

New York Mills

MINNESOTA

Independent School District #553

First day of school:
Tuesday, September 2nd

Special Points of Interest:

Remember that all schedules in this publication are subject to change due to unforeseen circumstances. Throughout the year, check our website (www.nymills.k12.mn.us), our Facebook page, the NYM Dispatch, and the bulletin boards by the District Office for activities, information updates, etc.

Whether you are a school-aged person, a parent/guardian, a grandparent or an interested community member, you are invited and encouraged to attend our fall Open House night on Wednesday, August 27th from 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

2025-2026
Calendar
AND SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Let's begin the 2025-2026 School Year!

SCHOOL DISTRICT BULLETIN BOARD TELEPHONE NUMBER: **(218) 385-2553** PRESS 5 UPON ANSWER

You'll be given a menu of options from which to choose.
The options are as follows:

- Press... **1** for school closings and/or weather related announcements
2 for summer activities

Direct-Dial School District Telephone Numbers

District Office/Superintendent Office	385-4201
Business Manager Office	385-4202
Community Education Office	385-4203
Buildings and Grounds Office	385-4204
Transportation Office	385-4205
Food Service Office	385-4206
Elementary School Office	385-4208
Child Care	385-4209
High School Office	385-4211
High School Counselor's Office	385-4213
Activities Office	385-4214
Technology Office	385-4217
Sports Center Foyer	385-4218
High School Foyer	385-4219

Welcome back all !!!

The staff of the New York Mills School District is excited about the education we have to offer our students.

We hope you had a relaxing summer and are looking forward to a productive school year. The first student day of this school year is Tuesday, September 2, 2025. Both breakfast and lunch will be served on that day. The information here will be handy for you throughout the school year.



If You're New in the New York Mills School District...

We're glad you're here!!! Welcome to the New York Mills education community. It's important that you contact the school as soon as possible to be sure your children get registered. Please choose one of the following numbers to call and make arrangements:

Elementary School: 385-4208
High School: 385-4211

You should register with the school even if your child is not yet of school age. If you're not sure whether or not you reside in the New York Mills School District, please call 385-4201.

EARLY CHILDHOOD SCREENINGS

The Community Education office is responsible for scheduling the Early Childhood Screenings for 3 and 4 year olds that are conducted through Lakes Country Service Cooperative at the New York Mills school. This is a FREE screening until your child reaches the age of 5 years old at which time the screening will be at your own expense through the child's primary physician. This screening is required by Minnesota Statute 121A.17 for entrance into Kindergarten. It is an opportunity for you to review your child's growth and development and to follow up on any health or learning concerns. The screening includes a developmental assessment, vision and hearing test, height and weight measurements, immunization and health history review and a parent visit. It is NOT an examination to determine readiness for school. Its purpose is to identify conditions that might interfere with your child's ability to learn and to assist parents in developing strategies to help their child succeed. Call Deb in the Community Education Office to schedule an appointment at (218) 385-4203. Please leave a message if there is no answer and she will get back to you as soon as possible.

CALENDAR ABBREVIATION KEY

Please refer to our school website
www.nymills.k12.mn.us for a
complete listing of our activities.

(A) Away	GBB Girls Basketball
(H) Home	HS High School Gym
9..... Ninth Grade	JH..... Junior High
AC..... Activity Center Gym	JV Junior Varsity
Aud..... Performing Arts Center/Auditorium	MPRm .. Multi-Purpose Rm
Bb Baseball	MS Middle School
BBB..... Boy Basketball	SC Sports Center
B/G..... Boys and Girls	SH Senior High
ECFE Early Childhood Family Education	TBD To Be Determined
FB Football	V Varsity
FR Freshmen	VB Volleyball
	WR Wrestling



WHERE TO TUNE IN FOR EMERGENCY CLOSING ANNOUNCEMENTS

School emergency and information announcements will be broadcast over the following radio stations:

KWAD (AM 920 / FM 105.9),
KSKK (FM 94.7) and KPRW (FM 99.5).

**Please note that
when school is
closed due to
weather,
ALL activities will
be cancelled
for that day.**



If you're uncertain,
please call the
"School District
Bulletin Board".



New York Mills ISD #553 • 2025-2026 Personnel

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Derek Braukmann Treasurer
 Kristina Ehner Vice Chair
 Derek Geiser Director
 Amy Mursu Chair
 Ethan Kern Director
 Jodi Seelhammer Clerk
 Brian Schermerhorn Director

MANAGEMENT SERVICES

Judith Brockway Elementary Principal
 Bryan Dunrud Activities Director
 Todd Forman Technology Supervisor
 Brent Gudmundson Transportation Supervisor
 Adam Johnson Superintendent
 Marsha Maki Business Manager
 Julie Peterson Food Services Supervisor
 Danielle Vomhof Business Manager
 Michelle Young-Lecoustre Secondary Principal
 Adam Zachman Building/Grounds Supervisor

PROFESSIONAL TEACHING STAFF

Ella Alstadt First Grade
 Cary Armagost Instrumental Music
 Allison Bauck Fifth Grade
 Mike Bauck Business Education
 Teri Bauck Literacy Lead
 Tara Baune Sixth Grade
 Elyssa Blaha Third Grade
 Jennifer Blickenstaff Interventionist
 Jason Boe Social Studies
 Nikki Braaten English
 Chris Bushinger Second Grade
 Joy Cooley Mathematics
 Allison Dornbusch Second Grade
 Madison Dorow Second Grade
 Heidi Dresser English
 Bryan Dunrud H.S. Physical Education
 Taylor Erickson Third Grade
 Adele Esala Fifth Grade
 Greg Esala Gifted/Talented
 Kelsey Fahlen Science
 Cody Geiser Math
 Dustin Geiser Fourth Grade
 Kendra Geiser Pre-Kindergarten/EC/ECFE Coordinator
 Danielle Grieger Kindergarten
 William Grieger Social Studies
 Zach Hocking Elementary Physical Education
 Jared Hotakainen Third Grade
 Kayla Hotakainen Special Education
 Trudy Irons First Grade
 Harley Jabas Mathematics
 Adam Justin Special Education
 Lindsay Kennedy Special Education
 Jacob Krebs Kindergarten
 Jenifer Lohmiller Fourth Grade
 Kayla Lueders Special Education
 Shelby Midthun Science
 Eric Niemi Industrial Arts
 Terry Ohlgren Special Education

Tammy Olson Secondary Art
 Virginia Olson Special Education
 Craig Orlando Physical Education
 Angela Paavola Fourth Grade
 Dana Peterson Vocal Music
 Kelsey Pieschke Social Studies
 Julie Radniecki Interventionist
 Jodi Raser Secondary Counselor
 Trina Saewert Health/Family Life Science
 Kenna Salo Sixth Grade
 Kate Schanning Special Education
 Kyle Schanning Special Education
 Brian Schornack Vocational Agriculture
 Doug Schulz Secondary Science
 Lisa Stroeing Fifth Grade
 Katelyn Tervo Pre-Kindergarten
 Leah Roberts-Veazie English
 Melissa Wattenhofer Special Education
 RaeAnna Wegscheid Fifth Grade
 Bridget Weller Kindergarten
 Jeremiah Weller Sixth Grade
 Hailey Windels First Grade
 TBD Spanish/English
 TBD ECFE Lead

PROFESSIONAL COOPERATIVE STAFF

Kim Becker Occupational Therapist
 Kristin Draeger Family Outreach/Counseling Services
 TBD Family Outreach/Counseling Services
 Shawn McAllister SPED Program Specialist
 Meghan Robertson School Psychologist
 Janelle Lass Speech Language Pathologist Asst.
 TBD Assessment Specialist
 Missy Tabery Physical Therapist
 Mandy Peeters Early Childhood Special Education
 Whitney Wegscheid Speech Language Pathologist
 Dale Williams Social Worker

SUPPORT STAFF

Ashlee Anderson Para-Professional
 Rickee Anderson Para-Professional
 Maria Bachim Para-Professional
 Nicole Balbach Para-Professional
 Dawn Barvels Para-Professional
 Gene Barvels Custodian
 Deb Baune Para-Professional/Community Education Asst
 Andrew Bendlen Cleaner
 Kaitlyn Bottem Para-Professional
 Carolyn Brooks Food Service
 Kari Chouanard Para-Professional
 Katherine Dittmann Para-Professional
 Tanya Erickson Para-Professional
 Deb Faysak Bookkeeper
 Andrew Foley Cleaner
 Ross Genoch Bus Driver
 Renae Gunkel Para-Professional
 Roland Herrmann Cleaner
 Sarah Holzer Para-Professional
 Audrey Irons PT Para-Professional
 Jazzmin Johnson School Nurse

Scott Johnston Cleaner
 KayAnn Kahilainen Para-Professional
 Connie Kawlewski Guidance Counselor Secretary
 Aubrey Koehler Para-Professional
 Macy Koljonen Para-Professional
 Emily Kopveiler Para-Professional
 Joe Kovar Custodian
 Diedre Kraft Cleaner
 Denise Kupfer Para-Professional
 Erin Laforge Para-Professional
 Rachel Lausten Para-Professional
 Tressa Leaders Para-Professional
 Olivia Leising Elementary Principal Secretary
 Dawn Lueders Bus Driver
 John Lueders Bus Driver
 Scott Maki Cleaner
 Michelle Marsh District Office Secretary
 Abbie Martin Food Service
 Heidi Meekins Para-Professional
 Nathalie Milantoni Para-Professional
 Joan Nelson Para-Professional
 Lori Newman Media Assistant
 Jon Niemela Bus Driver
 Alicia Page Secondary Principal Secretary
 Taylor Peterson Custodian
 Brenda Reese Para-Professional
 Jeff Rimpila Bus Driver
 Andrea Ruther Bus Driver
 Lacey Schik Para-Professional
 Alina Schumacher Media Assistant
 Josie Smith Para-Professional
 Todd Steeke Bus Driver
 Devin Sunstrom IT Assistant
 Michael Thomas Cleaner
 Warren Thompson Bus Driver
 Connie Vandermay Media Processor
 Mike Wedde Bus Driver
 Tristan Westman Para-Professional
 Janis Williams Food Service
 Marissa Witt SACC
 Cannon Wolk Para-Professional
 Angela Wright Para-Professional/Interventionist
 Kaylee Yoder Para-Professional

HEAD COACHES

Zach Christenson Boys Basketball
 Steve Dunrud Boys Track
 Bryan Dunrud Girls Basketball/Softball
 Greg Esala/Heidi Dresser Cross Country
 Dustin Geiser Baseball
 Will Grieger Fishing League
 Zach Hocking Football
 Jenifer Lohmiller Girls Track
 Jessica Masloski/Tori Olson Cheer Coach
 Eric Niemi Wrestling
 Terry Ohlgren Trap Shooting
 Harley Wurst Volleyball



Welcome to New York Mills Public School! Thank you for taking the time to look through our calendar. All of us at NYM Schools are looking forward to making 2025-26 the best year yet and we look forward to welcoming students, families, and the community to our building.

