

# 199 REPORTER

INVER GROVE HEIGHTS SCHOOLS | SUMMER 2021

## Reflecting on a Year of Challenges & Successes

Over the past year, our students, staff, families, and community members experienced so much. Although many experiences have challenged us, it is humbling to look back at the events of the past year and see the great work that has been done. Students have mastered skills they may not have otherwise, teachers and staff have learned how to engage students in new formats, and community members have dedicated themselves to keeping each other safe.

While none of it has been easy or preferable, we are grateful for the endless support parents have shown their schools as procedures and schedules changed to abide by state requirements, the thousands of extra hours our teachers and staff put in to help every student find success in a strange time, and the countless decisions neighbors have made to help stop the spread of COVID-19 in our community.

Because of our school community and our Inver Grove Heights neighbors, the Class of 2021 is likely to have an in-person graduation ceremony, an exciting prospect after 2020 graduations were required to be virtual. Despite a recent increase in COVID-19 cases, we are seeing Dakota County's case rate begin to decrease again with a combination of free COVID-19 testing, vaccine availability, and health and safety strategies.

Anyone interested in getting a COVID-19 vaccine can now find one at [mn.gov/covid19/vaccine](https://mn.gov/covid19/vaccine), Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) Vaccine Connector. However, frequent COVID-19 testing is still the best way to keep schools and sports open and to make sure special events

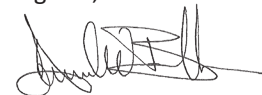
like graduations can still be held in-person. We encourage every family to get tested frequently because anyone can have COVID-19 and not have symptoms. MDH recommends that:

- children and teens who spend time around people outside of their household, such as students attending in-person classes, get tested every two weeks through the end of the school year.
- children and teens involved in any after-school activities or sports get tested every week.
- families get tested on the same schedule as their children.

Getting tested is free. Families can do so through their healthcare provider or visit [mn.gov/covid19](https://mn.gov/covid19) and click "Get Tested" to find a community testing site or order an at-home test.

We are so close to the end of the school year and so close celebrating many milestones together. Our community has done an outstanding job and committed tremendous effort to reducing transmission. We don't know what next school year will bring, but with your help, we could have a better chance of returning students to a more familiar routine. Thank you for continuing to follow health and safety best practices to help everyone get back to more of the activities we love!

Regards,



Dave

## ISD 199's 2020-2021 COVID-19 Response

50 hours of meal prep per week

4,500 lbs of disinfectant

337 COVID-19 tests collected

13,240 face coverings & face shields

3,433 devices for students (1:1 for all students)

255,360 meals served

INSPIRE. INNOVATE. EXCEL.

## 199 REPORTER

## Inver Grove Heights Schools

2990 80th Street East  
Inver Grove Heights, MN 55076  
651-306-7800  
www.isd199.org

Monday-Friday, 7:30 AM - 4:30 PM

The 199 Reporter is a quarterly publication that is mailed to every household in School District 199's boundaries to keep all of our community members informed.

If you have questions about this publication, please contact:

**Katie Sheridan**

Communications Coordinator  
SheridanK@isd199.org

## Free T-shirt for Every 2021-2022 Kindergarten Student



Elementary schools are accepting 2021-2022 kindergarten enrollment packets, proof of age documents, and immunization records every school day, 7:30 AM - 3:30 PM.

**Hilltop Elementary School**

3201 68th Street East, Inver Grove Heights

**Pine Bend Elementary School**

9875 Inver Grove Trail, Inver Grove Heights

**Salem Hills Elementary School**

5899 Babcock Trail, Inver Grove Heights

Families can also drop off enrollment documents at the ISD 199 District Office, 2990 80th Street East in Inver Grove Heights, every school day and during the summer, 7:30 AM - 4:00 PM. There is a no-contact dropbox at Door 16 of the ISD 199 District Office as well.

