MEDINA PUBLIC SCHOOL

October 2025

Volume 43, Issue 2

COMMUNITY EDUCATION NEWSLETTER

Greetings from the Superintendent's Desk

The school year is off to a great start! By the time you read this, we will already be several weeks into the fall semester, and students should be settling into their routines. I hope that parents and families have also adjusted to the busy school schedule that comes with this time of year.

Parking Lot Safety

During both morning drop-off and afternoon pick-up, our parking lot becomes very busy with buses, student drivers, staff, and parents. With so much activity in a small area, it is important for everyone to be alert and cautious.

Please remember to drive slowly and watch carefully for students and staff who may be walking to or from the building. Children, especially our younger students, can be unpredictable and may not always be watching for vehicles. A few extra seconds of patience and attention can prevent an accident and keep everyone safe.

We also ask that parents use the designated drop-off and pick-up areas. Following these procedures helps traffic flow smoothly and reduces congestion in front of the school. If you need to park and walk your child in, please use the parking spaces rather than stopping in the driving lanes.

Thank you for doing your part to help keep our parking lot safe for everyone!

Automated Alert System Test—October 10

Medina Public School will once again be using an automated alert system this year. If school is canceled, delayed, or if we have an early dismissal, we will send a text message and a phone call to inform parents. We will perform a test of this system on October 10 to ensure everything is working correctly. If you do not receive a text or an automated voice call from us on that date, please contact the school so we can add your number to the system. Additionally, if your contact information changes, please inform the school so we can update your information.



Updated NDHSAA Fan Ejection Policy

The NDHSAA has revised the fan ejection policy. This policy was adopted to promote sportsmanship and ensure a positive environment at all contests. The updated policy states:

- Any attendee ejected from a regular season or NDHSAA tournament contest will incur a minimum two (2) week suspension from that team's games/events and all other NDHSAA games/events in the interim at any level of competition.
- An attendee ejected for a second time during a school year shall be suspended for a minimum of one (1) calendar year from all NDHSAA regular and postseason events.
- NDHSAA member schools may increase these minimum penalties at their discretion.

We ask that all spectators demonstrate positive behavior and continue to support our teams in a way that reflects well on our school and community. Also, all students are to be seated during athletic events and should not loiter in the halls, commons area, or restrooms. If students are loitering, they will be directed back to their seats to sit with their parents or will be asked to leave the building. Thank you for your help in making our extra-curricular events enjoyable for everyone!

Enjoy the beautiful fall weather while it lasts—before long, winter will be here! Thank you for your continued support of our school and students. I'm looking forward to another great school year!

Mr. Damon Bosche
Superintendent/AD

School Board Meeting Minutes

Medina Public School District #3 School Board Meeting August 15, 2025

Chairman Rory Hoffmann called the board meeting to order at 7:15 AM with the Pledge of Allegiance. All board members were present (Rory Hoffmann, Shawn Gefroh, Jacob Hofmann, Jeremy Schmidt, Shawn Lachenmeier, Nancy Heinle-Bodvig, and Nolan Kartchner). Supt. Bosche, Principal Hofmann, and Business Manager Moser were also present.

The minutes of the July 11, 2025 regular meeting and the July 31, 2025 special meeting were reviewed. Jacob moved to approve the minutes as presented, Shawn G. seconded, carried unanimously.

The monthly financial report was reviewed and discussed. Nancy moved to approve the financial report, Shawn L. seconded, carried unanimously.

The monthly bills and payroll were reviewed and discussed. Nolan moved to pay all bills and payroll, Shawn G. seconded, carried unanimously.

Agenda Additions/Deletions: Jamestown bussing, paraprofessional.

Recognize guests: none.

Public Comments: none.

Building project update: electricians finishing a couple things, small roof leak in new history room has been fixed, cooling issues to be resolved.

Reviewed 25-26 Budget adjustments – slight increase in our taxable valuation and our Title I funds have increased from original estimate. New projected income is $3,232,581.16 and projected expenditures are $3,559,613.00, for a projected budget deficit of $327,031.84.

The annual budget hearing is scheduled for Wednesday, September 17, 2025 at 5:30 PM.