The mission of New York Mills Schools is to foster adaptable, engaged learners and responsible citizens. The entire staff is dedicated and works hard to meet this mission every day. As fast as our world is changing, New York Mills Schools does its absolute best to meet the needs of students in a safe and welcoming environment. Having creative, engaging lessons is something you will see throughout all of our staff that makes learning enjoyable.

New York Mills School and the entire community around it is truly special. From the support of our families, to the incredible staff, and our truly amazing students, NYM School is one of a kind. We have a strong tradition of excellence through our academics, athletics, and fine art programs. Updates for these can be found on our school website or on Facebook. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out during the school year.

I hope everyone has a great school year and look forward to seeing you this fall. Go Eagles!

Adam Johnson
Superintendent



I would like to take this opportunity to welcome students, staff and families back for the start of the 2025- 2026 school year! I am so looking forward to another outstanding year at New York Mills Elementary! For those of you whose children are just starting school here for the first time, I am pleased to welcome you as part of our school community! For those of you who have been with us, I thank you for your continued support always and for your partnership with the school! We could NOT do it without you! You are incredible!

I hope this note finds you refreshed, recharged, and ready to take on another exciting new school year! I am honored and proud to have served for thirteen incredible years as your Elementary Principal and look forward to many more incredible years together!

We are very excited to welcome Adam Justin (Special Education Autism), Kayla Lueders (Special Education Developmental Delay) and Olivia Leising (Elementary Secretary). All are bringing many skills and experiences to NYMs Elementary! Again, we are very excited to welcome them to our NYMs family as I know you are too! Also, we are excited for the following teachers who have made a change to a grade level or department: Danielle Grieger will be moving back to Kindergarten this year, Justice Kunza will be moving to 4th Grade and Alli Bauck will be moving to 5th Grade! We wish them well as they transition into their new positions and know that they will all do an amazing job! Also, over the summer months we will be hiring a part-time teacher to work with 5/6 Grade and a couple of new paraprofessionals so look forward to reading about those new hires in the September issue of Eagle News (our electronic newsletter that comes home once a month).

Also, this year we bid a sad farewell to the following folks – Jaden Karger (Kindergarten), Doug Salo (5th Grade), Nancy Schik (Library) and Teresa Bloomquist (Paraprofessional). We wish all of them well and the very best that life has to offer and thank them from the bottom of our hearts as they start this new chapter in their lives! We can't thank them enough for their years of service to the New York Mills School District. I am sure you join me in wishing them all the best of luck as they all will be dearly missed!

I have learned over the past thirteen years that New York Mills is a school committed to our vision of partnering with the community to create an innovative learning environment where every student reaches for excellence today, tomorrow and into the future. Please be assured of my continued commitment to honoring your child's accomplishments and my continued hope of contributing to their even greater success in the future. I am committed to our school mission of fostering adaptable, engaged learners and responsible citizens!

Our goal is to continue to follow our Strategic Plan this year and into the future, written in collaboration with the school and the community, to provide all students with the opportunity to excel in academics, athletics, and the fine arts so that they may become positive, contributing members of our school and community!

I look forward to working with you this school year and letting you know about all of the great things that are happening at New York Mills Elementary! Please check out the District newsletter, Eagle News (mentioned above), sent to your e-mail each month! Let's continue to work together to make this the best year ever – Eagle Pride Forever!

Sincerely,
Judith Brockway
Elementary Principal



Dear New York Mills Families,

Welcome to the 2025–2026 school year! As principal of New York Mills High School, I am thrilled to extend a warm welcome to all our returning students and families, as well as to those joining our school community for the first time. We are excited to embark on another academic journey together and look forward to a year filled with learning, growth, and success.

It has been my honor to serve as principal of New York Mills High School for the past twelve years. The culture here is second to none; supportive, collaborative, and rooted in a deep commitment to doing what's best for our students. Our community is known for its friendly spirit and unwavering support. We are proud to be the home of the EAGLES, and that pride shines through in the continuous support from our families and the greater New York Mills community.



Over the summer, our dedicated staff has been working diligently to prepare for a productive and engaging school year. We are committed to providing a safe and supportive environment where every student can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally. Our goals remain steadfast: to inspire a lifelong love of learning, foster critical thinking, and help each student reach their full potential. We can best achieve this together by staying connected and working in partnership with families.

A few helpful reminders for a successful school year:

- Ensure your student gets adequate rest each night.
- Prioritize daily attendance and punctuality.
- Schedule appointments outside of school hours whenever possible.
- Encourage a healthy diet and regular physical activity.

Regular attendance is vital to student achievement. Parents can monitor grades and attendance through our ParentVue system. If you have any concerns about your student's academic progress, please don't hesitate to reach out as we value your partnership and your role as your child's greatest advocate.

Important Upcoming Events:

- **7th Grade Orientation:** Tuesday, August 19, at 7:00 p.m. in the James Mann Auditorium.
- **Open House (All Grades):** Wednesday, August 27th from 4:00–6:00 p.m.
- **9th Grade Orientation:** Wednesday, August 27, at 5:30 p.m., also in the James Mann Auditorium, held in conjunction with our Open House.

These events offer valuable insight into your student's day-to-day experience and help build the strong home to school connections that lead to student success.

Our school motto, "*Preparing Students for Life*," is more than just a slogan, it is our mission. By setting high standards and providing the tools and resources students need, we aim to ensure that every student is prepared for success in college, career, and beyond. As we begin this new school year, we encourage students to stay organized, be prepared, and maintain a positive attitude. Most importantly, we urge them to imagine, dream, discover, explore, invent, create, and aspire.

Each student will receive a copy of the **NYMHS Student Handbook** on the first day of school. Please take time to review it together. It outlines important school policies and procedures for the year.

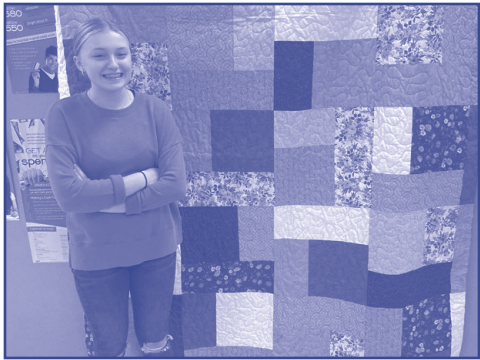
As always, please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. I am here to support your students and help them achieve at the highest level possible. Thank you for your continued support as it means the world to our staff and students.

I look forward with great anticipation and excitement to the year ahead. Let's make it a great one. Go Eagles!



Warm regards,

Michelle Young
Principal, New York Mills High School



July 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

New York Mills Public Schools
"Preparing Students For Life"

AUGUST

September 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 FIRST MOON QUARTER	2 
3  FRIENDSHIP DAY	4 NYM Summer Eagle Academy BLAST Babysitter's Lessons And Safety Training	5 NYM Summer Eagle Academy	6 NYM Summer Eagle Academy	7 NYM Summer Eagle Academy	8	9 FULL MOON
10	11 Cross Country Practice JV Football Practice V Tennis Practice V Football Practice	12 PRIMARY ELECTIONS No meetings/activities 6-8 p.m.	13	14 	15 Corn Feed/Puppet Pageant	16 Finn Creek Festival LAST MOON QUARTER
17 Finn Creek Festival 	18	19 7th Grade Orientation	20 	21	22	23 V Football Scrimmage (A) Frazee NEW MOON
24 FIRST MOON QUARTER 31	25 NYM Food Shelf Open JH Football Practice Cross Country (A) Staples School Board Meeting	26 JV Football (H) Frazee	27 9th Grade Orientation New York Mills School OPEN HOUSE 4:00-6:00 p.m.	28 Cross Country (H) TBD V Football (A) Belgrade-B-E	29	30 

PLEASE NOTE: Calendar Abbreviation Key is on second page. All schedules are subject to change at any time. Please refer to our website at www.nymills.k12.mn.us for complete listing!



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Tues-Fri 11am-Close | Sat 12pm-close



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August 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30

SEPTEMBER

New York Mills Public Schools
"Preparing Students For Life"

October 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 NO SCHOOL  LABOR DAY	2 FIRST DAY OF SCHOOL Cross Country (A) Wad-DC	3	4	5 V Football (H) OTC	6 
7  GRANDPARENT'S DAY FULL MOON	8 JV Football (A) Pine River-B Bandwagon Meeting	9 JH Football (H) Parkers Prairie	10	11 Cross Country (A) Ada-B-W Volleyball (A) Bertha-Hewitt  PATRIOT DAY	12 V Football (H) Parkers Prairie	13
14 LAST MOON QUARTER	15 JV Football (H) Parkers Prairie JH Volleyball (A) Perham	16 JH Football (H) Pine River-B	17 	18 Cross Country (A) Pillager Volleyball (H) Verndale	19 V Football (A) Frazee	20
21 NEW MOON	22 Elementary Picture Day JV Football (A) Battle Lake School Board Meeting 	23 High School Picture Day Cross Country (A) BHV JH Volleyball (H) PelicanRapids	24	25 JH Football (A) Frazee Volleyball (H) Sebeka	26 V Football (A) Lake Park-Aud	27 
28	29 NYM Food Shelf Open JV Football (H) Wadena-DC FIRST MOON QUARTER	30				

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				2 SCHOOL CUSTODIAN APPRECIATION DAY Cross Country (A) OTC JH Football (A) Wadena-DC Volleyball (A) Pillager	3 V Football (H) Menahga	4
5 	6 JH Volleyball (A) Parkers Pr. JV Football (A) Menahga ~~~~~ FULL MOON ~~~~~	7 Volleyball (A) Henning ~~~~~ National 4-H Week and National Fire Prevention Week ~~~~~	8	9 Cross Country (A) Perham JH Football (H) OTC Volleyball (H) Menahga	10 V Football (A) Breckenridge	11 JH Volleyball Tournament (A) Pillager
12	13 Bandwagon Meeting ~~~~~ LAST MOON QUARTER ~~~~~	14 4-H After School Adventures JH Football (A) Staples-Motley Cross Country (A) Henning Volleyball (H) Wadena-DC ~~~~~ National School Lunch Week ~~~~~	15 EARLY OUT AT 1 PM V Football (H) Wadena-DC ~~~~~ National School Lunch Week ~~~~~	16 NO SCHOOL FALL BREAK	17 NO SCHOOL FALL BREAK ARC/NHS Blood Drive	18 
19 	20 ~~~~~ NEW MOON ~~~~~	21 4-H After School Adventures V Football Sectionals, TBD ~~~~~ National School Bus Safety Week and America's Safe Schools Week ~~~~~	22	23	24 Cross Country (A) Bagley	25 V Football Sectionals, TBD Halloween Party at Cultural Center
26	27 NYM Food Shelf Open School Board Meeting	28 4-H After School Adventures	29 ~~~~~ FIRST MOON QUARTER ~~~~~	30 ~~~~~ National FFA Convention ~~~~~	31 END OF HS QTR Trunk or Treat  HALLOWEEN	



