessment, Inc. Brooklyn Park, MN, at (763)315-7900.

Indoor Air Quality Notification

Verndale School District #818 advocates a healthy school environment in which the surroundings contribute to an environment conducive to learning for students and productivity for students and staff. To help accomplish this, the district has implemented an IAQ Management Plan using guidelines provided by the Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) and the "Tools for Schools" document developed by the U.S. EPA. Wade Kern is the IAQ Coordinator for the Verndale School District. He has been trained and certified by the Minnesota Department of Education to fulfill this position. All concerns should be directed to him. He can be reached at (218) 445-5184.

Lead-in-Water Annual Notification

Minnesota Statute 121A.335 requires public school buildings serving prekindergarten through grade 12 to test for lead in water every 5 years. Verndale Public School has historically conducted and continues to conduct Lead in Drinking Water testing per the Minnesota Department of Health guidelines. For more information on the Verndale Public School lead reduction program and testing results, please contact Wade Kern, Building and Grounds Director at (218) 445-5184. *refer to school website for more information*

Bullying Prohibition

An act of bullying, by either an individual student or a group of students, is expressly prohibited on school premises, on school district property, at school functions or activities, and on school transportation. This policy applies not only to students who directly engage in an act of bullying but also to students who, by their indirect behavior, condone or support another student's act of bullying. Please refer to Policy 514 to read the full description.

Special Education Services

The Verndale School District provides a full continuum of special education and related services to eligible resident children and youth from birth through age 21 who are enrolled in district and non-public schools.

Each learner's unique special education needs and educational goals are determined by the learner's Individual Education Planning (IEP) team. Eligibility procedures include screening and individualized evaluations. Services are provided in the least restrictive learning environment appropriate for the individual learner. Parents have the right to review their child's school records, to attend their child's staffing and are encouraged to make program recommendations for their child's special education needs.

For more information, contact Freshwater Education District, 910 Ash Ave. NE, Wadena, MN, (218) 631-3505 or www.fed.k12.mn.us.

Retention/Destruction of Special Education Records Public Notice

According to the Individuals with Disabilities Act, (34.CF.R.300.573), school districts must notify parents when the information contained in their child's special education records is no longer needed to provide public educational services to the child.

This is a public notification to parents (or students of the legal age of 18) of the district's intent to destroy all special education records dated prior to graduation 2016. You have the right to request a copy of these records, at a reasonable copying fee. Please contact Amy Thompson at the Verndale School at (218) 445-5184 to request a copy of the records from this school district.

District #818 Policies

Verndale School District #818 policies are available online and for inspection at the district office during regular business hours.

SCHOOL CLOSINGS & INFORMATION

Instant Alert System:JMC Message Center will be used to notify parents, students and staff. You can find the link on the top of our school website. This notification system allows us to send information to parents by phone, email and text messaging.

Radio:

All school closings will be announced over the following radio stations: KWAD (920 AM), and KKWS (105.9 FM); and television stations: KSTP (Channel 5), WCCO (Channel 4), KMSP (Channel 9) and KARE (Channel 11).

Facebook: Find the Verndale Public School Facebook page and click "Like"

School Alert List of Closings: when severe weather strikes, count on School Alert on EYEWITNESS NEWS. Stay informed on your child's school status with School Alert. Go to <http://kstp.com/article/123> to register to receive ALERTS via email, or text messaging.

DOOR POLICY

Parents and students should always use the main entrance (door 1) to access our school. All external doors, except the main entrance (door 1), will remain locked during school hours (from 8:15-3:09).

DROP OFF AND PICK UP

Students are not allowed in the school building before 7:45am or after 3:15pm unless they are under the direct supervision of a school staff member.

Elementary students will be allowed to enter their classrooms starting at 8:00am.

Students arriving late to school or leaving early from school ARE REQUIRED to check in or out through the main office.

Parents picking up students ARE REQUIRED to enter the building through the main office.

IMPORTANT BUS INFORMATION

If you are new to Verndale School or your location has changed from last year, please notify

Wade Kern, Transportation Supervisor at 218-445-5184 ext. 304. Please notify us as quickly as

possible as some changes may not be guaranteed for the start of the school year.

To view your bus route number and pick up time, please check the Verndale School website. Please keep in mind that the pick up time may vary 10 minutes the first two weeks of school so be prepared. Also, please keep in mind times do change throughout the school year due to route changes.

Please call the school if you have any questions regarding your pick up time.