Every family who enrolls for 2021-2022 kindergarten will receive a free t-shirt for their future Spartan graduate! Families who have enrolled their child already or who would prefer to enroll online can also pick up a t-shirt at their elementary school or the ISD 199 District Office. Families, visit [www.isd199.org/kindergarten](http://www.isd199.org/kindergarten) to enroll online, download a paper enrollment packet, watch video introduction from our teachers, and learn more about your school!

## Opportunities for IGH Babies

Have you registered your baby, toddler, or preschooler with the Inver Grove Heights School District census? With census information, ISD 199 can help you get your child on the path to success! Having your child's name on the census will ensure that you receive:

- all Early Childhood Program opportunities
- early childhood screening information
- kindergarten registration packets

To provide census information, visit ISD 199's website at [www.isd199.org/new\\_families](http://www.isd199.org/new_families) and complete the "Census Form" or call 651-306-7503. If you have moved to or within Inver Grove Heights School District 199, changed your phone number, or had a new baby, you will need to update the census information. Get access to tons of opportunities and resources for your child through ISD 199!

*Census information is for educational purposes only and the release of this information is governed by State and Federal laws as well as School Board policy. Your address and phone number are considered private data.*

## CONNECT WITH US

 [facebook.com/isd199](https://facebook.com/isd199)

 [twitter.com/isd199](https://twitter.com/isd199)

 [instagram.com/isd199](https://instagram.com/isd199)

 [vimeo.com/isd199](https://vimeo.com/isd199)

 [linkedin.com/school/isd199](https://linkedin.com/school/isd199)

## GET INVOLVED

ISD 199 is seeking community members for district-level committees and advisory councils. Provide your perspective and feedback on decisions to help the school district move forward. If interested, please visit [www.isd199.org/community/give](http://www.isd199.org/community/give), and click "Committee Signup."

## IGH Youth Center Registration Open for the Summer

Registration for the IGH Youth Center is open now for all children entering grades 6-9! The IGH Youth Center program will run from June 21 - August 5 and will feature a variety of fun activities and field trips. Students will go on weekly field trips, which have included places like Valleyfair and Sky Zone Trampoline Park in the past. All transportation and admission for field trips is included in the registration fee.

The program also includes walking trips, like a walk to the Inver Glen Library to participate in a STEM class. For days when students are not on field trips, the IGH Youth Center offers a pool table, ping pong table, Wii, games, arts & crafts projects, cards, and snack shack.

To register for or to learn more about the IGH Youth Center, visit [www.isd199.org/parents](http://www.isd199.org/parents) and click "IGH Youth Center" in the sidebar. We look forward to seeing you this summer!

## Honoring 2020-2021 Retirees

ISD 199 will say farewell to 19 long-time teachers and staff members this summer as they begin a new chapter in retirement. The group of 2020-2021 retirees boasts more than 500 years of service combined, with many of them having been in the district for around 30 years. These teachers and staff have championed students and helped hundreds find success. They have created unforgettable memories in their schools and have been the friendly faces students, families, and colleagues have come to know so well.

We are honored that so many talented, wonderful people chose to work in our district for so many years. Although we know both students and staff will miss seeing them around school, we also know that another adventure awaits them in retirement and we wish them the absolute best!

### ISD 199 2020-2021 Retirees

- Carol Backer, Salem Hills Elementary, 36 years of service
- John Boardman, Districtwide, 30 years of service
- Linda Brunsvold, Simley High School, 35 years of service
- Sandra Clifford, Pine Bend Elementary, 30 years of service
- Beth Detloff, Pine Bend Elementary School, 23 years of service
- Kathy Fletcher Schoeberl, Hilltop Elementary, 35 years of service
- Pam Hatlestad, Pine Bend Elementary, 38 years of service
- Kathy Holliday, IGH Early Learning, 16 years of service
- Pam Hough, Simley High School, 10 years of service
- Jenny Kelly, Pine Bend Elementary, 35 years of service
- Barb Omelian, Salem Hills Elementary, 31 years of service
- Linda Potts, Districtwide, 29 years of service
- Bob Rajanen, Simley High School, 32 years of service
- Barb Reckinger, Salem Hills Elementary, 30 years of service
- Pam Ryan, IGH Early Learning, 14 years of service
- Cindy Seagren, Pine Bend Elementary, 34 years of service
- Kim Sievert-DiSanto, Simley High School, 29 years of service
- Sue Snelling, Simley High School, 15 years of service
- Barb Wang, Simley High School, 27 years of service