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October 2025







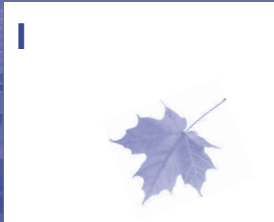




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NOVEMBER

New York Mills Public Schools
"Preparing Students For Life"

December 2025

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						
2 Open Gym	3 7-12 Band Concert	4 4-H After School Adventures VOTE! ELECTION DAY No meetings/activities 6-8 p.m.	5 FULL MOON	6 7-12 Choir Concert	7	8
DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME ENDS						
9 Open Gym	10 Bandwagon Meeting	11 Veteran's Day Program 4-H After School Adventures  VETERAN'S DAY	12 LAST MOON QUARTER	13 EARLY OUT AT 1 PM ELEM/HS CONFERENCES	14 NO SCHOOL	15
16 Open Gym 	17 V Wrestling Practice Starts	18	19	20 NEW MOON	21 Community Carnival 	22
23 Open Gym	24 NYM Food Shelf Open School Board Meeting	25 GBB (H) Underwood	26 END OF ELEM TRI EARLY OUT AT 1 PM	27 NO SCHOOL  THANKSGIVING DAY	28 NO SCHOOL FIRST MOON QUARTER	29 Tree Festival Family Day Annual Christmas Tree Festival
Open Gym 30						

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AUGUST 22nd & 23rd, 2026

November 2025








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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23/30	24	25	26	27	28	29

New York Mills Public Schools
"Preparing Students For Life"

DECEMBER

January 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 Christmas Tree Festival	2 Christmas Tree Festival BBB (H) Verndale V WR (A) Wheaton	3 Christmas Tree Festival	4 Christmas Tree Festival BBB (H) Verndale FULL MOON	5 Christmas Tree Festival GBB (H) Sebeka	6 V WR Tourney (A) Hillsboro, ND JV WR Tourney (A) Aitkin Christmas Tree Festival Community Christmas Party
7 Open Gym	8 Bandwagon Meeting	9 V WR (A) West Central Area	10 	11 GBB (A) Wadena-DC BBB (A) at Wadena-DC LAST MOON QUARTER	12 	13 4-H Project Day V WR Tourney (A) Crookston GBB (A) Sebeka (Pillager)
14 Open Gym	15 JV WR (H) TBD School Board Meeting 	16	17	18 V WR (H) Wadena-DC	19 V WR (H) Benson/Fertile-Bel GBB (A) Menahga NEW MOON	20
21 Open Gym Longest Night Music Festival FIRST DAY OF WINTER	22 NYM Food Shelf Open BBB (A) Sebeka	23	24	25 	26	27 
<div>~~~~ NO SCHOOL ~~~~ Winter Break: December 22 through January 2</div>						
				CHRISTMAS DAY	FIRST MOON QUARTER	
28 Open Gym 	29	30	31			
<div>~~ NO SCHOOL ~ Winter Break: December 22 through January 2</div>						

PLEASE NOTE: Calendar Abbreviation Key is on second page. All schedules are subject to change at any time. Please refer to our website at www.nymills.k12.mn.us for complete listing!



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S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

JANUARY

New York Mills Public Schools
"Preparing Students For Life"

February 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 ~ NO SCHOOL ~ Winter Break NEW YEAR'S DAY	2 ~ NO SCHOOL ~ For students	3  FULL MOON
4 Open Gym 	5 CLASSES RESUME	6 BBB (A) Menahga	7 	8 GBB (A) Bertha-Hewitt JV/V WR, TBD	9 BBB (A) Pillager V WR Tourney (A) Casselton	10 V WR Tourney (A) Casselton LAST MOON QUARTER
11 Open Gym 	12 Bandwagon Meeting	13 GBB (A) Henning V WR (H) Park Rapids	14	15 V WR (H) Frazee/UnitedClayBe	16 END OF HS QTR GBB (A) Verndale JV WR Tourney (H) TBD	17 JV WR Tourney (H) TBD
18 Open Gym NEW MOON	19 NO SCHOOL  MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY	20 BBB (A) Henning	21 	22 GBB (A) Sebeka V WR (H) B-H-V, PP, B-EV	23 BBB, Verndale V WR (A) Pelican Rapids	24 
25 Open Gym FIRST MOON QUARTER	26 NYM Food Shelf Open	27 GBB (H) Wadena-DC	28	29 BBB (H) Sebeka V WR (A) Sebeka	30 GBB (H) Menahga	31 V WR (A) Bertha-Hewitt

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4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

New York Mills Public Schools
"Preparing Students For Life"

FEBRUARY

I Love To Read Month

March 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

SUNDAY

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



1

Open Gym

FULL MOON

2



GROUNDHOG DAY

LAST MOON QUARTER

3

BBB (H) Wadena-DC
OTC Precinct CaucusPRECINCT CAUCUS DAY
No meetings or activities

4

National School Counseling Week

5

GBB (H) Pillager
BBB (H) Menahga
V WR (A) Battle Lake

6

7



8

9

Bandwagon Meeting

NO SCHOOL



PRESIDENT'S DAY

10

GBB/BBB (H) Henning

NEW MOON

11

12

BBB (H) Pillager



13

GBB/BBB (H) Bertha-Hewitt
V WR Sectionals, TBD

14



VALENTINE'S DAY

15

Open Gym

16

NO SCHOOL

17

18

19

20

BBB (A) Bertha-Hewitt
V WR Sectionals (A)
Wadena-DC

21

25th Auditorium Anniversary

22

Open Gym



23

NYM Food Shelf Open

24

Large Group Band Contest
(A) Pillager

25

26

V WR State (A) X-Cel Center

27

28



PLEASE NOTE: Calendar Abbreviation Key is on second page. All schedules are subject to change at any time. Please refer to our website at www.nymills.k12.mn.us for complete listing!



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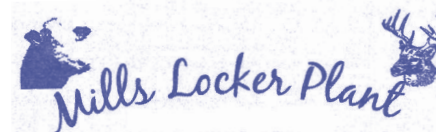
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February 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28








MARCH

* National Nutrition Month *

New York Mills Public Schools
"Preparing Students For Life"

April 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Open Gym	2 READ ACROSS AMERICA DAY  DR. SEUSS' BIRTHDAY	3 ~~~~~ National School Breakfast Week ~~~~~ FULL MOON	4	5 END OF ELEM. TRI EARLY OUT AT 1 PM ELEM/HS CONFERENCES	6	7 
8 Open Gym DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME STARTS	9 Bandwagon Meeting 5-12 Massed Band Concert	10 TOWNSHIP ELECTIONS No meetings/activities 6-8 p.m.	11 LAST MOON QUARTER	12	13	14
15 Open Gym	16	17  ST. PATRICK'S DAY	18 NEW MOON	19	20 END OF HS QTR  FIRST DAY OF SPRING	21
22 Open Gym	23	24	25 Large Group Choir Contest (A) Staples-Motley ~~~~~ Marching Band Florida Trip — March 21-28 ~~~~~ FIRST MOON QUARTER	26	27	28 
29 Open Gym 	30 NYM Food Shelf Open	31 7-12 Choir Concert	  <p>Due to wet spring weather, please check the Calendars on our school website www.nymills.k12.mn.us for up-to-date info on spring sports!!</p> 			

PLEASE NOTE: Calendar Abbreviation Key is on second page. All schedules are subject to change at any time. Please refer to our website at www.nymills.k12.mn.us for complete listing!

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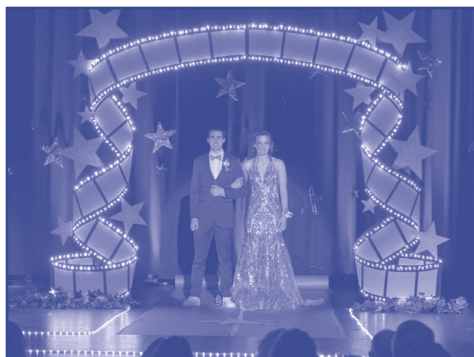
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

New York Mills Public Schools
"Preparing Students For Life"

APRIL

* National Child Abuse Prevention Month *

May 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24/31	25	26	27	28	29	30

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		 	1 PARAPROFESSIONAL APPRECIATION DAY EARLY OUT AT 1 PM Band/Solo/Ensemble Contest (A) Verndale  APRIL FOOL'S DAY FULL MOON	2 NO SCHOOL SPRING BREAK	3 NO SCHOOL SPRING BREAK	4 NATIONAL SCHOOL LIBRARIAN DAY Easter Egg Hunt 
5  EASTER SUNDAY	6 NO SCHOOL SPRING BREAK	7 CLASSES RESUME	8 Choir Solo/Ensemble Contest (A) Sebeka	9	10 LAST MOON QUARTER	11 Lions Auction
12	13 Bandwagon Meeting	14 	15	16  NATIONAL DARE DAY	17 NEW MOON	18 
19 	20	21	22 ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS DAY National Playground Safety Week  EARTH DAY	23 FIRST MOON QUARTER	24  ARBOR DAY	25 Prom Grand March Prom After-Prom Party
26 ~~~~~ State FFA Convention ~~~~~	27 NYM Food Shelf Open	28	29	30	Due to wet spring weather, please check the Calendars on our school website www.nymills.k12.mn.us for up-to-date info on spring sports!! 	

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April 2026

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MAY

* National Physical Fitness and Sports Month *

June 2026

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New York Mills Public Schools
"Preparing Students For Life"

SUNDAY

MONDAY

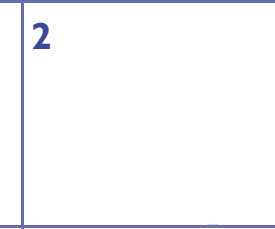
TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

SATURDAY



3

4

5 NATIONAL TEACHER DAY

6 NATIONAL NURSES DAY

7
K-3 Music Program

8

9



LAST MOON QUARTER

10



MOTHER'S DAY

11

Bandwagon Meeting

12

13



14

4th Music-5/6 Band/Choir
Concert

15

16

NEW MOON

17

18

NATIONAL
SPEECH LANGUAGE
PATHOLOGIST'S DAYNYM Food Shelf Open
7-12 Choir Concert

19



20

21

22

GRADUATION
COMMENCEMENT

23

FIRST MOON QUARTER

24

FULL MOON

25

NO SCHOOL



MEMORIAL DAY

26

27 LAST DAY OF SCHOOL
END OF ELEM. TRI
END OF HS QTR

28



29

30

Due to wet spring weather, please check the Calendars on our school website www.nymills.k12.mn.us for up-to-date info on spring sports!!

