

# 199 Reporter

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## Alternative Facilities Bonds will be Used to Improve Air Quality at Simley and Hilltop

Independent School District 199 sold \$6,690,000 in general obligation alternative facilities bonds on January 24.

Proceeds from the bonds will be used to update Heating, Ventilating and Air Conditioning (HVAC) equipment at Simley High School and Hilltop Elementary School.

The district's HVAC replacement project will take place in two phases. Phase 1 will occur during the summer of 2011; phase 2 work will take place during the summer of 2012. The phasing of work is necessary due to the age of the HVAC and will assist in minimizing disruption to classroom activities.

Phase 1 consists of: Updating HVAC systems in the older portion of Hilltop and updating Simley's HVAC systems in the main classroom area - the portion of the building built in 1971.

Phase 2 consists of: Updating the HVAC systems in Simley's auditorium, lobby, main gym, choir and band rooms, and the wrestling room.

Ceilings and duct work will be removed and replaced to optimize indoor air quality (IAQ) levels. Lighting will also be replaced with more energy efficient sources. The new HVAC systems will bring the buildings up to current code requirements. New air handling units (AHUs) will perform six air exchanges per hour, increasing the air quality within the schools. Increased air quality will create a healthy, comfortable learning environment that will benefit students.

According to the United States Environmental Protection Agency, improving IAQ can:

- \* reduce absenteeism,
- \* improve student and staff concentration,
- \* improve student productivity and performance,
- \* decrease IAQ-related health risks from exposure to indoor pollutants,
- \* reduce environmental triggers of asthma,
- \* and reduce respiratory illness.

The district plans to ready the buildings the day after graduation to ensure that the contractors can begin the required work on time.

Architects planning the project stated that the HVAC systems that will be installed have an estimated lifespan of 40 years.

Taxpayers will see a minimal increase in their overall 2011 education taxes. A homeowner with a house valued at \$225,000 will pay less than a dollar per month more in taxes than they did in 2010. For more information on this project, please visit the district website.

## Upcoming Events

Simley Spring Musical  
April 13-17  
Visit the district website for times

NO SCHOOL  
April 22

CONFERENCES  
April 25 & 27  
4-7:30 p.m. (Grades 6-8)  
4:30-8 p.m. (Grades 9-12)

NO SCHOOL (Grades 6-12 Only)  
April 29

Middle School Parent Information Night  
May 5

Simley Prom  
May 14  
The Great Hall - St. Paul

Simley Graduation  
June 10  
7 p.m.

## Simley Senior Madison Dockter Aces Critical Reading Section of SATs

Madison Dockter was recently notified that she aced the Critical Reading portion of the SATs.

Madison took the test towards the end of 2010 in order to be eligible to advance in the running for a National Merit Scholarship. At this point, she has qualified as a National Merit Scholarship Finalist and will find out in the coming months if she will be named a National Merit Scholarship Winner.

The high school senior plans on attending Drake University in the fall, where she desires to major in journalism. Madison attended a scholarship competition at Drake University in February and was awarded a \$1,000 scholarship that is renewable annually, as long as she maintains a certain GPA.

Madison has prepared herself for journalism school by completing courses at Simley such as graphic design, desktop publishing and yearbook.

## Physics Students Present Heat Exchanger Solutions to Flint Hills Engineers

Honors physics students recently transformed themselves into the role of an engineering team to solve an air-cooled heat exchanger problem.

Group members each took on real-life roles such as a CEO, physics specialist, design manager and technician. They displayed budgeting, design and efficiency skills.

The student-engineers ran multiple calculations and tests to determine the most efficient process to cool gasoline from 300°F to 130°F before it reached a storage tank. They tested variables such as tubing diameter, tubing length and internal versus external circulation. Students also determined whether it was more efficient to use a forced-draft fan or an induced-draft fan.

Many students said the project gave them a further level of respect for engineers' contributions to society.

## Board of Education Approves 2011-2012 Budget Proposals

The Inver Grove Heights Community Schools Board of Education voted to accept budget proposals that would cover next school year's projected deficit of approximately \$575,000.

The district's Finance Committee developed a set of parameters to estimate the district's fund balance over the course of the next four years. Minnesota districts currently receive \$5,124 in State aid per pupil unit. Independent School District 199 receives an additional \$873.74 per marginal cost pupil unit from the two referendums that are currently in place, one of which expires after the 2012-2013 school year.