## Honor Retirees & Support Simley Grads With the B.E.S.T. of IGH

The Inver Grove Heights B.E.S.T. Foundation raises funds to award academic scholarships to graduating Simley High School seniors. This year, 107 seniors received scholarships totaling more than \$150,000 during the foundation's annual scholarship awards ceremony. Each scholarship helps a student reach their goals in a specific career area, memorializes a person, or recognizes an important group.

The foundation created the ISD 199 Retirees Scholarship to recognize the years of service and unmatched impact of each year's retiring ISD 199 staff members. To contribute to the ISD 199 Retiree Scholarship and honor the outstanding individuals who have dedicated themselves to making the district great, donors can choose to donate to the Retiree Scholarship directly through the IGH B.E.S.T. Foundation website, [www.ighbestfoundation.com](http://www.ighbestfoundation.com). The foundation also hosts fundraisers like the annual golf event, scheduled for August 9 this year, to raise donations for the scholarships. Donors can also join the 199 Club for an easy, affordable way to donate. Visit [www.ighbestfoundation.com](http://www.ighbestfoundation.com) and click "Donate" for options, and follow the "Inver Grove Heights B.E.S.T. Foundation" on Facebook for news about fundraising events.

## Minnesota's Vaccine Connector Offers Vaccination Opportunities



The Minnesota COVID-19 Vaccine Connector is a tool that helps Minnesotans find out when, where, and how to get a COVID-19 vaccine. Through the Connector, you can be among the first to hear about new vaccine opportunities in your area and you can directly sign up for an appointment at one of Minnesota's Community Vaccination Program sites. Visit [vaccineconnector.mn.gov](http://vaccineconnector.mn.gov) to sign up.

If you have questions about the form or need language assistance, please call the Minnesota Department of Health COVID-19 Public Hotline at 1-833-431-2053.

## Enroll in E-12 Any Time

Families are welcome to enroll their student at ISD 199 any time. ISD 199 offers preschool through 5th grade at Hilltop, Pine Bend, and Salem Hills elementary schools, 6th through 8th grade at Inver Grove Heights Middle School, and 9th through 12th grade at Simley High School. Parents who have newborn babies through 5-year-old children can also enroll in Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) classes for the summer and fall. ECFE classes develop important lifelong skills in children and help parents connect with their children, learn research-based parenting techniques, and build community with other parents who can offer support and experience.

ECFE Classes & Preschool: 651-306-7503  
Elementary Enrollment: 651-306-7825  
Middle School Enrollment: 651-306-7200  
High School Enrollment: 651-306-7000

Visit [www.health.state.mn.us/immunize](http://www.health.state.mn.us/immunize) to stay up-to-date on typical immunization requirements, and for families enrolling in kindergarten, schedule a virtual or in-person early childhood screening through IGH Early Learning. Visit [www.IGHEarlyLearning.org](http://www.IGHEarlyLearning.org) or call 651-306-7503 to make an appointment.

## Free Summer Meals for All Children



Throughout the pandemic, ISD 199 has been able to provide free meals to children. Those meals will continue this summer, thanks to funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Starting June 21, any child, age 18 or younger, will be able to pick up a Free Meal Box of breakfasts and lunches at designated bus stops or at IGH Middle School. Families do not need to pre-order meals or provide any information for their child to receive a meal. Children or their parents just need to show up at a Free Meal Box site during the site's distribution hours:

### Free Meal Box School Site

June 21 - August 19

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM & 3:30 - 5:30 PM  
IGH Middle School, 8167 Cahill Avenue

### Free Meal Box Bus Stop Sites

June 21 - August 19

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10:30-10:45 AM  
St. Patrick's Church, 3535 72nd Street East, &  
Lake Cove Apartments, 5359 Audobon Avenue,