PLEASE NOTE: Calendar Abbreviation Key is on second page. All schedules are subject to change at any time. Please refer to our website at www.nymills.k12.mn.us for complete listing!

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May 2026












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New York Mills Public Schools
"Preparing Students For Life"

JUNE

July 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1	2 	3	4	5	6 
7	8 LAST MOON QUARTER	9	10	11	12	13 Ronald McDonald Ride and Bike Rodeo Great American Think-Off
14  FLAG DAY NEW MOON	15	16 	17	18	19  JUNETEENTH	20 
21  FATHER'S DAY FIRST DAY OF SUMMER FIRST MOON QUARTER	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29 NYM Food Shelf Open FULL MOON	30 				

PLEASE NOTE: Calendar Abbreviation Key is on second page. All schedules are subject to change at any time. Please refer to our website at www.nymills.k12.mn.us for complete listing!



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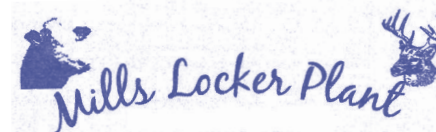
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June 2026






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7	8	9	10	11	12	13
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JULY

New York Mills Public Schools
"Preparing Students For Life"

August 2026

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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23/30	24/31	25	26	27	28	29

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
			1	2	3	4  INDEPENDENCE DAY
5	6	7 LAST MOON QUARTER	8	9	10 Lund Mania	11 Lund Mania
12	13 	14 NEW MOON	15	16	17 	18
19	20	21 FIRST MOON QUARTER	22 	23	24	25
26  PARENT'S DAY	27 NYM Food Shelf Open	28	29 FULL MOON	30	31	 Summer time

PLEASE NOTE: Calendar Abbreviation Key is on second page. All schedules are subject to change at any time. Please refer to our website at www.nymills.k12.mn.us for complete listing!

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July 2026

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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New York Mills Public Schools
"Preparing Students For Life"

AUGUST

September 2026

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27	28	29	30			

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 
2  FRIENDSHIP DAY	3	4	5 LAST MOON QUARTER	6 	7	8
9	10	11 PRIMARY ELECTIONS No meetings/activities 6-8 p.m.	12 NEW MOON	13	14	15 
16 	17	18	19  FIRST MOON QUARTER	20	21 Corn Feed/Puppet Pageant	22 Finn Creek Summer Festival
23 Finn Creek Summer Festival	24 NYM Food Shelf Open	25 	26	27	28 FULL MOON	29 
30	31					

PLEASE NOTE: Calendar Abbreviation Key is on second page. All schedules are subject to change at any time. Please refer to our website at www.nymills.k12.mn.us for complete listing!

New York Mills

M I N E S O T A

Independent School District #553

2025-2026

Calendar

AND SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

If You're Riding School Buses...

NYM School Transportation Supervisor, Brent Gudmundson, reminds parents and students that bus route schedules will be mailed to each family the week before school starts. Please contact the District Office immediately if you are not listed or if you see any potential problems with the routes.

Pick up times listed for the routes will be only estimates and are subject to change due to additions/deletions of stops, road and weather conditions and other factors.

Drivers are required to maintain a tight schedule, so students should be at their bus stops ON TIME so drivers don't have to wait. Good discipline on the buses is essential so all passengers can be assured a safe ride to and from school.

School officials will work closely with parents and drivers to see that all bus rules are followed.

Buses will be loading and unloading students at the bus loading area east of the Sports Center entrance. No cars will be allowed in this area when buses are present. Those people dropping off and picking up children in their own vehicles should do so SOUTH of the bus loading area. DO NOT DRIVE IN FRONT OF THE BUSES WHEN THEY ARE LOADING AND UNLOADING AT THE SCHOOL.

to not let students off at any place other than their designated stop.

GUESTS ON BUSES: No more than one guest per student will be allowed to ride the school bus for birthday parties, sleepovers, etc. If more than one guest will be going home with your student, alternate transportation must be arranged in advance of the planned activity.

BUS SAFETY: All students who ride the bus to and from school must follow basic rules and regulations. Student safety is the top priority, so we ask that parents review with their children the following rules for a safe and orderly bus ride.

AT THE BUS STOP: Be on time. Stay off the road. Be considerate of private property. Do not enter the bus until it comes to a full stop. Take turns getting on the bus.

ON THE BUS: Obey the driver. Be seated promptly in your assigned seat. Keep your arms, feet, and books out of the aisle. Keep hands, head and objects inside the bus. Do not push, shove, fight, or throw objects. Talk quietly; no loud or profane language. Do NOT eat or drink on the bus. Treat the bus and equipment with care and respect. Keep bus clean.

LEAVING THE BUS: Do not leave your seat until the bus stops. Take your turn leaving the bus. Clear the area immediately.

PLEASE NOTE: If your child will not be riding his/her regular bus for any length of time, please contact BOTH the bus driver and the school, preferably by written note.



GETTING OFF BUSES: Students must have a signed note from their parent/guardian before they will be allowed to get off the school bus at a stop other than the approved stop for that student. If students do not have a note, drivers will be instructed



EARLY CHILDHOOD FAMILY EDUCATION AND PRE-KINDERGARTEN

Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) is for expectant parents, parents, and their pre-school children (ages birth to kindergarten enrollment).

The classes and events offered throughout the school year will provide opportunities for parents and their children to play and learn together in a fun and special way. Parents will have an opportunity to share and learn about topics relevant to being a parent, one of the most challenging but most rewarding jobs in the world!

New York Mills School Prekindergarten is for preschoolers who are four by August 31, 2025. This program offers families a variety of options, such as the following:

- pre-school
- special performances and activities
- parenting information
- information about referral to other services

Watch for more specific information in Tot Talk the ECFE/PK newsletter), Community Education brochures, the NYM Dispatch, and on posters. Call Kendra Geiser, ECFE/PK Program Coordinator @ (218) 385-2553, ext. #342 or Community Education @ (218) 385-4203.



Special Education



The New York Mills School District supports the policy that a free and appropriate education is the right of every child. The District is striving to meet the needs of special education students, ages birth to twenty-one. Because of the unique needs of these students, on July 1, 1970, New York Mills joined with nine other school districts to form the Freshwater Special Education Services. The Freshwater Special Education Board is made up of a superintendent from each local member school district. Parents and the general public may contact local representatives for participation in special education matters. With enactment of Public Law 94-142, the Education of All Handicapped Children Act, federal funds are made available to the cooperative. Applications are made to the federal government for funding of special education programs each year. Applications, evaluations, and reports of P.L. 94-142 are available for review to parents and the general public by contacting the superintendent of schools or director of special education. Included among the cooperative's special education services are the following: special instruction for the speech/language delayed, educable mentally handicapped, trainable mentally handicapped, learning disabled, hearing impaired, physically handicapped, home-based and school-based Early Childhood Special Education, and emotional/behavioral disabilities, as well as consultative services for speech/language, developmental adapted physical education, physical therapy, vision and hearing impaired, child study, emotional/behavioral disabilities,

and occupational therapy, along with administrative services and in-service training. Public Law 94-142 calls for parents to be involved in all planning steps for their handicapped children. Parents have the right to review their children's school records, to attend their children's staffing, and are encouraged to make program recommendations for their children's special education needs. If you know of a child who may have special needs, contact your school principal. You may contact the Freshwater Special Education Services Office @**218-631-3505** or write 2222 Industrial Drive, Wadena, MN 56482.

The District considers names and birthdates of students, eligible for special education, as directory information and will share the information with DHS (Minnesota Dept. of Human Services) to determine which students are currently enrolled in a Minnesota Health Care Program. If a parent/guardian does not wish for directory information to be shared, you may opt out by contacting the building principal at the District.

According to the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, (34C.F.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 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 1997. You have the right to request a copy of these records, at a reasonable copying fee. Please contact Superintendent Adam Johnson, if you wish to arrange for a copy.

VOCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES PUBLIC NOTICE

New York Mills School Provides Non-Discriminatory Vocational Opportunities for Public.

The New York Mills School District will provide students, parents, employees, and the general public with vocational education opportunities offered without regard to sex, race, color, national origin, or handicap.

Disability Non-Discrimination

I. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to provide a fair employment setting for all persons and to comply with state and federal law.

II. General Statement of Policy

A. The School District shall not discriminate against qualified individuals with disabilities, because of the disabilities, with regard to job application procedures, hiring, advancement, discharge, compensation, job training, or any other term, condition, or privilege of employment.

B. The School District shall not engage in contractual or other arrangements that have the effect of subjecting applicants or employees with disabilities to discrimination on the basis of that disability.

C. The School District shall make reasonable accommodations for the known physical or mental limitations of an otherwise-qualified individual with a disability who is an applicant or an employee, unless the accommodation would impose undue hardship on the operation of the business of the School District.

D. Any job applicant or employee wishing to discuss the need for reasonable accommodation or other matters related to a disability or the enforcement and application of this policy should contact the School District's appointed ADA Section 504 coordinator. Call the District Office at 385-4201.

Rights Protection/Privacy of Students' Records - Independent School District #553 gives notice to parents of students and eligible students currently in attendance in the district of their rights regarding pupil records. Among these rights are the right to inspect

and review the student's records, to request amendment of the student's education record, the right to consent to disclosure of personally identifiable information contained in the records, the right to file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Education, and several other items. To review a complete text of the policy, contact the district office.

Policy Prohibiting Harassment and Violence — General Policy Statement - It is the policy of Independent School District #553 (the "School District") to maintain a learning and working environment that is free from religious, racial, or sexual harassment and violence.

It shall be a violation of this policy for any pupil, teacher, administrator, or other school personnel of the School District to harass a pupil, teacher, administrator, or other school personnel through conduct or communication of a sexual nature or regarding religion and race as defined in this policy. (For purposes of this policy, school personnel includes school board members, school employees, agents, volunteers, contractors, or persons subject to the supervision and control of the School District.)

It shall be a violation of this policy for any pupil, teacher, administrator, or other school personnel of the School District to inflict, threaten to inflict, or attempt to inflict religious, racial, or sexual violence upon any pupil, teacher, administrator, or other school personnel.