The Finance Committee used a cast-forward method (a model where incoming kindergarten enrollment remains consistent from year-to-year) to provide an estimation of the district's total enrollment for the next four years and calculate incoming aid.

In February, administration presented the Board with budget projections for the 2011-2012 school year and determined the district's financial shortfall to sit between \$0 and \$1,050,050. Where exactly that number lands is based on several possible scenarios including the impact of Senate File No. 56 (which would include freezing public employees salary for two years), steps and lanes, and a 2-percent reduction in State aid.

In order to create a competitive school system, the district intends to reduce costs and improve instruction to provide an environment for high student achievement. One such example includes restructuring Simley's language arts department to offer e-communications courses that students hold in high demand. The district will not know what resources are available or be able to determine what further reductions may be necessary until the legislature passes a budget bill into law.

The complete list of 2011-2012 budget proposals can be viewed under the Finance section on the district website.

## ISD 199 Selected to Participate in PBIS Regional Training

Independent School District 199 has been selected to participate in the Cohort 7, Minnesota School-wide Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (SW-PBIS) Training.



The district will receive training regarding the understanding and implementation of PBIS beginning in the summer of 2011 and lasting through the Spring of 2013.

PBIS identifies clear behavior outcomes for staff and students and uses evidence-based practices to achieve those outcomes to support sustainable, safe and positive learning environments.

District leaders were required to provide evidence of administrative support and participation, as well as demonstrate staff buy-in (securing at least 80-percent commitment from each building) in order to qualify for inclusion in the cohort.

It was also necessary for applicants to identify improving school-wide behavioral outcomes as one of the district's main objectives. The most prevalent issue to arise out of the district's elementary study has been the community's desire for the district to develop common expectations for student behavior and share a common response for inappropriate behavior across all schools. Implementing PBIS district-wide will move the district closer towards achieving this goal.

SW-PBIS training will occur three times per year for the next two years.

For more information, visit [mnpbis.org](http://mnpbis.org).

## IGHMS Raises More than \$1200 in Pennies for Patients Fundraiser during Have a Heart Week

Inver Grove Heights Middle School raised more than \$1200 for *Pennies for Patients* during Have a Heart Week (February 14-18).



The school's Service Learning Club generated creative ideas to raise money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, which funds research and supports the strong heroes that they assist.

Students could donate a dollar to eat candy during a class period one day. Other days, students could pay a buck to wear slippers or sport a hat. Kids bought and labeled paper hearts to display in Cahill Court, as part of the Have a Heart, Buy a Heart campaign.

Grade levels competed against each other to see who could reel in the most dough. Sixth-graders raised more than \$650. As a reward for reaching the \$300 goal, Mrs. Chappuis and Mrs. Hallin kissed Franky the bearded dragon, a lizard in Mrs. Chappuis' classroom. For reaching the \$600 goal, Mr. Albrecht and Mr. LeMier dyed their beards hot pink.

The seventh-grade class raised more than \$350. As a reward, each student earned a one-time math homework pass. Eight-graders contributed more than \$200 to the pot.

Way to go Inver Grove Heights Middle School!

## Winter Sports Recap

Simley's 2010-2011 boys hockey team racked up eight more victories than last season and finished with a record of 11-14-2. The team won in the first round of sections against St. Paul Academy & Summit. Brandon Reiberger and Turner Moore both were named honorable mention.

The Simley girls basketball team finished the season with a record of 18 wins and 8 losses. That is the second most regular season wins and tied for the third most wins overall in school history. Brittney Willaert and Alexis Boyd-Lockett were named to the classic suburban all conference team. Shauna Horsch, Anna Nelson, and Kylie Brown were all conference honorable mention.

Girls hockey went 12-14-1 on the year. Players grew as individuals and as leaders on and off the ice. Simley was ranked in the top 20 of most of the season and finished 25th overall. Players lost a close second-round sectional game but left everything they had on that ice. Jessica Pate and Kristen Jung were named all conference. Natalie Battis, Sydney Knutson and Laken Muller were honorable mention.

Shinoby Yang received all-conference honors in boys basketball. Dillon Kaup was selected to the honorable mention team.

Margie Freed was awarded Nordic Ski honorable mention honors.