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 10:50-11:05 AM  
Salem Green Apartments, 1455 Upper 55th Street East, &  
Skyline Village (North), 7510 Concord Boulevard (near office),

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 11:10-11:25 AM  
Rolling Meadows, 3249 78th Street East (near office), &  
Blackberry Pointe Apartments, 5480 Blackberry Trail East,

Distribution times and locations may change for the health and safety of students attending buildings and those picking up meals. Check [www.isd199.org/meals](http://www.isd199.org/meals) for the most current times and locations throughout the summer.

Any students participating in summer programming at buildings, such as Summer Academy or on-site Summer School, will be provided breakfast and lunch each day as part of their program.

*This institution is an equal opportunity provider.*

## Apply for Educational Benefits



ISD 199 is encouraging families who have lost employment, who are experiencing a cut in work hours, or who did not qualify for Educational Benefits earlier this school year to complete the 2020-2021 Application for Educational Benefits. Even families who do not believe they will qualify should apply.

Educational Benefits include much more than free meals through October 2021. They also include discounts on:

- school device insurance
- student activity fees
- student parking
- The Minnesota Children's Museum
- The Works Museum
- The Minnesota Zoo
- The Science Museum of Minnesota
- Children's Theatre Company
- phone, internet, and energy services
- The Amazon.com Prime program
- Metro Transit
- YMCA memberships

Visit [www.isd199.org/edu-benefits](http://www.isd199.org/edu-benefits) for the easy, confidential online application. Information you provide on the form and your child's approval for school meal benefits will be protected as private data.

## Simley EMS Students Simulate Disaster for College Paramedic Students



Simley High School's Emergency Medical Services (EMS) classes routinely do drills to practice their skills in high-stress environments that simulate real life. In past years, EMS students have practiced CPR in the middle of the high

school's foyer during a passing period to get used to focusing in a chaotic setting. This spring, EMS students played the victims in a large-scale Mass Casualty Incident simulation to help paramedic students at Inver Hills Community College practice their skills.

Simley students were put in makeup to simulate different injuries and positioned around a parking lot to mimic a car crash. College

students triaged the Simley students, treated their "injuries," put them on gurneys and in the backs of ambulances, and ran through all of the other tasks they would have to do at the scene of a car crash. Although Simley students were acting as the victims, they left with a better understanding of how medical services work at a large-scale incident, what victims experience, and how different severe injuries are treated at the scene. Participating in the simulation also provided them with first-hand knowledge of the educational opportunities that will be available after they complete their high school EMS courses.

Thank you to Inver Hills for inviting Simley students to participate and learn, and thank you to all of the current and future emergency services professionals who work hard to save lives and help our community through disasters.

## Budget Situation & Challenges for the Upcoming 2021-2022 School Year

The COVID-19 pandemic has challenged everyone in many ways. The main challenge for school districts this year has been enrollment numbers. Districts across the state and country have had far lower enrollment numbers than expected due to the pandemic. As the school year approached with so many unknowns, families had to make decisions for their children based on the information they had. A number of families chose to keep their kindergarten children home for another year in hopes that the next school year would be more typical. Some opted to homeschool because it would work better for their family's situation while others took a chance on online academies. School districts use enrollment numbers to formulate their budget, determine the number of teachers and support staff they need, and plan for almost every other aspect of the school year. Like a majority of the school districts across the U.S., ISD 199 found its budget in a challenging position because of the unpredictable enrollment changes caused by the pandemic.

Every school year, ISD 199 "right-sizes" its staffing based on anticipated enrollment changes, whether enrollment increases, decreases, or fluctuates at certain grade levels. The process adjusts staffing to meet the needs of all students while bringing the district's budget in line with its revenue. Initial projections for the 2021-2022 school year, which assumed a 1% increase in general education revenue from the state, showed a \$2 million deficit. Right-sizing staffing levels will decrease the deficit by about half, or about \$1 million in expenditures. Additional

adjustments outside of staffing will still need to be considered, along with the use of the district's unassigned fund balance, to create a balanced budget for 2021-2022.

