HANGING UP HIS WHISTLE
LARRY MCKENZIE RETIRES FROM COACHING BOYS BASKETBALL
Page 6
A political columnist writes with a kind of poison pen meant to add fodder to the blood coursing through our Democracy. I am not a political columnist so I will tread lightly. I share an interest about the recent primary battle between Northsider Don Samuels and incumbent U.S. Rep. Ilhan Omar. I will skip the muddling because it just muddles the potential for meaningful conversation on what was the central issue of the campaigning, police and public safety.

Samuels and Omar are smart and perceptive about the issues and where they disagree on comes from the sticky residuum left two years ago by the policy murder of George Floyd. Many, including Omar, got latched on to ideas that had a misinterpreted rallying cry: “Defund the police.”

Floyd’s murder, the civic unrest that followed and the push to unwind law enforcement sent many cops on mental health leave or out on northwest for the exits. Meanwhile, a nationwide spate of violence, including in Samuels’ own neighborhood, left many feeling unmoored by the lack of a police presence and cowering, left many feeling unmoored by the lack of a police presence and feeling unloved by the lack of a police presence. Meanwhile, a nationwide spate of violence, including in Samuels’ own neighborhood, left many feeling unmoored by the lack of a police presence and feeling unloved by the lack of a police presence. Meanwhile, a nationwide spate of violence, including in Samuels’ own neighborhood, left many feeling unmoored by the lack of a police presence and feeling unloved by the lack of a police presence.

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In 2018, Minneapolis Public Schools Director Kimberly Caprini was committed to resolving a controversy surrounding a Northside high school. The controversy was about the school’s name, which in the minds of many Black and Brown people, represented 400 years of slavery in America: Patrick Henry.

Nearly four years later, the Board of Directors unanimously voted to change the name of Patrick Henry High School. This is the second time a name change for Henry was brought to the school board. A vote in 2018 was tabled because of the polarizing response from the community, a lack of funding and the time and difficulty involved in changing the long-time name of a school.

Caprini said the name change was never off the table. The board just needed time to research the historic figure. Now directors are prepared to present the issue as something that is not up for negotiation. Although the response of the community is still split, Caprini says it’s nowhere near as dangerous as it was in 2018, as concern for the safety of school and board leaders were a primary concern that led the board to not make a decision.

“Changing the name doesn’t change your memories of the school. It creates an opportunity to create more memories inside a community that represents and speaks to the community that is present in North Minneapolis”

Kimberly Caprini
Minneapolis Public School Director at-large

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Minneapolis Public School Director at-large

Continued on page 27
Larry McKenzie hears the final buzzer on a record basketball coaching career

By Azhae’la Hanson, Reporter

Larry A. McKenzie always hated the idea. “A lot of coaches know the ‘what’ and not the ‘why,’” McKenzie said. “But what separates them from ever being successful is a lot of coaches don’t know their ‘why.’”

“Coach Turner gave me an angry young man, a second chance,” McKenzie said. “I would say that Larry A. McKenzie's decision to retire wasn't an easy one. He was going back and forth about retirement over the last few seasons. McKenzie was integral in two state championships at North and finished in second places scoring player in the last four years of his career.

Now playing college basketball, Wilson says his coaches still don't match up to the greatness of "Coach McKenzie." "It's hard to imagine that I'll look up to another coach like I look up to Coach McKenzie," Wilson said. "Coach McKenzie is family and even though it's been four years since he's been my coach, he is still there for everything."

McKenzie's decision to retire wasn't an easy one. He was going back and forth about retirement over the last few seasons. McKenzie was integral in two state championships at North and finished in second places scoring player in the last four years of his career.

Although his list of accomplishments is long, he believes his legacy is built not in the accolades, but believing in his players as men. A mentor did the same for him.

McKenzie said he was a very angry teenager. At 19, he met a man named John K. Cameron who was integral in shaping the coach many know and love today. Cameron was the first person to give unconditional love to McKenzie. His own father didn't tell him he loved him until he was in his 50s.