BUS STOP RULES

1. Be prepared at the stop **5 minutes** prior to pick-up time.
2. If on time, drivers do not wait for late students. Drivers go by school district office time.
3. Wait until the bus stops before approaching the bus.
4. ALWAYS cross in front of the bus.
5. Busses will go up driveways $\frac{1}{4}$ mile or more, if less than $\frac{1}{4}$ mile students are to be at the end of the driveway.
6. If the driveway is not plowed or there are obstacles in the driveway, it shall be at the drivers discretion to travel up the driveway or not.

SCHOOL BUS DISCIPLINE POLICY

Riding the bus is a **PRIVILEGE** not a Right. M.S. 123.801 A students eligibility to ride a school bus may be revoked for a violation of bus safety rules or conduct policies.

1. FIRST OFFENSE—Warning notify parent/guardian.
2. SECOND OFFENSE - Three (3) school day suspension from riding the school bus.
3. THIRD OFFENSE - Five (5) school day suspension from riding the school bus.
4. FOURTH OFFENSE - Ten (10) school day suspension from riding the school bus.
5. Further offenses may result in the suspension from the school bus for the remainder of the school year.

IMPORTANT

>>> ANNOUNCEMENT <<<

New Cell Phone Policy

The Verndale School Board is developing a new, more comprehensive cell phone policy to be implemented in the 2024-2025 school year. This policy will be more stringent and will include smartwatches, earbuds, and all other personal electronic devices. The new policy is intended to foster a focused, distraction-free learning environment and to ensure the safety and privacy of all students. We believe that minimizing the presence of cell phones and other electronic devices during school hours will significantly enhance our student's educational experience.

Further details will be shared as we finalize the policy and we appreciate your support and cooperation in this important initiative.

Thank you for your continued commitment to ensure our students have the best possible learning environment.

STUDENT ABSENCE PROCEDURE

Students who anticipate being gone for one or more days must first secure an advance notice of absence form from the office and show it to each of their teachers. Failure to do so before leaving may result in the absence being unexcused. To receive an absence from the office parents should send a note with your student to bring into the office or call the office directly. Text messages will not be accepted. Students will not be released from class for pick up until the office has received a note or phone call from parent. Students should always be picked up in the office. Unexpected student absences should be called into the office by parents by 8:30am each day.

JMC Parent Portal

To access your JMC Parent Portal by using your personal computer go to our website at <http://www.verndaleschool.org/>

Scroll down and click on the circle for parents

Click on "JMC Parent Access" on the left side of the screen

Make sure you are in the 24-25 school year, then enter your username (parent last name), and then enter your password (if you have not created a password, please contact the district office)

You are now in JMC, click on any of the available subjects on the left of your screen to view your child's information.



BREAKFAST/ HOT LUNCH PRGRAM

The School Board has determined the following prices:

Breakfast Prices
 Kindergarten: FREE Pre K, 1st – 12th grade: FREE
 Free/Reduced Students: FREE
 Adults: \$2.25

Lunch Prices

Elementary (Pre K-6): FREE
 High School (7-12): FREE
 Free/Reduced Students: FREE
 Adults: \$5.00

Additional Milk

Student: \$0.25
 Adult: \$0.40

Parents and visiting students are expected to pay the adult price for their meal.

****All accounts must be prepaid or paid at the time of service.**

SCHOOL MEAL INFORMATION

- Students qualifying for free or reduced price lunches must submit the Application for Educational Benefits form to the Verndale School District Office. These forms must be turned into the office before the first day of school
- Avoid the first day rush - bring in or mail meals payments now.
- You may send one check for all students; it goes into your family account. Or pay online in your JMC Family Account.
- Students will receive their meal number on the first day of school.
- Lunch menus are available online, in the district office and announced on KWAD @approx. 7:15am.
- A record of purchases will be available upon parent/guardian request.

2024-2025 Application for Educational Benefits (Free and Reduced Lunch Form)

Can be filled out electronically from your JMC Parent Portal. Access to JMC Parent Portal can be found on the parent resource page of our website.