The state and the federal government have allocated short-term funds to school districts to help them deal with the impacts of the pandemic. However, all of the funds allocated for districts come with restrictions and timelines. Funds that have been allocated up until this point have gone toward expenses the district has already incurred to make sweeping changes to keep students learning and implement new health and safety changes in the face of COVID-19. New allocations will require significant planning to make sure ISD 199 is using funds most effectively, meeting all of the restrictions, and not creating new expenditures that the district will not be able to sustain when pandemic relief funding ends.

ISD 199's budget is lacking for the next school year, even with short-term additional funding from the state and the federal government. ISD 199's base budget continues to suffer because state funding for education has not kept pace with inflation since 2003. If it had, the deficit would be more manageable and the district would be able to make more minimal changes to balance its budget. Thank you to the ISD 199 community for its support of the district's 2017 referendum. Without it, the situation would have been even more dire, causing an even larger deficit and a loss of student opportunities.

## ISD 199 Earns Certificate of Excellence for 16th Year in a Row

Each year, Inver Grove Heights Schools submits its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report to the Association of School Business Officials (ASBO) International. The submission puts the district in the running for the organization's Certificate of Excellence (COE) in Financial Reporting. This year, ISD 199 earned its 16th Certificate of Excellence in a row for the fiscal year ending in 2020.

"The COE's mission is to promote and recognize excellence in financial reporting," ASBO International Executive Director David Lewis said. "By participating in the COE program, school districts demonstrate their commitment to financial transparency."

Before ISD 199 was chosen to receive the certificate, a team of professional auditors reviewed the district's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and ensured that the district had used the feedback ASBO International provided in their submission from the previous year. The ASBO International auditors provide feedback on all submissions so districts can increase the quality of their reporting and their transparency. The COE in Financial Reporting confirms that the district is supporting student achievement with the most effective resource management, and it helps the district continually improve its accountability each year.

## ISD 199 Elementary Students Take the Kids Heart Challenge



Inver Grove Heights Schools elementary students learned about heart health, got active, and raised funds this spring as part of the Kids Heart Challenge. The challenge, formerly known as Jump Rope for Heart, is a program

of the American Heart Association (AHA) that encourages students to practice healthy habits and help other kids overcome heart conditions. Each year, ISD 199 students raise thousands of dollars to help the AHA reduce the number of heart disease and stroke victims while students discover new and fun ways to jump rope.

This year, students spaced out in gym class to safely jump rope and raise funds. They showed each other tricks and created new ways to jump rope. Students at Salem Hills Elementary School and in the Athenium

Gifted Magnet Program raised enough to be able to slime physical education teacher Mr. DeShaw! One student was randomly picked to dump the slime while classes watched over Zoom.

Pine Bend Elementary School has participated in the AHA's programs for more than 30 years. Their fundraising has earned the school a spot as one of the Top 5 participants in the state and one of the Top 20 in the nation. In addition to the Kids Heart Challenge, more than half of the students at Pine Bend pledged to take Finn's Challenge. The challenge is inspired by Finn, a 6-year-old boy born with multiple heart defects who spent the first eight months of his life in the hospital and is now living a full life. Students who take the challenge strive to drink more water, get active more often, and do more acts of kindness for a healthier life.

Great job to the students on their hard work to improve their lives and those of others through the Kids Heart Challenge and the AHA!

### Simley Junior Qualifies for U.S. Women’s Open

Simley Girls Golf Team junior captain Isabella McCauley played 36 holes on May 3 in a regional qualifier for the 2021 U.S. Women’s Open Championship. Her competitors were some of the best players locally and internationally. Among the players vying for one of the top two spots were many Division 1 college golfers, the current BIG 10 individual champion, and several LPGA tour veterans.