The Fall Festival is requesting use of the school property for the truck pull. Jacob moved to allow the use of the school grounds and waive the fee, Shawn G. seconded, roll call vote: SG-y, NH-y, JH-y, NK-y, SL-y, JS-y, RH-y. Motion carried 7-0.

Shawn L. moved to approve seventeen tuition free agreements for the 25-26 school year (15 students from Jamestown and 2 students from Gackle-Streeter), Nancy seconded, roll call vote: NH-y, JH-y, NK-y, SL-y, JS-y, RH-y, SG-y. Motion carried 7-0.

Shawn G. moved to approve two open enrollments from Jamestown for the 25-26 school year, fifteen open enrollments from Jamestown for the 26-27 school year, and two open enrollments from Gackle-Streeter for the 26-27 school year, Nolan seconded, roll call vote: JH-y, NK-y, SL-y, JS -y, RH-y, SG-y, NH-y. Motion carried 7-0.

Bus route discussion: 65 passenger bus being used for Jamestown route now – Mr. Bosche will check on our options to change routes/riders to accommodate increased student numbers.

Discussion on possibly hiring another paraprofessional – would be reimbursable by James River Special Education.

Superintendent/AD Report: carpet issues to be resolved, public comment added to agenda, coaching vacancies for Elementary boys basketball and assistant baseball, fall sports are starting: Cross Country - Tammy Heinrich coach – 8 participants; Volleyball – Jacie Connell coach, Joey Heupel asst coach, Ryleigh Martin & Alaina Bosche will serve as C squad coaches, Wendy Waleri & Sarah Heinle are the JH coaches; Elem. Girls Basketball – Jenny Schlecht & Tara Hofmann coaches; Elem. Cross Country – Jennifer Hayes coach.

Principal Report: We are excited for the new addition and new students, staff development & training, Nexus Path – tele-health services for students, cell phones policy.

The next regular meeting will be on Friday, September 12, 2025, at 7:15 am. Shawn L. moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 AM, Nolan seconded, carried unanimously.

**Medina Public School District #3 School Board Meeting September 12, 2025*

Chairman Rory Hoffmann called the board meeting to order at 7:15 AM with the Pledge of Allegiance. All board members were present (Rory Hoffmann, Shawn Gefroh, Jacob Hofmann, Jeremy Schmidt, Shawn Lachenmeier, Nancy Heinle-Bodvig, and Nolan Kartchner). Supt. Bosche, Principal Hofmann, and Business Manager Moser were also present.

The minutes of the August 15, 2025 regular meeting were reviewed. Jacob moved to approve the minutes as corrected (Shawn L. was present), Shawn L. seconded, carried unanimously.

The monthly financial report was reviewed and discussed. Nolan moved to approve the financial report, Shawn G. seconded, carried unanimously.

The monthly bills and payroll were reviewed and discussed. Jeremy moved to pay all bills and payroll, Shawn L. seconded, carried unanimously.

Agenda Additions/Deletions: none

Recognize guests: none

Public Comments: none

Building project update: rooftop units, boiler room doors have arrived and will be installed soon.

Supt. Bosche presented the School & LEA Annual Compliance reports. Shawn L. moved to approve the compliance reports, Jacob seconded, roll call vote: SG-y, NH-y, JH-y, NK-y, SL-y, JS-y, RH-y. Motion carried 7-0.

ND School Board Association convention – October 9 & 10. Our next board meeting will be on Monday, October 13.

St. Mary's Catholic Church Chicken Dinner



St. Mary's Catholic Church of Medina will be serving a Chicken Dinner on Sunday, October 5, 2025, from 11:00 am to 1:30 pm at the Medina Legion Hall.

The menu includes oven-baked chicken, baked potato, side dishes, relishes, dessert, and beverage. The meal cost is $12.50 for adults, $6 for kids ages 6-12; and free for kids 5 and under.

There will also be a Country Store with baked goods and craft items available for sale.

Just Say No Club / Red Ribbon Week



Our Just Say No Club is going to look a little different this year. The Just Say No Club will only include 4th and 5th graders. Some of the classes are larger and it's getting harder to keep everyone's attention with such a large group.