“I would say that Larry A. McKenzie couldn't have played for Coach McKenzie," he said. "I was angry, and didn't know how to deal with it. In a way, I was a lot like the young man that I coach." Calls poured in, news outlets made his status, especially on the Northside. His impact on McKenzie's life, McKenzie knows what's waiting for him in the gym. Cameron never expected him to.

"Every single time I need to give him something he told me that all he wanted from me was for me to allow other people to stand on my shoulders the way he allowed me to stand on his," he said. McKenzie carried that with him throughout life, focusing on giving back to young men like himself. It was a way to pay back his late mentor.

As he reflected on his success as a coach, he explained that what separated him from other coaches is the fact that he has "his "why." McKenzie found his "why" when he was shown unconditional love. "A lot of coaches know the 'what' and not the 'why'," McKenzie said. "But what separates them from ever being successful is a lot of coaches don't know their 'why'."

"Cameron gave me an angry young man, a second chance," McKenzie said. "I would say that Larry A. McKenzie's decision to retire wasn't an easy one. He was going back and forth about retirement over the last few seasons. McKenzie was integral in two state championships at North and finished in second places scoring player in the last four years of his career.

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Continued on page 27
from industry, such as a metal recycling have had to bear the brunt of pollution near the Upper Harbor Terminal for years Mississippi River. The neighborhoods near the vacant barge terminal on the mostly of residents from residents living their concerns. planners had no intention of listening to residents. before the city included feedback from the project was already well-planned Collaborative Planning Committee, said organizers for sitting at the table with community performing arts center. space, a health and wellness hub and a public infrastructure, housing, production divided into 10 parcels for parkland, the $350 million project, which will be environmental impacts” a redeveloped UHT City of Minneapolis last October for its Environmental Justice (CMEJ) sued the City has created a safe proposal for our neighborhoodhealthsource.org

Organizer Roxanne O'Brien speaking outside Minneapolis City Hall last fall. Photo by David Pierini

Editor

August 26, 2022

10 NORTH NEWS

FOOTBALL SEASON

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Be the Change golf tournament in third year of helping youth programs

David Pierini, Editor

A tournament can forge a business deal over 18 holes of golf. The walk down a fairway to meet the ball for the next shot offers time to hammer out details. Hussein White and John Baker use the game’s conversational nature to facilitate social change. For the third year in a row, the Be the Change MN golf tournament at Theodore Wirth Parkway will tee off on Sept. 3 to raise money for small-budget non-profits that work with youth. Golfers sign up in threesomes and the tournament organizers select a community member to round out the foursome to bring together people who might not otherwise cross paths. “Golf is just a great place to have those conversations because you spend four to five hours getting to know someone,” Baker said. “We pair community members with corporate sponsors so they can have a chance to really get to know the person and see what kind of organizations they are donating time and money to.” A good golfer or a bad golfer; golf is such an equal part of this. That’s why it facilitates establishing amazing relationships.”

When COVID-19 took down everything in 2020, White and Baker wanted to do something to help youth organizations, many of which were struggling to stay afloat and connected to the kids they served. It was also a summer that started with the police murder of George Floyd that began a racial reckoning. The first tournament was put together in 2018 in five weeks and raised $75,000. “It didn’t have much to do,” White said. “We raised $75,000. together that summer in five weeks and it was also a summer that started with the police murder of George Floyd, which began a racial reckoning. The first tournament was put together in 2018 in five weeks and raised $75,000.

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Bernard Glover grew up in a shotgun house in Jim Crow Alabama next to a railroad track with trains that ran night and day. Now 85, he bought the house and all sounds from freight trains were long behind him when he settled in the tranquil Lyn Park neighborhood in a gorgeous two-story Spanish Colonial-style home behind him when he settled in a little house.

“This is the thing, this is what I grew up with,” Glover said. “And you want me to see this thing all over again?”

For all the benefits light rail promises, it would be a challenge to ride some stretch of the Twin Cities that did not cause great pain to businesses and residents. Some businesses dried up during the long construction period. Others were low-income residents displaced because of the long construction period. Others were low-income residents displaced because of the kind of generational wealth Black women and men need to be widened to accommodate trains going in two directions plus lanes on the East and Dupont Avenue to the South, West Broadway to the North, I-94 on the East and Dupont Avenue on the West. Lyns were $1,000, and a handful of homes were available from which to choose. The homes cost $50,000-$70,000 and Bernard Glover wanted to make Lyn Park and its cul-de-sacs home. In 1977, he bought lots and sought special permission from the city to bring in a plant that was the largest plant in the world to make locomotives. He eventually settled in North Minneapolis, where he met Mary, had three children and created a comfortable living for his family in the insurance business.