LUNCH PRICES/FREE AND REDUCED LUNCH PROGRAM

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Our school offers healthy meals each day. For 2024-2025, we will continue to follow the MN Free School Meal Program. All students can get one breakfast and one lunch free of charge each day at school. Although no application is required to receive this free meal benefit, filling out the Application for Educational Benefits is still important! Your child(ren) may qualify for other benefits like reduced fees at school. Your application may also help the school qualify for education funds, discounts, and other meal programs. To apply, complete the enclosed Application for Educational Benefits and return it to: INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT #818, 411 SW BROWN STREET, VERNDALE, MN 56481

Who should complete this application? Children in households participating in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP) or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR), and foster, homeless, migrant and runaway children qualify without reporting household income. Alternatively, children can qualify if their household income is within the maximum income shown for their household size on the instructions. COMMON QUESTIONS: I get WIC or Medical Assistance. Can my children qualify? Children in households participating in WIC or Medical Assistance do not automatically qualify. Children may be eligible depending on other household financial information. Please fill out an application. Who should I include as household members? Include yourself and all other people living in the household, related or not (such as grandparents, other relatives, or friends). May I apply if someone in my household is not a U.S. citizen? Yes. You or your children do not have to be U.S. citizens for you to complete an application. What if my income is not always the same? List the amount that you normally get. If you normally get overtime, include it, but not if you get over-time only sometimes. For seasonal work, write in the total annual income. Will the income information or case number I give be checked? It may be. We may also ask you to send written proof. How will the information be kept? Information you provide on the form, and your child's approval, will be protected as private data. For more information, see the back page of the Application for Educational Benefits. If I don't qualify now, may I apply later? Yes. Please complete an application at any time if your income goes down, your household size goes up, or you start getting SNAP, MFIP or FDPIR benefits. If you have other questions or need help, call 218-445-5184.

Instructions for Completing the Application for Educational Benefits

Complete the Application for Educational Benefits form for school year 2024-25 if any of the following applies to your household:

Any household member currently participates in the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP), or the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), or the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) or The household includes one or more foster children (a welfare agency or court has legal responsibility for the child) or The total income of household members is within the guidelines shown below (**gross earnings before deductions**, not take-home pay). Do not include as income: foster care payments, federal education benefits, MFIP payments, or value of assistance received from SNAP, WIC, or FDPIR. Military: Do not include combat pay or assistance from the Military Privatized Housing Initiative. The income guidelines are effective from July 1, 2024 through June 30, 2025.

Maximum Total Income

Step 1: Children List all infants and children in the household, their school and grade if applicable, and birthdate. Attach an additional page if needed to list all children. Check the box if a child is in foster care (a welfare agency or court has legal responsibility for the child). **Step 2: Case Number** If any household member currently participates in SNAP, MFIP or FDPIR, write in the case number and then go to Step 4. If you do not participate in any of these programs, leave Step 2 blank and continue on to Step 3. **Step 3: Adult and Child Incomes / Last 4 Digits of Social Security Number Social Security Number/Total Household Members.** An adult household member must provide the last four digits of their Social Security number or check the box if they do not have a Social Security number. Report the total number of household members and ensure all household members are listed individually on the application in the child or adult section as applicable. **Child Income.** If any children in the household have regular income, such as SSI or part-time jobs, list the total amount of regular incomes received by all children, and check the box for the frequency: weekly, bi-weekly, twice a month, or monthly. Do not include occasional earnings like babysitting or lawn mowing. **Adult income.** Report the names of adult household members and income earned in this section. List all adults living in the household not listed in Step 1, whether related or not, such as grandparents, relatives, or friends. **Gross Earnings from Work.** This is usually the money received from working at jobs where a paycheck is received. For each income, check the box to show how often the income is received: weekly, bi-weekly, twice per month, or monthly. List gross incomes before deductions, not take-home pay. Do not list an hourly wage rate. For adults with no income to report, enter a '0' or leave the section blank. For seasonal work, write in the total annual income. **Are you Self-Employed or a Farmer?** List the net income per month or year after business expenses. Do not list the same income twice on the application. A loss from farm or self-employment must be listed as 0 income and does not reduce other income. **Any Other Gross Income.** List gross incomes before deductions from all other sources, such as SSI, unemployment, child support, public assistance, social security, rental income or annuities. **Step 4: Signature and Contact Information** An adult household member must sign the form. If you do not want your information to be shared with Minnesota Health Care Programs, check the "Don't share" box in Step 4. **Optional:** Please provide the information on ethnicity and race that is requested on the second page of the form. This information is not required and does not affect approval for school meal benefits. The information helps to ensure we are meeting civil rights requirements and fully serving our community.

Household size	\$ Per Year	\$ Per Month	\$ Twice Per Month	\$ Per 2 Weeks	\$ Per Week
1	27,861	2,322	1,161	1,072	536
2	37,814	3,152	1,576	1,455	728
3	47,767	3,981	1,991	1,838	919
4	57,720	4,810	2,405	2,220	1,110
5	67,673	5,640	2,820	2,603	1,302
6	77,626	6,469	3,235	2,986	1,493
7	87,579	7,299	3,650	3,369	1,685
8	97,532	8,128	4,064	3,752	1,876
Add for each additional person	9,953	830	415	383	192

DIGITAL CONTENT NOTICE

The Verndale School District takes pride in the advanced technology being used throughout our building. Our teachers are encouraged to submit pictures to the newspapers, post pictures and/or videos on their school websites, and use classroom recordings to aid them in their professional development, etc.