McCauley started her day rolling in 3 birdies on the first 9 holes. A steady back nine closed out her 1-under par opening round of 71 and put her in a great position starting round two. The second round really took off on the 12th hole when she holed out for eagle from 52 yards away! McCauley added birdies on the 15th and 17th holes to put her in 2nd place alone.

After steadying herself on the 18th green, McCauley rolled in an 8-foot sliding putt to save par and earn herself entry into the 2021 U.S. Women’s Open! She will compete at the Olympic Golf Club in San Francisco June 3-6. Congratulations, Bella!

### Simley Senior Breaks Record for 200 Meter Dash



At a Mahtomedi High School meet, Simley High School senior captain Kate Carlson broke Simley’s 200 meter dash school record with a time of 26.25. The previous school record of 26.49 was set by Rachel Anderson in 2018. Kate is also a part of the 4x100 meter relay school record of 49.08 that was set in 2019 and has the 3rd fastest time in Simley history in the 100 meter dash, 12.87.

Kate has overcome a lot in her Simley track career, including knee surgery and her junior season being canceled because of the COVID-19 pandemic. Her determination is clear as she has worked hard throughout the season to better her school record in both the 200 meter dash and the 100 meter dash. Congratulations, Kate!

### IGHMS Students Organize Panel of College Students & Professionals



The Inver Grove Heights Middle School Students of Color Leadership Club recently hosted a College and Professional Panel on Zoom to answer student questions. The panel included staff, students, and graduates from multiple local colleges as well as professionals from around Minnesota. Students asked them about their experiences being the first in their family to attend college, what advice they would give to their younger selves, what resources and supports are available to college students, and how they chose their current college or career.

Panelists provided information about scholarships, career centers, where to get help for classes and their job search, and what classes would be available to them once they entered college. Students left with valuable information about resources they could use now, during college, and after college. Panelists also provided helpful tips for successfully navigating college based on their personal experience.

### Pine Bend Continues Tradition in New Format



This fall, Pine Bend Elementary School collected donations for a local food shelf, Neighbors Inc. The non-profit social services organization offers emergency and supportive services to northern Dakota County residents. Students gathered 682 pounds of donated food for Neighbors Inc. The annual donation drive not only helps stock the local pantry for winter, it also leads into a Pine Bend tradition: the school’s annual Pig Race.

Classes are allowed to enter one electronic pig in the race for every 50 pounds of food they donate. Pig handlers are chosen from each class to start up their class’s pig at the race’s starting line and release it once the race begins. Pine Bend students typically gather in the gym to watch. To abide by health and safety measures this year, pig handlers brought their class’s pig to the gym to race while classes watched and cheered on their pig over Zoom.

This year, two pigs tied: one from Ms. Empey’s class and one from Ms. Gagne’s class. Each class won an ice cream party as their prize. Great job to all of the students who donated food to help their neighbors, and congratulations to the Pig Race winners!

### WordMasters Students Earn Outstanding Scores

The WordMasters Challenge™ is a national vocabulary competition based on solving analogies above grade level. Inver Grove Heights Schools students from the Atheneum Gifted Magnet Program and Pine Bend Elementary School earned outstanding scores at the second of three WordMasters Challenge™ meets this year.

The district’s 3rd-grade team scored an impressive 177 points out of 200 in the last meet, achieving Highest Honors and placing 7th in the nation. Competing in the Blue Division of the WordMasters Challenge™, 3rd graders Hayley Chatleain, Tyler Olson, and Mila Sarver, and 4th grader Braxton Rodriguez each earned a perfect score of 20 on the challenge. Only 17 3rd graders and 37 4th graders in the country earned perfect scores.

In the more difficult Gold Division, Finn Christman was one of only 101 4th graders in the nation to achieve a perfect score. Thomas Gaisbauer, a 3rd grader in the Blue Division; Annika Ericson, a 4th grader in the Gold Division; and Alexis To, a 5th grader in the Gold Division all earned high scores in the last meet as well.

Congratulations to all of the students who competed in the most recent WordMasters Challenge™ and who earned such high scores against nearly 125,000 competitors nationwide!