When a new community development group formed to change the image of low-income housing, it used an area bordered by Plymouth Avenue to the South, West Broadway to the North, I-94 on the East and Dupont Avenue on the West. Residents carrying lawn chairs trickle in, person arrives to set up a table for maps. When he was 5, the family left the farm in the middle of the night with the help of a cousin, who drove them to Bessemer, some 65 miles north. His father found work in an ore mine and the family settled in a little house. The residents of Lyn Park, billed as a suburb in the city when lots and homes first began selling in the mid-1970s, are owner-occupied. Nearly 77 percent of white households are owner-occupied. Achievement among African Americans has struggled to achieve. Homeownership among African Americans in Minnesota is around 25 percent. Nearly 77 percent of white households are owner-occupied.

“We’ve already got it set up with the kids to sell it because I don’t want any confusion,” Glover said.

The proposed route is currently drawn to make Lyn Park and its cul-de-sacs home. In 1977, he bought lots and sought special permission from the city to bring in a plant that was the largest plant in the world to make locomotives. He eventually settled in North Minneapolis, where he met Mary, had three children and created a comfortable living for his family in the insurance business.

In the driveway at the end of the cul-de-sac.

Hennepin County and Met Council officials this summer held three driveway meetings with Lyn Park residents. The second of three, held July 27, was in the driveway of the Glover home at the end of Lyn Park Circle.

A Met Council community engagement person arrives to set up a table for maps. Residents carrying lawn chairs trickle in, and Lyn Smith, who has emerged as Lyn Park’s leaders in the battle to get the route changed, rolls in on a trike motorcycle where she sits for the meeting using her smartphone to record every word said. About 40 residents are gathered, and the Gloves sit under the shade of a front-yard tree.

“I won’t be able to sleep after this meeting,” Mary Glover told me earlier that day. “Every time I go into one of these meetings, I can’t sleep for two or three days because I wake up about two or three o’clock in the morning. It’s just in my mind how light rail is going to disrupt and mess up this whole area.”

There is a tremendous group led by Smith that go to every single meeting and their vocal presence has bought them some hope. In June, officials announced they would consider a second option to link the downtown with West Broadway Avenue. Washington Avenue which was considered when officials were looking at Lowry Avenue as the route to the north suburbs.

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But the Washington option does not give Lyn Park residents a moment of peace until the little line on the Blue Line extension map that shows Lyndale Avenue is erased.

City Councilman Jeremiah Ellison has been the focus of some of the residents’ ire for his support of light rail in North Minneapolis. Bernard Glover misinterpreted him to tell him he was in favor of coming down Lyndale Avenue and he had said to keep an open mind to hear all of the information. The residents of Lyn Park are the last to consider the route as the best option. They say it’s not against the light rail. They are fighting there was nowhere near where trains ran, he said. Noise and smoke

“Light rail man relives now Lyn Park to a train track.”

“There’s no avoiding the transformation that goes with,” Glover said. “And you want me to see this thing all over again?”

For all the benefits light rail promises, there would be a challenge to ride some stretch of tracks in the Twin Cities that did not cause great pain to businesses and residents. Some businesses dried up during the long construction period. Others were low-income residents displaced because of the kind of generational wealth Black women and men need to achieve. Homeownership among African Americans in Minnesota is around 25 percent. Nearly 77 percent of white households are owner-occupied.

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Mary Taris, founder and CEO of Strive Community Publishing, hosted the grand opening of her indie bookstore this summer in her new office space in downtown Minneapolis. The Northside native registered Strive Community Publishing as a business with the state out of her home office on the Northside in 2016. Today, when people walk into the IDS tower downtown, they can find her sitting in her business’s storefront. The official grand opening of Strive Publishing took place in late July and brought in a new chapter of the company’s six-year journey.