The School District will act to investigate all complaints, either formal or informal, verbal or written, of religious, racial, or sexual harassment or violence, and to discipline or to take appropriate action against any pupil, teacher, administrator, or other school personnel who is found to have violated this policy.

The Human Rights Officer for the high school is Principal, Michelle Young-Lecoustre at 385-4211 or for the elementary it is Principal, Judith Brockway at 385-4207.



From the School Health Office...

Minnesota Statutes require that all children entering a Minnesota public, private or parochial elementary school, daycare setting or nursery school for the first time must be immunized against the following: DTaP; 4 Polio; 2 Measles, Mumps, Rubella; 3 Hepatitis B; 2 Varicella (Chicken Pox); before entering 7th grade 1dap and Meningococcal shot (before entering the 12th grade the booster is required) Shots must be done before school starts in the fall. These requirements may be waived only if a notarized medical or conscientious exemption form is filed with the school. We must have documentation of immunizations or exemption(s) on file for your child to attend school.

For your child to enter school it is mandatory that an immunization form be completed, signed and on file prior to admission at the school your child will attend. The information you provide on this form will be available to the local public health agency and the Minnesota Department of Health to



Public Notice

605.11 Procedure for Review of Curriculum Content and Alternative Instruction

The New York Mills School District believes in the principles of intellectual freedom. Members of the community are welcome to review curriculum and instructional materials. Any parent, guardian, or adult student in District #553 may express concerns about the content of instructional materials in the district's educational program. Whenever a concern is expressed, the district will respond with the procedure described below.

The intent of the procedure is to provide parents, guardians, and adult students the opportunity to review instructional materials, address concerns, and propose alternative instruction for the individual student.

The intent is not to interfere with the rights of others to receive the instruction in question, nor does it relieve the student from meeting state and district-level essential learner outcomes.

A. Procedure

- 1) When a parent, guardian or adult student (hereafter referred to as "person") indicates a concern regarding the content of instructional materials, this procedure shall be followed:
 - a. Request for review of material
 - b. Each request for review of material shall be directed to the building principal.

determine if your child has received the required immunizations.

Students will be given prescription medication by the health services department only if a licensed physician prescribes it, in the original container, and there is written parent/guardian permission to follow the doctor's order. All over-the-counter medication must be in the original container, and a Medication Authorization form must be completed, i.e. cough drops, antacids, Tylenol. All medications brought to school must be kept in the health services department. An exception would be a medication kept with the student once approved by the school nurse with proper doctor's orders, i.e. inhalers, insulin pump, epi-pen. You may get a copy of the required form on the website or stop in the office to pick up.

c. The principal will:

1. treat each concerned person's request with confidentiality.
2. try to resolve the question(s) of the concerned person(s) during the initial contact.
3. provide and explain the Minnesota state statute and the school district's policy and procedure.
4. inform the concerned person(s) that the student is not required to be exposed to the questioned material but will be required to meet the essential learner outcome.
5. inform the classroom instructor(s) and the affected department (if appropriate) of the materials in question.

B. Opportunity to Review Materials

- 1) School responsibility
 - a. All adopted curricular and instructional materials (including adopted learner outcomes, print materials and film/video with descriptive narrative) will be available for review.
 1. by appointment with the principal
 2. in the principal's office
 3. check-out through the principal for up to fifteen days
 - b. Outside speakers, spontaneous classroom discussion and current events materials are not considered part of the planned content of instruction and are therefore exempt from the requirement for prior review.

Send Home Policy: If a student has a temperature of 100 degrees or higher, or is determined to be too ill to be in school for the day (diarrhea, vomiting, suspicious rash, chronic coughing, etc.), the parent/guardian will be called to pick up their child. If we are unable to reach parents, the emergency contact that you have provided will be notified. Please remember that ill students must remain home for 24 hours after their temperature is below 100 degrees.

Health Office hours are

8:15 am - 3:15 pm, on student days.
Please call the Health Office at (218) 385-2553, ext. #408 if you have any questions.

Also, visit our website @ nymills.k12.mn.us, go to 'Parent Resources' and click on 'Health Services' for more detailed information.

Bus Camera Info

On each of the 14 New York Mills School Buses, there are six video cameras that have been installed. The cameras are video only, with no sound being recorded. Two cameras will be utilized as Stop Arm Cameras, recording vehicles that violate the stop-arm sign. We are working closely with the New York Mills Police Department to help notify the public of Stop Arm safety. Vehicles must refrain from passing a school bus with its Stop Arm extended.

In addition to the external cameras, four cameras have been installed inside each bus. These cameras will primarily be used to assist in student behavior incidents. Cameras are not a live feed and will be reviewed later by the administration only. Although the cameras will record continuously when the bus is on, bus drivers also have access to an event button. Pressing the event button adds an indicator mark on the footage, which will make specific incidents easier to review.

Student Insurance

The New York Mills Public School does not provide any type of health or accident insurance for injuries incurred by children at school. We encourage all families to have accident coverage on their children, prior to participation in any sports or school sponsored activity. Please review your current health and accident insurance program. Student Assurance Services, Inc. of Stillwater, MN, offers several options for coverage. Applications are available in the District Office. Minnesota Care is another option.

**Does your child
have health insurance?**
If not, help may be available.

Minnesota Health Care Programs have free and low-cost health insurance for children and families who qualify.

Income is one factor for qualifying. Other rules and limits apply. For more information, call your county office or visit <http://mn.gov/dhs/people-we-serve/children-and-families/health-care/>.

To get a MNsure application for health coverage and help paying costs (DHS-6696):

- Print one from <http://mn.gov/dhs/people-we-serve/children-and-families/health-care/>
- Call 877-KIDS-NOW toll free
- Call Otter Tail County Department of Human Services (218) 998-8270
- Becker County Department of Human Services (218) 847-5628
- Wadena County Department of Human Services (218) 631-7605

Facility Use Policy

The New York Mills School realizes that its facilities are financed by the community and has established a policy making the facilities available to the public as follows:

- School facilities may be made available when not required for school-organized educational and athletic purposes.
- Use of the facilities other than general meeting areas or gymnasiums, including such rooms as shops, garages, kitchens, etc., is prohibited to all persons for any personal or non-school activity, except as provided for in separate policies established by the board, and which covers the costs involved and meets the requirements of safety, supervision, and maintenance.
- The school building shall not be available to non-community individuals or organizations or be used for private business commercial enterprises without special permission of the superintendent of schools.
- Recognized non-school youth groups, such as 4H and Scouts, adult groups such as adult volleyball league, adult education classes, and other recognized non-profit organizations may use the building and facilities as specified in this policy.
- School building and facilities are available for organized community use during non-school hours at the following rates:

Auditorium	Varied rates, (refer to Policy Manual)
Commons	\$ 40
Activity Center	\$ 50
Commons & Kitchen	Varied
Sports Center	\$100
Multi-Purpose Room/Kitchen	\$ 30
High School Gym	\$ 60
Computer Labs	\$ 40
Classrooms (each)	\$ 10
Equipment/Classroom Fee for University/College	(the greater of \$30 per day or \$12 per hour)

- Certain additional charges are applicable where school personnel are required to be on hand. These additional requirement details are contained in the policy on "Use of School Building and Equipment", which can be discussed with the superintendent of schools.

The form "Request for Building Use" (available in the Community Education Office and on the School District website) must be filled out **at least** one week prior to the event and submitted to the Community Education Office for approval by the superintendent of schools.

The New York Mills School District employs counselors for the elementary and secondary levels. Our counselors are available to serve all students and work collaboratively with teaching staff, school personnel and parents. Individual and group counseling, classroom guidance, referral services, testing, consultation and other opportunities for student growth are provided. Notify the school administration if you do not wish your child to receive these services.

High School Guidance Counselor

It's great to be back! Welcome to the 2024-2025 school year! Throughout the summer I have enjoyed meeting with the seniors regarding the upcoming school year. Some topics include:

- 1. College visits.** The best way to see if a college is right for you is to visit. See Missy Kesitalo and she can schedule a visit for you.
- 2. College applications.** Apply early! Some programs fill up. I encourage you to apply to at least 2 or 3 schools in the fall.
- 3. Credit checks.** Making sure seniors have what they need to graduate. If you have any concerns, please stop in or call.

I will be available to help students in grades 7-12 with education, career counseling, personal or social concerns. Please feel free to stop in or call 218-385-4212.



Jodi Raser
High School Guidance Counselor

Family Outreach/Counseling Services

The counselor is available to help with problems that are common to all students, parents and families. She is also available for consultation with teachers and the administration. For more information, call the counselor at (218) 385-2553, ext# 220. The Family Outreach/Counseling program provides support to students and parents in several ways, including the following:

- Classroom visits
- Groups for problem-solving, anger management, friendship, etc.
- Individual confidential counseling; parents notified about major concerns
- Parent meetings to discuss their children's issues, worries and concerns
- Family services

The New York Mills Public School is fortunate to offer our students, parents and families the support they need at school at home. The counselor will also provide (CTSS) Children's Therapeutic Support Services directly to students in the New York Mills school district with professional clinical support from Lakeland Mental Health Services of Fergus Falls/Perham. Please feel free to give the counselor, our teachers, or the administration a call if you need help or have any questions. Have a great school year!

Kristin Draeger
Family Outreach/
Counseling Services

STUDENT & PARENT HANDBOOK

All NYM students will receive a Student and Parent Handbook at the beginning of the year. The handbook contains all the information necessary to answer questions about school policies and procedures.

Both students and parents should read it carefully and refer to it frequently during the year. It is the responsibility of each student to know all policies, rules, and opportunities presented.

VISITORS TO NYM SCHOOL

All visitors to the elementary or high school must register in the respective principal's office. No preschool children are allowed to visit any classroom unless accompanied by an adult.

FAMILY REGISTRATION

All families with preschool-aged children are encouraged to call or stop in the elementary office (218) 385-4208 to register your child with us. This is important since it will help keep you informed of preschool programs available through the school for your child.

WHERE TO PAY - FOR ANYTHING!

For the convenience of parents and staff, all lunch tickets, resale items, activity fees and any other funds will be collected **ONLY** in the District Office near the Sports Center entrance.

SCHOOL PICTURES

School pictures will be taken on Monday, September 22nd and Tuesday, September 23rd, 2025, starting at 8:30 AM. A notice, which will also include the date and time for preschool and make-up pictures, will be sent out during the first week of school. A family plan is available for school-age children.

ILLNESS POLICY

If your child becomes ill at school, parents/guardians will be notified to pick him/her up. The child will stay in the sick room until the parent/guardian arrives. If there is no telephone in the home, parents/guardians should let the child's teacher know who can be called in case of accident or sickness.