Maggie Kadrlik received gymnastics honorable mention honors for the vault. Sarah Birkelu was honorable mention for the beam and floor exercise.

Simley's dance teams performed quite well this winter, with the varsity jazz team placing seventh at State. Allison Johnson, Lexi Noel and Amber Busch were selected to the all conference team. Kelly Gillet, Emily Eichstadt and Kristen Heesch were named honorable mention.

The boys swimming and diving team finished sixth at State. Nate Briguet, Alex Jurrens, Alec Kandt and Carter Lange received all conference honors. Michael Greene, Ben Holst, Ryan Kimble and Tim Luhr were named honorable mention.

Simley's wrestling team won it's fourth consecutive State title and had four individual state champions. All conference winners included Cortez Arredondo, Kyle Gliva, Pedro DeLao, Cola Jensen, Matt Kruse, Jake Short, Nick Wanzek, Dan Dick, Brandt Olson and Matt Kadrlik. Mack Short, Joe Rief and Cody Hazelett were honorable mention.

## Fall Sports Follow-Up

Sadie Saindon and Anna Groebner were awarded all conference honors for the girls swim and dive team. Brittney Jurrens, Jacki Donnelly and Jordan Greene were honorable mention.

## Elementary Students Jump Rope to Raise Money for Heart Research

Students at all three district elementary schools laced up their tennis shoes to participate in the American Heart Association's (AHA) Jump Rope for Heart.

Kids jump rope and learn about their heart while raising money to help pay for new medicines and treatments to be discovered.

Students took turns jumping rope in short intervals. A few students were testing their skills, trying reverse jump and criss cross techniques.

Pine Bend Elementary School surpassed the \$20,000 mark for the first time in school history.

## Questions?

This publication is produced by ISD 199's Office of Communications.

If you have any questions about this publication, please contact Johnny Germscheid, communications coordinator, at 651-306-7105 or [germschj@invergrove.k12.mn.us](mailto:germschj@invergrove.k12.mn.us).



# NORTHERN DAKOTA COUNTY TRIDISTRICT COMMUNITY EDUCATION

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## Technology for all Ages!

Whether you are four years old, eight or 84 technology is ever present in today's learning. Community Education in Inver Grove Heights has been implementing the use of technology to enhance learning within their programs.

The four-year-old preschool class at Salem Hills Elementary School has been fortunate to have numerous technology resources. The newest technology amongst the iPod Touches this year is the SMART Board. This new technology is a great way to get all of the children interacting in daily small or large group activities.

This month, the SMART Board has been used to teach preschoolers about our five senses. It has been used as a visual tool for singing songs and matching pictures to sentences. The children have also used the SMART Board to learn how to spell words by using sounds they heard on a listening walk around the school. This touch sensitive tool also allows students to use their fine motor skills in a fun and engaging way. Having this technology in preschool allows them to become familiar with a tool they will be using throughout the next twelve years of their education.



Elementary students at Pine Bend had the opportunity to use new technology in enrichment classes this fall and winter including, "Computers in the 21st Century" and an "iPod Touch Class." In "Computers in the 21st Century," students used publishing tools from Apple, Microsoft and Google in efforts to solve challenges in the community. Some groups made signs to market recycling or ways to be more "green" and others made a website to inform community members on how to keep their pets safe from predators. The "ipod Touch Class" taught students how to use their new devices, find great educational apps and even some fun games!

The Older Adults program has been reading stories for the Early Learners, but this time through the use of a recording program on the computer. They have recorded 15 books. These sound clips of stories will be uploaded onto iPods for the preschoolers, which will allow them to flip through the pages of a book and hear the story being told all on their own. Thank you to our older adults for this very valuable assistance!

### Community Education Contact Information

Family Connections 1515 Fifth Ave. S. South St. Paul, MN 55075 Monday-Friday, 7:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. <a href="http://www.invergrove.k12.mn.us/comed">www.invergrove.k12.mn.us/comed</a>	General Information.....651-306-3602 Registration.....651-306-3633 Early Learning Program.....651-457-9418 Community Preschool.....651-306-7316 School-Age Care.....651-306-3631	Youth Enrichment .....651-306-3633 Adult Enrichment.....651-306-3633 Adult Basic Education .....651-457-9441 Adults With Disabilities.....651-403-8312 Older Adult Program.....651-450-2469
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