## Fall & Winter Sports Recognition

### FALL 2020

#### Football

##### All District

Andrew Bergum  
Bennett Tabor  
Miguel Villanueva  
Justin Warrick

##### Honorable Mention

Landan DuVal  
RJ Jioklow  
Tayvion McCoy  
Josh Painter

#### Volleyball

##### All Conference

Abby Hepper  
Malia Miller  
Avery Renslow  
Brynn Rogers

##### Honorable Mention

Naomi Romslo  
Molly Stein  
Lauren Tuccitto

### WINTER 20-21

#### Boys Basketball

##### All Conference

Breyton Buysman  
RJ Jioklow

##### Honorable Mention

Devin Robinson  
Luke Vandermeer

#### Girls Basketball

##### All Conference

Chomp Danso  
Erin Borchard

##### Honorable Mention

Sara Borchard  
Laura Bosin

#### Dance Team

##### State Participant

##### 6th Place

Jazz Team

##### 8th Place

High Kick Team

#### All Conference

Katie Honchell  
Kasey Kropp  
Taylor Pawlenty  
Molly Wilhelmson  
Olivia Jacobson  
Hannah Ketchmark  
Liliana Villegas

#### Gymnastics

##### All Conference

Emerson Hocking  
Ashley Lynner  
Erin Orn

##### Honorable Mention

##### All Around

Emerson Hocking  
Ashley Lynner

##### Bars

Alexa Lynner

##### Floor

Chrissa Muller  
Skyla Ward

#### Vault

Kayla Joyner

#### Boys Hockey

##### All Conference

Cooper Bollmann  
Casey Seidl

##### Honorable Mention

Andrew Bergum  
Jayar Luedke  
Mason Moland

#### Girls Hockey

##### All Conference

Zoe Boughton  
Kate Carlson  
Ella Tuccitto

##### Honorable Mention

Makenzie Gibson  
Abby Jeffers  
Kelsi Ries

#### Boys Swim & Dive

##### State Participant

Hunter Collins  
Hunter Dilla

Ethan Gregg

Ethan Jie

Nico Losinski

Brandon Petryszyn

Joseph Waska

Andy Watts

##### All Conference

Hunter Dilla

Ethan Gregg

Ethan Jie

Nico Losinski

Marioys Makar

Dominick Olaes

Brandon Petryszyn

Eric Schroeder

Joseph Waska

Andy Watts

##### Honorable Mention

Hunter Collins

Albert Mansour

Austin Penttila

John Tabor

#### Wrestling

##### State Champions

Gavin Nelson

Quayin Short

##### Two-time Champion

Cael Berg

Bennett Tabor

##### Three-time Champion

Chase DeBlaere

Ryan Sokol

##### All Conference

Cael Berg

Chase DeBlaere

Landan DuVal

Brandon Morvari

Gavin Nelson

Reid Nelson

Cash Raymond

Kaiden Schrandt

Quayin Short

Travis Smith

Ryan Sokol

Peyton Spychalla

Bennett Tabor

## Simley Hockey, Soccer, & Track Athlete Chosen for Athena Award



Simley High School senior Zoe Boughton has been selected as the Athena Female Athlete of the Year for 2021. Head coaches from Simley chose Zoe based on her outstanding accomplishments in hockey, soccer, and track and in the classroom.

“She is a 4.0 student and a great leader. ... She has played defense for the majority of her career and has emerged as one of the hardest defenders to beat in the Metro East Conference, if not the hardest,” Simley Girls Hockey Coach Tom Patnode said. “Zoe is a game changer for our team when she is on the rink.”

Zoe, the 2020-2021 team captain, is a 5-year letter winner in hockey. During her hockey career, she has earned All Conference Honorable Mention, Utility Player of the Year, and Spartan Player of the Year for her accomplishments on the ice. Academically, she is a 4-time Scholar Athlete and she will receive the All State Academic Award for maintaining a 4.0 GPA.

Zoe has also proven herself a top defender and role model in soccer.