LOCKER DAMAGE

Students who were responsible for locker damage last school term and have not paid for the damages will NOT be issued a locker for the 2025-2026 school year until the bill has been paid. Notices have been mailed to students' homes indicating that damages have occurred and the amount due.

NO ALCOHOL, TOBACCO, OR OTHER DRUGS AT NEW YORK MILLS SCHOOL!

The use of illicit drugs and the unlawful possession and/or use of alcohol and tobacco products are wrong and harmful and will not be tolerated at the New York Mills School including ball fields.

The standards of conduct concerning such

substances, which clearly prohibit the use or possession of illicit drug, alcohol, or tobacco on school premises or as part of any activities apply to both students and employees in the school system.

Changes will be imposed consistent with local, state, and federal laws, including expulsion of students or termination of employment and referral for prosecution for anyone who violates these standards.

NO WEAPONS AT NYM SCHOOL!

New York Mills School District maintains a policy intended to assure a safe school environment for students, staff, and the public.

No student or non-student, including adults and visitors, shall possess, use or distribute a weapon when in a school location. The school district will act to enforce this policy and to discipline or take appropriate action against any student, teacher, administrator, school employee, volunteer, or member of the public who violates this policy.

A weapon means any object, device, or instrument designed as a weapon or through its use is capable of threatening or producing bodily harm or which may be used to inflict self-injury.

District #553 wishes to emphasize that LASERS and LASER PENS are considered weapons. They are NOT allowed in any school location.

BEFORE SCHOOL...

In the interest of safety and general welfare of the children, students are NOT to assemble on the school grounds earlier than 8:00 a.m. on any school day. Please plan with your children so they do not arrive before this time or you may take advantage of our School-Age Child Care.

SCHOOL-ZONE DRIVING

- Please observe the speed limit and the stop signs in the school parking lots.
- When walking, students are asked to use the sidewalks at all times.
- When dropping off and picking up students, please do not drive in front of the buses that are loading or unloading students.

SCHOOL-AGE CHILD CARE

If you need before or after school child care on a regular or drop-in basis, we have before or after school child care at the school for children enrolled in one of our preschool programs through 6th grade for the hours of 6:30-8:10 AM and 3:00-5:30 PM. Our school will continue to run this service for kids and parents. To register, call (218) 385-4201 (District Office). You may register any time during the school year when you are in need of child care.

LOST AND FOUND

Articles that have been turned in from summer activities should be claimed by the end of the first week of school in the District Office, or they will be donated to charity. Items that are lost during the school year and are turned in may be picked up in the respective principals' offices.

TRAINER SERVICES

A certified athletic trainer/strength and conditioning specialist is available for student athletes. Sign-up is in the High School Principal's Office.

DRIVER'S EDUCATION

We are excited to share some great news! New York Mills School is proud to partner with A+ Driving School for fully independent online driver's education classes. This MN Department for Public Safety approved 30 hour online class platform was designed with Minnesota students in mind and utilizes proven teaching methods that will keep the student engaged throughout the learning process. We have scheduled a 6-week time during the school day for students to take the course during their first semester based on their birth date. This will be built into the student's day. There is a \$20 technology fee that families will pay to get started. Upon completion, Behind the Wheel is still available to students upon completion of the permit test. Signing up for Behind the Wheel is completed in the NYM District Office. Behind the Wheel is \$275. Any questions, please contact the District Office.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR FEES FOR 2025-2026

	1 Sport	2 Sports	3 Sports
Grade 7 & 8	\$50	\$100	\$150
Grade 9-12	\$60	\$120	\$180

Family Max \$160

After-school MSHSL Athletic/Sports Activities, Cheerleading and Fine Arts are included in activities that must be paid for. Payment of fees must be completed by the first scheduled event of that activity. NO refunds will be issued - even if a student does not complete that season. Please pay all fees in the District Office. Activity fees may be waived, depending upon family income and/or family size. Requests for such waivers must be made in writing and submitted to the District Office before the fee deadline of any particular activity.

ADMISSIONS FOR ATHLETIC EVENTS

Sr Citizens (65 & over)..... FREE

REGULAR GAMES:

Adults..... \$5.00
Students/College \$3.00

10 PUNCH PASS:

Adults..... \$30.00
Students..... \$20.00

TOURNAMENTS:

Wrestling (all day pass):

Adults..... \$6.00
Students/College \$4.00

Basketball:

Adults..... \$6.00
K-12..... \$3.00
College..... \$4.00



MN SCHOOL ZONE CRIME LINE

The School Zone Crime Line was established by the 1994 legislature to allow students and school employees to phone in reports of suspected criminal activity which has occurred in school zones. A school zone is defined as any property up to 300 feet or one city block beyond the school property.

A reward of up to \$100 may be payable to the callers for information leading to the arrest or prosecution of an adult or juvenile offender for committing or attempting to commit a criminal offense in a school zone.

Information received on the crime line will be forwarded to local police authorities for investigation. Callers are asked to leave their name, how they can be reached, the nature of the criminal offense, and/or the location of the crime and name of the school. The Crime Line Number is 1-800-667-3760.

SELLING FOOD ITEMS AT NYM SCHOOL

In order to be in compliance with Health Department regulations, the New York Mills School District has adopted a health department policy regarding sale and distribution of food items by organizations, such as school groups, church or civic organizations, 4-H clubs, and other groups at the school.

A "Temporary Food Service Application" must be completed by any group wishing to sell or distribute food items within the school. The application and guidelines regarding food protection, equipment, hand washing, dishwashing, and safety are available at the District Office. Submit the completed form to the Community Education Office for approval by the Superintendent and the Food Service Supervisor.

Public Notice

GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
29 U.S.C. 706(8), 794; 34 C.F.R. Part 104

Any individual may file a grievance in the #553 School District if the individual believes there has been a violation of Section 504. Any such grievance must be filed in writing within a "reasonable period of time" after the alleged violation occurred. The grievant must fully state the facts of the alleged violation and the remedy that is being sought.

Step One: The grievance shall be submitted to Jodi Raser, the Section 504 Coordinator of the #553 School District, at (218) 385-4201, 209 Hayes Street, PO Box 218, New York Mills, MN 55657, who shall investigate the circumstances of the alleged violation. Jodi Raser, the Section 504 Coordinator, shall make a written report of her findings of fact and conclusions within ten (10) school days.

Step Two: If the grievance has not been resolved to the satisfaction of the grievant, s/he may appeal the report of the Section 504 Coordinator to the superintendent of the #553 School District within five (5) school days of receipt of the report. After investigation and within ten (10) school days of receipt of the appeal, the superintendent shall affirm, reverse, or modify the report of the Section 504 Coordinator.

Step Three: If the grievance has not been resolved

in Step Two to the satisfaction of the grievant, s/he may appeal to the school board within five (5) school days of receipt of the report in Step Two. The school board shall conduct an informal hearing in an open meeting to review the alleged violation. The board shall give each party at least five (5) school days' notice of its meeting. The board shall affirm, reverse, or modify the report issued under Step Two within fifteen (15) school days of receipt of the appeal. This procedure contains written assurance that complaints may be made without fear of reprisal.

ANNUAL ASBESTOS NOTICE

In accordance with federal regulations, New York Mills ISD #553 has an asbestos management plan documenting the location and condition of all known or assumed asbestos containing building materials (ACBM). This plan is available for public inspection during normal office hours. Every six months, an accredited inspector visually inspects the condition of the ACBM. Adam Zachman, Buildings and Grounds Supervisor, is the designated person responsible for maintaining the asbestos management plan for the district. Should you have any further questions, he can be reached at (218) 385-4204.

PEST CONTROL NOTICE

District #553 utilizes a licensed, professional pest control service firm for the prevention and control of rodents, insects, and other pests in and around the district's buildings. Their program consists of, 1) inspection and monitoring to determine whether pests are present and whether any treatment is needed, 2) recommendations for maintenance and sanitation to help eliminate pests without the need for pest control materials, 3) utilization of non-chemical measures such as traps, caulking and screening, 4) application of EPA-registered pest-control measures when needed. Pests can sting, bite, cause contamination, damage property, and spread disease; therefore, we must prevent and control them. The long-term health effects on children from the application of such pest-control materials, or the class of materials to which they belong, may not be fully understood. All pest-control materials are chosen and applied according to label directions per federal law. An estimated schedule of interior pest-control inspections and possible treatments is available for review or copying in the district office. A similar estimated schedule is available for application of herbicides and other materials to school grounds. Parents of students may request to receive, at their expense, prior notification of any application of pest-control materials, should such an application be deemed necessary on a day different from the days specified in the schedule.

INDOOR AIR QUALITY

New York Mills ISD #553 advocates a healthy school environment in which the surroundings contribute to an environment conducive to learning for students, and productivity for staff. To help accomplish this, we have implemented an Indoor Air Quality (IAQ) Management Plan using guidelines provided by the Department of Children, Families and Learning, and the "Tools for Schools" document developed by the U.S. EPA. Adam Zachman, Buildings and Grounds Supervisor, has been designated as the school's IAQ Coordinator, and all issues concerning indoor air quality should be brought to his attention. Adam has been trained and certified as an IAQ Coordinator by the Minnesota Department of Education. Adam Zachman may be reached by calling (218) 385-4204.

CRIMINAL HISTORY BACKGROUND CHECKS

Our school district policy #404L states the following. This policy is to maintain a safe and healthful environment in the school district in order to promote the physical, social, and psychological well-being of its students. To that end, the school district will seek a criminal history background check for applicants who receive an offer of employment with the school district, volunteer coaches, and chaperones on over night trips or such other background checks as provided by this policy. The school district may also elect to do background checks of volunteers, independent contractors and student employees in the school district.

FAMILY EDUCATION AND PRIVACY ACT NOTICE

The Family Education and Privacy Act requires that school districts annually publish a notice to parents and eligible students (students 18 and over) outlining the rights regarding a student's educational records.

All individual records on current students are filed in the school the student attends. Requests by parents or eligible students to review or inspect school records should be submitted to the high school principal. Records on students who no longer attend District #553 are filed at the counselor's office. Requests for review of these records should be made to the high school counselor. Any parent or eligible students may file a request to challenge inclusions in his/her educational records. This can be done by submitting a letter requesting a change in the record.