Along with managing a publishing agency, Taris has kept busy with the storefront book shop that calls the IDS tower home. Genres of all types have found their way into the store with the one common denominator, Black authors. She sells books published through her agency and also searches for local, self-published authors to carry in the shop. Since its founding, Strive Publishing strives to bridge the gap for Black authors, most commonly in children’s literature. The publishing company is striving to publish as many books as they can and have recently gained the capacity to accept manuscripts nationwide.

Taris has stayed true to the goal of her business as many of the authors published in her store are Black and from North Minneapolis. It is a goal that’s existed during her years as a teacher and even further back to her years in primary school as a student herself.

“I started Strive Publishing because I wanted to get more books that represented Black children, culture, and our experiences so the children can actually see what they can be and see their culture represented aside from performing, civil rights, and slavery,” Taris said. She remembers being the quiet kid in school and feeling invisible to her teachers.

Continued on page 27
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Barbers, stylists make the cut as frontline mental health heroes

By David Parnell, Editor

Sacred are the chairs in a Black barbershop. Men sit for a cut and shave and the chair invites a man to unwind, tell stories and share problems with a trusted listener. What is said at the shop, the saying goes, stays at the shop. 

Organizers of the Confess Project, dubbed “America’s first mental health barbershop movement,” recently traveled to Minneapolis to recruit barbers and stylists for training that will help them guide clients to culturally competent services for mental health and substance use disorders.

The Confess Project is partnering here with UCare and Kante Circle, a mental health agency, to provide training in the principles of active listening, compassion, advocacy and peer support.

“This chair is a miracle of healing,” said Willie Williams, whose foundation brought word of the conference to some 50 shops in the Twin Cities in hopes of recruiting Confess Project ambassadors. “We need this in the Black community because we often hold a lot of stuff in. This gives the person the chair the opportunity to say, ‘Sis, I trust you.’ They can speak about being gay, being homeless, the issues of Chicano拉丁，rods, where in the past barbers already tackle these issues and it’s important they get the training.”

An afternoon-long seminar at the Sabathini Center in south Minneapolis drew more than 100 people on July 25. One Project Confess educator did a demonstration, cutting the hair of a practice head while talking to the audience about how intentional listening can help a client in crisis.

Righteous distrust for the healthcare industry persists in Black and Brown communities.

One-barbershop leadership during the COVID-19 pandemic shows how a trusted barber can influence clients to make good healthcare decisions. For 50 weekends, a mobile vaccine clinic was parked outside Wilson’s Image Barbers & Stylists on West Broadway Ave.

Tito Wilson found that gently suggesting the vaccine to reluctant clients eventually worked. “Sometimes, it takes a while,” Wilson said. “But if they continue to see you, they return with trust and that’s how those barbers get their clients back.”

Tito Wilson, who runs hair at High Lights, does not believe the barber chair has always been a safe place for Black men.

Smith norsaid the barber chair is back the chair for a shave is like seeing a therapist on the couch.

Smith is a local ambassador for Project Confess.

“People in the community know they can come and talk to me about anything, from the good things to the bad things and getting advice, too,” Smith said. “Sometimes, it’s not about talking back. It’s about listening and hearing them all the way through. That’s when you really connect with people.”

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The Affordable Connectivity Program provides eligible households a credit of up to $50/month towards Internet and mobile services.

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OPEN STREETS
WEST BROADWAY
Saturday, September 10th | 11AM-4:30PM

Dance, bike, play, & explore West Broadway in a friendly, car-free space. Featuring local artists, vendors, live music, food, & more!

JOIN THE FUN!
Open Streets West Broadway gives residents & visitors a chance to explore their neighborhood businesses in a fun, family-friendly environment. We invite businesses, artists, and performers to reserve a spot on the street!
- Increase exposure for your business
- Sell food or merchandise without an additional permit cost
- Have amplified sound on the street
- Engage with thousands of attendees

REGISTERATION CLOSES ON AUGUST 24TH

Register your business, volunteer, & learn more at:
www.openstreetsmpls.org

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NORTH NEWS August 26, 2022

To Protect Yourself and Others from Covid-19
If you feel sick...