The Verndale School District, at its sole discretion, may use, distribute and post photos and/or video for professional development and research purposes, and any other purpose the Verndale School District deems appropriate to further the mission of the organization, and that the video recording and digital materials, and all copies thereof, shall constitute the sole property of the Verndale School District. Verndale School District and its employees or authorized agents have the authority to use any photo, video, video stream, or audio of the students who attend the Verndale School.

Please contact Superintendent Jeannie Mayer if you do not want your child's picture shared in any of the formats mentioned above or have any questions regarding this notice.



Check us out on the Web at www.verndaleschool.org

PHYSICAL EXAMS

Any student who intends to participate in high school (7th-12th grade) athletics must have a current physical examination on file in the school office.

The necessary forms are available at the clinic, school office, or online. Students will not be allowed to participate in the athletic activity until they have a current physical clearing them to participate.

If you have any questions, please contact Greg Johnson at 218-445-5184 ext. 308.

SEASON PASSES

The Verndale School will sell season passes for athletic events. These passes are good for football, volleyball, boys and girls basketball and wrestling home events.

Playoff games are not included.

Season passes may be purchased in the district office or at the ticket table at athletic events for the following prices:

Adults \$50.00
Family \$85.00

(The family pass includes college students up to age 24) Families that host a foreign exchange student will get free passes for the entire family. You do however, need to come in to ask for them.

Ticket prices for regular season home events:

Verndale Students FREE
 All Senior Citizens FREE
 Non Verndale Student: \$5.00
 Adult: \$5.00

Tickets prices for home playoff games: TBD
There will be no charging.

TARGETED SERVICES

The Verndale School District plans to provide a Targeted Services program, this year, which will be dependent on staff availability and student enrollment. This program is for elementary grades. This is a free program, however, there are specific criteria and eligibility standards that must be met before a student can be enrolled. Please watch for more information.

Student Medications

If your child requires any medication during the school day, please bring medication and consent for Administration of Prescription Medication Form (signed by prescribing Physician) to the District Office during the open house.

Also, please stop in the District Office to pick up any expired medication. All expired medications will be disposed of after October 1, 2024.

FAMILY INFORMATION CHANGES

In order to maintain current records, please notify the district office of any changes in your family or household information. Changes you should communicate include but are not limited to: Phone Numbers (home, work & cell), Email Addresses, Physical & Mailing Addresses, Child Information (children who live in your home ages birth through 12th grade), Emergency Contact Information, Medical Information (Doctor & Dentist), and Transportation Information. Keeping this information current is important when the school needs to contact parents/guardians in case of emergency. If you have changes to report please contact the District Office at 445-5184.

ATHLETICS AND ACTIVITIES

Our Activities Department has an activities website. This website can be found under the activities tab on the Verndale School website under "Athletics and Activities" and will have announcements regarding athletics as well as upcoming events, scores and pictures. We are once again asking our student athletes to register for athletics on this page. This online registration will allow our coaches and advisors to have updated contact and medical information. We still do not charge activity fees to participate.

EARLY CHILDHOOD FAMILY EDUCATION (ECFE)

Early Childhood Family Education offers parent/child time together with fun learning activities, music, and a chance for your child to play with other children their age! Parents and children will spend their time playing and learning together along with parents taking part in informal discussions on different topics. Classes are for children ages newborn to 5 years old (or not yet in Kindergarten), and are **FREE** to all families! Session dates will be available in September. Please call the

Verndale Preschool room to register for each session. Come and join us for fun, friends, songs and special time with your mommy, daddy, grandma, grandpa or any loved one! For more information or to have a brochure sent to you contact Becky at bludovissie@verndaleschool.org OR 218-445-5184 (ext. 260/261). You can also visit our website at www.verndaleschool.org, click on the Preschool Plus tab on the left and then ECFE tab for future ECFE dates and updated information!

TUITION/FEES JMC PARENT PORTAL

Did you forget to send cash or a check with your student? No need to worry! You can now pay for milk tickets, Pirate Care Invoices, Shop Fees and more right from the comfort of your home.

Log into your JMC Parent Portal then click on Tuition/Fees and follow the prompts. If you need step by step instructions, they are located on our website.

If you have questions, please contact Ashley in our district office at 218-445-5184.