PROTECTION OF PUPIL RIGHTS NOTICE

The Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment is intended to protect rights of parents and students as follows:

a) All instructional materials, including teacher's manuals, films, tapes or supplementary material which will be used in connection with any survey, analysis or evaluation as part of any applicable program shall be available for inspection by the parents or guardians of the children.

b) No student shall be required, as part of any applicable program, to submit to a survey, analysis or evaluation that reveals information concerning-

1) political affiliations;
2) mental and psychological problems potentially embarrassing to the student or his/her family;

3) sex behavior and attitudes;

4) illegal, anti-social, self-incriminating and demeaning behavior;

5) critical appraisals of other individuals with whom respondents have close family relationships;
6) legally recognized privileged or analogous relationship, such as those of lawyers, physicians and ministers; or

7) income (other than that required by law to determine eligibility for participation in a program or for receiving financial assistance under such program) without the prior consent of the student (if the student is an adult or emancipated minor), or in the case of an unemancipated minor, without the prior written consent of the parent.

c) Educational agencies and institutions shall give parents and students effective notice of their rights under this section.

d) ENFORCEMENT – The Secretary shall take such action as the Secretary determines appropriate to enforce this section, except that action to terminate assistance provided under an applicable program shall be taken only if the Secretary

determines that –

- 1) there has been a failure to comply with such section; and
- 2) compliance with such section cannot be secured by voluntary means.

e) **OFFICE AND REVIEW BOARD** – The Secretary shall establish or designate an office and review board within the Department of Education to investigate, process, review and adjudicate violations of the rights established under this section.

STUDENT RECORDS AND STUDENT ROSTERS

Independent School District #553 will cooperate in releasing records to agencies and schools requesting certain directory information on students. Directory information may include the student's name, address, telephone number, date and place of birth, grade level and participation in extracurricular activities, weight and height of members of the athletic teams and rewards received. Parents wishing that such information not be released should notify the school in writing within thirty days of this notice and such information will be withheld. All other records such as academic courses taken, achievement levels, standardized test scores, grades received, attendance, special education records and similar educational records will not be released without the signed consent of the parent of the student or the student if he/she is 18 years of age.

HARASSMENT AND VIOLENCE GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY 413-1

A. The policy of the school district is to maintain a learning and working environment that is free from harassment and violence on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, familial status, status with regard to public assistance, sexual orientation, or disability. The school district prohibits any form of harassment or violence on the basis of race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, familial status, status with regard to public assistance, sexual orientation, or disability.

B. A violation of this policy occurs when any student, teacher, administrator, or other school district personnel harasses a student, teacher, administrator, or other school district personnel or group of students, teachers, administrators, or other school district personnel through conduct or communication based on a person's race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, age, marital status, familial status, status with regard to public assistance, sexual orientation, or disability, as defined by this policy. (For purposes of this policy, school district personnel includes school board members, school employees, agents, volunteers, contractors, or persons subject to the supervision and control of the district.)

Independent School District #553 maintains a firm policy prohibiting all forms of discrimination, Harassment and Violence Report Form 413-12F is available in the District Office.

HAZING PROHIBITION 526-1

The purpose of this policy is to maintain a safe learning environment for students and staff that is free from hazing. Hazing activities of any type are inconsistent with the educational goals of the school district and are prohibited at all times.

GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

A. No student, teacher, administrator, volunteer, contractor, or other employee of the school district shall plan, direct, encourage, aid or engage in hazing.

B. No teacher, administrator, volunteer, contractor or other employee of the school district shall permit, condone, or tolerate hazing.

C. Apparent permission or consent by a person being hazed does not lessen the prohibitions contained in this policy.

D. Retaliation against a victim, good faith reporter, or a witness of hazing is prohibited.

E. False accusations or reports of hazing against a student, teacher, administrator, volunteer, contractor, or other employee are prohibited.

F. A person who engages in an act of hazing, reprisal, retaliation, or false reporting of hazing or permits, condones, or tolerates hazing shall be subject to discipline or other remedial responses for that act in accordance with the school district's policies and procedures.

Consequences for students who commit, tolerate, or are a party to prohibited acts of hazing may range from remedial responses or positive behavioral interventions up to and including suspension and/or expulsion.

STUDENT SEX NONDISCRIMINATION 522-1

A. The school district provides equal educational opportunity for all students, and does not unlawfully discriminate on the basis of sex. No student will be excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise subjected to discrimination under any educational program or activity operated by the school district on the basis of sex.

B. It is the responsibility of every school district employee to comply with this policy.

C. The school board hereby designates Judith Brockway, Elementary Principal, (218) 385-4207, as its Title IX coordinator. This employee coordinates the school district's efforts to comply with and carry out its responsibilities under Title IX.

D. Any student, parent or guardian having questions regarding the application of Title IX and its regulations and/or this policy should discuss them with the Title IX coordinator. Questions relating solely to Title IX and its regulations may be referred to the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights of the United States Department of Education. In the absence of a specific designee, an inquiry or complaint should be referred to the superintendent of the school district human rights officer.

REPORTING GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

A. Any student who believes he or she has been the victim of unlawful sex discrimination by a teacher, administrator or other school district personnel, or any person with knowledge or belief of conduct which may constitute unlawful sex discrimination toward a student should report the alleged acts immediately to an appropriate school district official designated by this policy or may file a grievance. The school district encourages the reporting party or complainant to use the report form available from the principal of each building or available from the school District Office, but oral reports shall be considered complaints as well.

LEAD IN WATER, PAINT AND SOIL PLAN

Please refer to District website.
<https://www.ny Mills.k12.mn.us>

ATTENDANCE POLICY PUBLIC NOTICE

The Truancy Prevention Work Group of the Otter Tail Family Services Collaborative developed this attendance policy, to be incorporated into the policies and procedures of all Otter Tail County schools, grades K-12. We have worked together to develop this policy because we believe it is necessary to be academically engaged in order to be successful in school. This policy only addresses unexcused absences. Unexcused absences are defined by Minnesota Law and specifically within each school district's individual attendance policy.

Otter Tail County-Wide K-12 School Attendance Policy

Rev. 7/02

1. Attendance will be taken every half-day in elementary schools and every class period in secondary schools.

2. For purposes of this policy, unexcused absences are cumulative throughout the school year. Records regarding attendance will transfer with students who transfer between schools within Otter Tail County.

3. Every time a student is absent for any period of time the school will notify the parents on the day the absence occurs, if the parent has not called or sent a note.

4. After three periods of unexcused absences, a letter will be sent to parents. The purpose of the letter will be to document the student's unexcused absences.

5. Following the seventh unexcused absence, a face-to-face meeting with the parents and student will be required. If parents do not attend the scheduled meeting, the matter may be referred to Human Services. Working together, a Truancy Plan will be established to address the student's attendance. Under Minnesota Law, the student's unexcused absences now qualify as truancy, and the school may make a formal referral to Human Services.

6. If the Truancy Plan that is developed is not followed and the child continues to have unexcused absences, the matter will be turned over to Human Services who will refer the matter to the County Attorney's Office to determine what action should occur. At this point, the parent or guardian can be criminally charged if they have not compelled their child's attendance. Judges have the authority to administer a variety of consequences, which can include the following:

- A child may lose their driving privileges until he or she is 18 years old.
- A child can be assigned community work service hours.

• The court can order that any necessary evaluations, treatment, and counseling services be completed by the child or family.

- A child can be removed from their home and placed in a shelter or foster care or a short-term residential facility.

If you have questions or concerns about this policy, please feel free to contact an administrator within your school district.

CREDIT CARD PAYMENT POLICY 721.1L

New York Mills Public School will accept credit card payment for school lunch accounts, sports fees, and other purchases as deemed appropriate by the administration. Credit card payment refers to online payments only. Any fee associated with the use of the credit card for such payments will be assumed by the card holder.

District #553 Food Service

Dear New York Mills parents,

We hope you and your family enjoyed the summer and that your students are looking forward to the school year ahead!

As the people responsible for keeping your children well-nourished throughout the year, we'd like to share some exciting things going on in our cafeteria.

This year, all students will be able to receive breakfast and lunch free! From serving healthy, tasty options and bringing good to the wider community, we're making school food even better and we're looking forward to serving New York Mills students.

The beginning of the school year is a great time to set healthy habits around food. We are still following the National School Breakfast and Lunch guidelines. Children will still need to pick a fruit or vegetable at every meal and have the required items in order for their meal to be free. Payment will still be required for extra food, ala-carte drinks, milk when bringing a lunch from home, and milk break.

Dear Parent/Guardian:

Our school offers healthy meals each day. 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 application may help the school qualify for education funds.

To apply, complete the enclosed Application for Educational Benefits and return it to: New York Mills ISD #553 District Office, PO Box 218, New York Mills, MN 56567.

Who should complete this application? Children in households participating in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIIP) 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 overtime 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, MFIIP or FDPIR benefits.

If you have other questions or need help, call 218-385-4201.

Sincerely,

Danielle Vomhof, Business Manager

Parents, please still fill out the free or reduced forms as this will still help us receive funding for meals and a host of other programs. Applications can be found online, in the school calendar and in the District Office. As always, your information is kept confidential.

If your child needs a special meal prepared, please fill out a special diet statement available in the District Office and available from our school nurse.

Menus are available on our school website and the school Facebook page. If you have questions or concerns, please contact me at jpeterson@nymills.k12.mn.us.

Stay up-to-date on all of the fun stuff going on in our cafeteria by following us on social media at The New York Mills Eagle Nest!

Sincerely,
Julie Peterson
Food Service Supervisor



HOME OF THE EAGLES



How to Complete the Application for Educational Benefits

Complete the Application for Educational Benefits form for school year 2025–26 if any of the following applies to your household:

- Any household member currently participates in the Minnesota Family Investment Program (MFIP), 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, 2025 through June 30, 2026.

Maximum Total Income					
Household size	\$ Per Year	\$ Per Month	\$ Twice Per Month	\$ Per 2 Weeks	\$ Per Week
1	28,953	2,413	1,207	1,114	557
2	39,128	3,261	1,631	1,505	753
3	49,303	4,109	2,055	1,897	949
4	59,478	4,957	2,479	2,288	1,144
5	69,653	5,805	2,903	2,679	1,340
6	79,828	6,653	3,327	3,071	1,536
7	90,003	7,501	3,751	3,462	1,731
8	100,178	8,349	4,175	3,853	1,927
Add for each additional person	10,175	848	424	392	196

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 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 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 eligibility. The information helps to ensure we are meeting civil rights requirements and fully serving our community.

2025–26 Application for Educational Benefits

Mail or return completed form to: New York Mills ISD#553 District Office PO BOX 218, New York Mills, MN 56567

STEP 1: List ALL Household Members who are infants, children, and students up to and including grade 12 (if more spaces are required for additional names, attach another sheet of paper).

Definition: A Household Member is “Anyone living with you and shares income and expenses, even if not related.” Read *How to Complete the Application for Educational Benefits* for more information. Adults over grade 12 living in the same household should be reported in Step 3. If children in the household attend different districts or charter/nonpublic schools, return an application at each one.