CHECK YOUR SYMPTOMS
START WEARING A MASK
GET TESTED
STAY HOME IF YOU TEST POSITIVE

Scan this QR code for more vaccine information

GET VACCINATED
For more information, visit northpointhealth.org/coronavirus-updates
Northside just FLOWing with creativity

Local artists shared their talents during the last weekend of July in the annual showcase, The FLOW Northside Arts Crawl. Visitors followed a map for a self-guided tour along the West Broadway Avenue corridor and several other creative spaces in North Minneapolis to explore and celebrate the creative genius in the neighborhoods. Here is a little FLOW flavor from North News staffers Azhae’la Hanson and David Pierini.

A Northside mother had fun in the sun trying to teach her young daughter how to hula hoop. Photo by Azhae’la Hanson

Artist Charles Caldwell took a break from painting his new mural at the 4th Street Saloon to show a curious young Northsider some of his art. Photo by Azhae’la Hanson

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Clockwise from top left:
1. James Adams of Twin Cities Skaters, left, was light on his wheels while roller skaters took over the North Market parking lot Saturday afternoon. Photo by David Pierini
2. Brother Ghana African Drumming held space at the Capri Plaza, teaching attendees how to tell stories through unique styles of Djembe drumming. Photo by Azhae’la Hanson
3. Appetite For Change passed out fresh produce to attendees of the Northside Farmers Market. Photo by Azhae’la Hanson
4. Local Artist Keta The Entertainer, aka Naketa Lloyd, performed a song at the Tangible Thoughts Collective event in Freedom Square Friday. Her song was inspired by her friend, Jamar Clark, who was fatally shot by police in 2015. Photo by Azhae’la Hanson
5. Laurel Prenzlow, an assistant ceramics lab lead at Just juxtaposition Arts, shows Nicolette Fleming how to create a clay cylinder on a potter's wheel. Photo by David Pierini
Are you a mom with kids 5 years old or younger?

Join "Cooking and Conversation" to connect with other new moms who know what you’re going through while learning how to make affordable and easy meals for you and your family.

Sign-up is free and you will receive a $50 Cub Foods gift card to participate and cook at home.

Cooking and Conversation
Tuesdays from 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm

Begins in September so be sure to register today!

Register: redleaffamilyhealing.org/cookingandconversation

If you’ve driven around the Northside on a hot summer day anytime in the past four years, you’ve likely passed a lemonade stand belonging to 9-year-old Paige Raino. Passersby may assume she’s an ordinary little girl. They would be wrong. Paige sits atop a growing empire. The young entrepreneur behind Princess Paige Lemonade started selling lemonade in front of Real Believers Faith Center on Fremont Avenue when she was just 5.

The little Northsider remembers being the boss of a small group of three consisting of herself, her father, Tyrone Raino, and her grandmother. Dad does the heavy lifting and her grandmother Sherrell Griffin is in charge of the stand’s famous homemade taste.

In the past few years, Paige has supplied customers with more than 500 units of bottled lemonade, including the Hennepin County Medical Center, local businesses, and community events, all hand and home packaged by the trio themselves. Princess Paige Lemonade recently got approved to rent retail space inside the Maplewood Mall.

With the demand for their product increasing, Paige and her father felt overwhelmed and decided that it was time to ask for help. Paige is now the boss of a team of 10.

“Every time I give customers my lemonade, they always come back for more.”

Paige Raino

Bow to the princess of the lemonade business

By Azhae’la Hanson, Reporter

Continued on page 27
High School Name Change Continued from page 5

calls. Caprini said. “And so did it.”

This feedback was essential to leading to the unanimous decision to change school names. Caprini is hopeful the research board gathered the past observation to keep all on an eye for those who are against the change. The feedback is helpful.

“Hopefully when folks learn this important information that's the most important that we need to change the name,” everyone is welcome.

Free Dinners: The Comedian Collective and the Samneh Foundation sponsor a weekly free family dinner at Gillett Lutheran Church, 4550 Dupont Ave. N., each Saturday from 1–3 p.m. Call 612-521-0984 for more information. Walkups are welcome.