“Her confidence has grown each year, and she isn’t afraid to make attacking runs forward to either start our attack or to join her teammates in transitioning to our attack, even in a three-back system,” Simley Girls Soccer Coach Nora Austin said.

A two-year captain and varsity starter since 8th grade, Zoe is just as driven in the classroom as she is on the soccer field, according to Ms. Austin. She maintains a full schedule of rigorous classes and her three sports. She has earned All Conference and All Conference Honorable Mentions, she is a 5-year letter winner and 4-year Academic Award winner for her 4.0 GPA, and she is part of the All-State 2nd Team.

“She is a strong leader on and off the field and a great role model for the younger soccer girls in our program,” Ms. Austin said.

Zoe is a letter winner in track as well. Despite her junior year track season being canceled due to the COVID-19 pandemic, she has made her mark on Simley history. She maintains the 7th fastest 100 meter dash and 8th fastest 200 meter dash in school history, and she has broken the school record for the 4x100 meter relay twice. In the 4x100 meter relay, she has also been named Conference Champion twice, she has been Sections Champion and Runner-up, and she has been a state participant in the event twice, earning 8th place her freshman year and 6th place her sophomore year. There is more on the horizon for her senior year of track.

Zoe has earned a spot as a Top Simley Senior for the Class of 2021 as well. She plans to play soccer at Northern State University in South Dakota next year. Congratulations, Zoe!

Stay informed of the current issues, challenges, and changes facing the Inver Grove Heights School District.

## #1. NEW SCHOOL WELCOME WEBPAGES

Transitioning to a new school can be both exciting and nerve-wracking for students and parents alike. Families of incoming kindergarten, 6th-grade, and 9th-grade students can learn about their new school on their grade level's welcome webpage.

Incoming kindergarten families can visit [www.isd199.org/kindergarten](http://www.isd199.org/kindergarten) for teacher introduction videos, enrollment information, and elementary school principal contacts. Beginning kindergarten is a brand-new journey for many families. Please don't hesitate to reach out to our elementary schools with questions:

- Hilltop Elementary School: 651-306-7400
- Pine Bend Elementary School: 651-306-7701
- Salem Hills Elementary School: 651-306-7300

Kindergarten families can enroll online or at the ISD 199 District Office, 2990 80th Street East. For enrollment questions, call 651-306-7825.

Families with students entering middle school or high school next year can visit [www.isd199.org/5thGradeParent](http://www.isd199.org/5thGradeParent) for Inver Grove Heights Middle School's welcome webpage and [www.isd199.org/8thGradeParent](http://www.isd199.org/8thGradeParent) for Simley High School's welcome webpage. The webpages include each school's Parent Night presentation from this year for incoming families as well as information about the academic, personal, and professional

opportunities that await your child.

Parents can enroll their middle or high school child any time. Enroll online or learn more at [www.isd199.org/enroll](http://www.isd199.org/enroll). For questions, call IGH Middle School at 651-306-7200 or Simley High School at 651-306-7000.

## #3. VIRTUAL CALMING ROOM

During challenging times, we all need help managing our emotions and self-regulating. ISD 199's Behavior Intervention Specialist, social workers, and child behavior and support specialists have compiled resources to offer support and encouragement to all who need it. ISD 199's Virtual Calming Room offers tools to navigate trying times. Visit ISD 199's Virtual Calming Room at [tinyurl.com/199virtualcalming](http://tinyurl.com/199virtualcalming) or find more resources at [www.isd199.org/covid19](http://www.isd199.org/covid19), the district's COVID-19 Information webpage.

All  
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Inver Grove!

*NOTE: During the COVID-19 pandemic, information can change rapidly. Although the information contained in this edition of the 199 Reporter is accurate as of its publication date, please visit [www.isd199.org](http://www.isd199.org) or our COVID-19 information site, [www.isd199.org/covid19](http://www.isd199.org/covid19), for the most up-to-date information available.*

## INVER GROVE HEIGHTS SCHOOLS WEATHER UPDATES: [WWW.ISD199.ORG](http://WWW.ISD199.ORG)



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