Child's First Name (list all children in household)	MI	Child's Last Name	School	Grade	Birthdate	Foster Child (✓)
						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>
						<input type="checkbox"/>

STEP 2: Do Any Household Members (including you) currently participate in one or more of the following assistance programs: SNAP, MFIP or FDIPIR? Medical assistance **does not** qualify. If **NO** > Go to STEP 3.

If **YES** >Enter SNAP, MFIP or FDIPIR Case Number (between 4-9 digits, do not report EBT card number) _____ then go to STEP 4 (**Do not complete STEP 3**)

STEP 3: Report Income for ALL Household Members (Skip this step if you answered ‘Yes’ to STEP 2)

A. Last Four Digits of Social Security Number (SSN) of Adult Household Member: XXX-XX- Or Check if Adult has No SSN: ☐ Total Number of All Household Members (Children + Adults)

B. Child Income.

Sometimes children in the household earn or receive income, such as from a part time job or SSI. Please include the TOTAL income received by all children listed in STEP 1. Do not include income received by adults in the box to the right.

Total Income Received by All Children	Weekly	Bi-weekly	2x Month	Monthly
\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

C. All Adult Household Members (including yourself). For each Household Member listed, if they do receive income, report total gross income only. If they do not receive income from any source, write ‘0’ or leave any fields blank. You are certifying (promising) that there is no income to report. Not sure what income to include here? Flip the page and review “Sources of Income” for information. “Sources of Income” will help you with the Child Income section and All Adult Household Members section.

Names of All Adult Household Members (First and Last)		Gross Earnings from Working at Jobs					Are you Self-Employed or a Farmer?			Any Other Gross Income				
List all Household members not listed in STEP 1 (including yourself) even if they do not receive income. Include children who are temporarily away at school or in college.		Weekly	Bi-weekly	2x Month	Monthly	Report income before deductions or taxes in whole dollars (no cents).	Monthly	Yearly	Net income from Farm or Self-Employment . Do not duplicate elsewhere.	Weekly	Bi-weekly	2x Month	Monthly	SSI, Unemployment, Public Assistance, Child Support, and others on Page 2
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	\$	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	
Do Not Fill Out: For School Office Use							<input type="checkbox"/> Verified ? Attach Tracker							
Conversions to Annualize All Income:		X52	X26	X24	X12	X1	No change	Free After Verified	Reduced After Verified	Denied After Verified				
							<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>				
All Total Income (Include child and adult income)		Weekly	Bi-weekly	2X Month	Monthly	Annualize	Household Size:	Categorical Eligibility	Free	Reduced	Denied			
\$		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>		<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>			
Determining Official Signature:										Date:				
Confirming Official Signature:										Date:				

STEP 4: Contact information and adult signature. “I certify (promise) that all information on this application is true and that all income is reported. I understand that this information is given in connection with the receipt of Federal funds, and that school officials may verify (check) the information. I am aware that if I purposely give false information I may be prosecuted under applicable State and Federal laws.”
☐ I have checked this box if I *do not* want my information shared with Minnesota Health Care Program as allowed by state law.

Printed name of adult signing form		Daytime Phone	
Address (if available)		Apt#	City Zip
SIGN HERE: Signature of Household Adult		Date	

OPTIONAL: Children’s Racial and Ethnic Identities

We are required to ask for information about your children’s race and ethnicity. This information is important and helps to make sure we are fully serving our community. Responding to this section is optional and does not affect your children’s eligibility. Respond to both Step One, *Ethnicity* and Step Two, *Race*.

Step One: Ethnicity (check one): ☐ Hispanic or Latino ☐ Not Hispanic or Latino

Step Two: Race (check one or more): ☐ American Indian or Alaskan Native ☐ Asian ☐ Black or African American ☐ Native Hawaiian or Other Pacific Islander ☐ White

INSTRUCTIONS: Sources of Income

Sources of Income for Children

Sources of Child Income	Examples
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Earnings from workSocial Security<ul style="list-style-type: none">Disability paymentsSurvivor’s benefitsIncome from person outside the householdIncome from any other source	<ul style="list-style-type: none">A child has a regular full or part-time job where they earn a salary or wagesA child is blind or disabled and receives Social SecurityA parent is disabled, retired, or deceased, and their child receives Social Security benefitsA friend or extended family member regularly gives a child spending moneyA child receives regular income from a private pension fund, annuity, or trust

Sources of Income for Adults

Earnings from Work	Public Assistance / Alimony / Child Support	All Other Income
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Salary, wages, cash bonuses (before deductions or taxes)Net income from self-employment (farm or business)If you are in the U.S. Military:<ul style="list-style-type: none">Basic pay and cash bonuses (do NOT include combat pay, FSSA or privatized housing allowances)Allowances for off-base housing, food and clothing	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Cash Assistance from State or local governmentSupplemental Security IncomeUnemployment benefitsWorker’s compensationAlimony paymentsChild support paymentsVeteran’s benefitsStrike benefits	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Social SecurityDisability benefitsRegular income from trusts or estatesAnnuitiesInvestment incomeRental incomeRegular cash payments from outside household

The Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act requires that we use information from this application to see who qualifies for free or reduced price meals. We can only approve complete forms. We may share your eligibility information with education, health, and nutrition programs to help them deliver program benefits to your household. Inspectors and law enforcement may also use your information to make sure that program rules are met.

Please be sure to provide the last four numbers of the Social Security number of the adult household member who signs the application. If the adult does not have one, ‘Check if no Social Security Number.’ Applications for a foster child do not need to list a Social Security number. Applications for children in households receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) or Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR) do not need to list a Social Security number. Some children qualify for free meals without an application. Please contact your school to get free meals for a foster child, and children who are homeless, migrant, or runaway.

At public school districts and charter schools, each student’s eligibility status also is recorded on a statewide computer system used to report student data to MDE as required by state law.

Nondiscrimination statement: In accordance with federal civil rights law and U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) civil rights regulations and policies, this institution is prohibited from discriminating on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex (including gender identity and sexual orientation), disability, age, or reprisal or retaliation for prior civil rights activity.

Program information may be made available in languages other than English. Persons with disabilities who require alternative means of communication to obtain program information (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotope, American Sign Language), should contact the responsible state or local agency that administers the program or USDA’s TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TTY) or contact USDA through the Federal Relay Service at (800) 877-8339.

To file a program discrimination complaint, a Complainant should complete a Form AD-3027, USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form which can be obtained online at: <https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/ad-3027.pdf>, from any USDA office, by calling (866) 632-9992, or by writing a letter addressed to USDA. The letter must contain the complainant’s name, address, telephone number, and a written description of the alleged discriminatory action in sufficient detail to inform the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights (ASCR) about the nature and date of an alleged civil rights violation. The completed AD-3027 form or letter must be submitted to USDA by: (1) **mail:** U.S. Department of Agriculture, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Civil Rights, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, D.C. 20250-9410; or (2) **fax:** (833) 256-1665 or (202) 690-7442; or (3) **email:** program.intake@usda.gov

This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

2025-2026 SCHOOL CALENDAR DISTRICT 553 -- NEW YORK MILLS

#4

AUGUST

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	0 student	4 teacher				

SEPTEMBER

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				
21 student	21 teacher					

OCTOBER

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
		1	2	3	4	
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	
20 student	21 teacher					

(Open House from 4p until 7p on Wednesday, August 27)

NOVEMBER

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	17 student	17.5 teacher				

DECEMBER

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			
15 student	16 teacher					

JANUARY

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31
19 student	21 teacher					

FEBRUARY

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
18 student	19 teacher					

MARCH

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				
21 student	21.5 teacher					

APRIL

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		
19 student	20 teacher					

MAY

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31	18 student	20 teacher				

JUNE

S	M	T	W	TH	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29					
0 teacher						

DATES OF NOTE

Aug 25-28	Teacher Inservice/Workday
September 1	Labor Day
September 2	First student day
October 16-17	Fall Break
November 14	No School
November 27-28	Thanksgiving Break
Dec 22-Jan 2	Winter break
January 19	Teacher Inservice/Workday
February 16	No School
April 2-6	Spring Break
May 25	Memorial Day
May 27	Last student day
May 22	Commencement
May 28, 29	Workday/Inservice

ELEM TRIMESTERS

Nov 26	58
Mar 5	56
May 27	54

H.S. QUARTERS

Oct 31	41
Jan 16	42
Mar 20	41
May 27	44

EARLY RELEASE

10/15 11/13 11/26
3/5 4/1

MAKE UP DATES

6/1, 6/2, 6/3

NO SCHOOL
STUDENT DAYS (168)
TEACHER TRAINING (5)
FULL WORKDAY (2)
1/2 INSERVICE 1/2 WORKDAY (2)
INSERVICE (4)
SNOW DAYS
EARLY RELEASE STUDENTS (6)
SCHOOL CLOSED
ELEM. TRIMESTERS END (3)
HIGH SCHOOL QUARTER END (4)

* STAFF FLEX DAYS

Dec 22
8 hrs teachers will reassign for evening Conf.

ELEMENTARY & HS CONFERENCES

November 13 from 1:30-7:30 pm
March 5 from 1:30-7:30 pm

THE DISTRICT RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REQUIRE STAFF AND STUDENTS TO PERFORM THEIR DUTIES ON ANY LOST DAY FOR ANY CLOSING SUCH AS STATE TOURNAMENTS, INCLEMENT WEATHER, UTILITY, MECHANICAL PROBLEMS, ETC.

**Thank these
fine area
businesses**

*for your FREE COPY
of the 2025-2026
New York Mills School
Newsletter & Calendar*

Ameriprise Financial LLC
Arvig
AP Printing
Centennial Realty
Certified Auto Repair
Continental Divide Brew Pub
County Cycle Pit Stop
Essers Plumbing and Heating
F&M Bank
Farmers Union Insurance

Finn Creek
Gappa Oil
Gibbs #10 Sales
Graham Refrigeration
Guardian Crop Insurance
Hawes Septic Tank Pumping
Hockerts Launderers
KLN
LCC
Lake Country Home Care
Lake Country Insurance
Lakeland Auto Repair
Lakes Country Handyman
Leaf River Ag
Lindsay A Wedde EA
Lumber Depot
Lund Boats
Magnifi Financial

Magnifi Wealth Management
Midstate Auto Auction
Mills Country Market
Mills Family Dentistry
Mills Lanes
Mills Locker Plant
Modern Assemblies
Norton Printing
Novak Contracting
NYM Booster Club
NYM Dispatch
NYM Education Foundation
NYM Regional Cultural Center
Outsiderz Apparel
PACC
Perham Health
Raptor Machining
Roberts Custom Wood Design

Schik Electric
Seip Drug
Shearers
Steve's Sanitation
Theisen Construction
Vandermay Mechanical
Vaughn Auto & Marine
Warner Garage Door
Weller Garage



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New York Mills, MN 56567-0218
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