Community Dinner: Pillsbury United Church of Christ diners, 1801 Broadway, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at the Oak Park Community Center, 1701 Oak Park Ave. N. Meals are currently going to downtown to the homeless. The church is open-foor sit-down space soon.

Pet supplies: Are you in need of pet supplies or pet resources? The North Minneapolis Pet Resource Center, 1401 North Minneapolis, helps provide pet supplies or pet resources? The North Minneapolis Pet Resource Center, 1401

Walk-up: The Sanneh Foundation sponsor a weekly free dinner on the second and fourth Saturdays of each month from 10 a.m.-noon. There are no pre-qualifications. Volunteers are needed.

Food Distribution: Minneapolis Community Radio updates in your language: KALY Radio 95.7 FM (Spanish), La Raza 95.7 FM (Spanish), KALY 95.7 FM (Spanish), WYCC 90.3 FM (Hmong).

To place an order and leave a voicemail. 764-273-0710 to place an order and leave a voicemail. 764-273-0710 to place an order and leave a voicemail. 764-273-0710 to place an order and leave a voicemail. 764-273-0710 to place an order and leave a voicemail.

Tune to 612-373-2205 or email him at ward5@emary@hennepin.us. For constituent services contact policy and encourage school environments that are up to them to decide the fate of the schools they will be attending in the future. They want to find a name that is respectful, equitable, and just.

“Adair’s innovative leadership approach and trailblazing career as an entrepreneur, as she became the first Black woman to open a retail shop or in my home office or out in the neighborhood. “I really want to make it a family business because me and my grandma ate some of my grandma’s lemonade. We gave out cold lemonade in the Floyd square. We gave out cold lemonade in the Floyd square.”

Continued from page 1

“Where we’ll always have this space. I browse the shelves. Taris looks forward to reading the work that the company is currently working with. "My bestie's birthday is coming up. It will be a way to show how much I love her," she said.

“Really good pickles that almost turned my whole entire mouth red.”

“Leo Jones rises up from his chair to speak. “My original plan made sense because I knew I had to create something for me to use to support the project, to the unanimous decision are the district leadership, the board, and encouraging the community be the the decision on the name. A railroad owns the use of the property, in the event it is sold or transfers ownership, the railroad will have the right to create a new name change project area. Caprini hopes it will be sooner than later. They have a community connection to the board’s decision to create a new name change project area.

Caprini rose up from his chair to speak. “I know there are a lot of talented writers, but I really want to support the project.”

Soler took questions about the process and what it was like to be a part of it. “I know there are a lot of talented writers, but I really want to support the project.”

Continued from page 25

Bernard Glover Continued from page 13

new entrepreneurs and he came across a new sustainable company, he graduated with a new mouth after he got his name change. Caprini is hopeful the research board gathered the past observation to keep all on an eye for those who are against the change. The feedback is helpful.

“Hopefully when folks learn this important information that's the most important that we need to change the name,” everyone is welcome.

The Healing Place: The Healing Place is located at 3100 University Ave. W., St. Paul, and online at healingplace.org. You can also reach the Healing Place at 612-654-7200 or email info@healingplace.org. For more information visit healingplace.org.

To reach Hennepin County Commissioner Lisa Menne, call 612-348-7882 or email her at lmenne@co.hennepin.mn.us. For more information visit hennepinmn.gov or cell: 612-258-3982. To reach Minneapolis City Councilwoman Burgess, call 612-673-2205 or email him at ward5@emary@hennepin.us. For more information visit hennepinmn.gov or call 612-322-1341.

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Do you have an ongoing program, meeting or event you would like to see published in North Star News? Please send the details to DavidP@blaylockyounan.com

Maggie Kohl via email: maggie.kohl@minneapolis.gov or cell: 612-257-5242. You can also contact Minneapolis Public Schools, District 2 via email: info@mplspublicschools.org or cell: 612-866-3802.

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Are you prepared to vote?

You can be ready in a few simple steps

☐ Register to vote
☐ Check your voter registration status
☐ Find your polling place
☐ Request an absentee ballot

Election Day is Tuesday, November 8.

Visit hennepin.us/elections to learn more about voting.

Your vote counts here.