We will be meeting the 2nd Friday of each month in the Commons Area. Our first meeting will be Friday, October 12th at 2:45. We will be celebrating Red Ribbon Week October 27th – 31st. Be on the lookout for ways that you can participate that week!

Tammy Schlecht, Just Say No Club Leader

School Board Meeting Minutes continued…

The annual financial report was presented. Jeremy moved to approve the report, Shawn G. seconded, roll call vote: NH-y, JH-y, NK-y, SL-y, JS-y, RH-y, SG-y. Motion carried 7-0.

	Beginning Balance 7/1/24	Revenue	Expenditures	Ending Balance 6/30/25
General Fund (01)	$1,741,975.83	$3,504,904.15	$3,384,817.58	$1,862,062.40
Building Fund Group (03)	$489,328.02	$3,345,707.64	$2,587,997.85	$1,247,037.81
Sinking & Interest Fund Group (04)	$0.00	$213,607.22	$63,972.22	$149,635.00
Food Service Fund Group (05)	$433.15	$217,987.69	$218,401.17	$19.67
Activities Fund Group (06)	$141,029.90	$213,328.18	$216,993.74	$137,264.34

Building committee meeting – property walk through following the October board meeting.

Jeremy moved to approve the amended policies BCAA and BCBA on the first reading and waive the second reading to expedite the policy adoption process per board policy BDA; Nancy seconded, roll call vote: JH-y, NK-y, SL-y, JS-y, RH-y, SG-y, NH-y. Motion carried 7-0.

Superintendent/AD Report: we have hired Emma Forde as special education paraprofessional, annual budget hearing is scheduled for Wednesday, September 17, 2025 at 5:30 PM, bus route update, MPB coop meeting is 10/1/25, Stanley Johnson will be the elementary boys' basketball coach.

Principal Report: fall testing has begun, "Dangers of Vaping" program for 3rd-12th grade students, cell phone update, elementary behavior matrix, Freshman class blood drive today, "hands on" lab days for some ITV classes.

The next regular meeting will be on Monday, October 13, 2025, at 7:15 am. Nolan moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:35 AM, Shawn G. seconded, carried unanimously.

/s/ Rory Hoffmann, President
/s/ Dawn Moser, Business Manager

**** These minutes are unapproved and subject to change at the 10/13/25 meeting.***

City of Medina Council Minutes

City of Medina Regular Meeting
July 7, 2025 7:00 PM

The regular meeting of the City of Medina, Stutsman County, was called to order at 7:00 PM in the Memorial Hall. Present were Mayor Myron Gunderson, CM Dean Moser and CM Mitch Gunderson. Auditor Rhonda Schlecht, Lance Loock and Sid Higdem. Absent CM Dacotah Dockter and CM Joe Schmidt (present at 7:18 PM).

Reading of the minutes 6/2/25- CM Mitch approved minutes as read. 2nd CM Dean- all ayes, no nays - motion carried. Absent CM Joe Schmidt and CM Dacotah Dockter.

Visitors recognized – Bob Algya (105 Water St E), Bill Busch, Chris Soukup and Joe Deede.

Bob Algya (105 Water St E) Grey house 107 Water St E – discussion on water line and a break between the two houses. See attached photo. Bob will bring in the bill from Scherbenske's and this matter will be readdress.

Joe Deede – Checking if the council has a price for the cub cadet riding tractor with a broom attachment that he is interested in buying. The council will check into prices and get back to him. Joe was also checking on the paperwork that he presented for the vacation of the alley on his property to start the 90 day process. Chris Soukup was here on behalf of the alley and the proposal that the parties have come up with is Brian Buskness would sell the remaining 25' of lot 7 to Joe and a road would be built going North-South for access to the back gate in the alley. A letter was read that Abby from Dalsted and Ryan regarding the vacating a street or alley and it was determined that Brian Buskness and Soukup's would also need to sign the paperwork that was presented. Joe will contact Brian on this matter. Research will be done as to the previous vacation on Lot 5 & 6 to see if this was done correctly.

Tom (Moore Engineering report via email) – Water Treatment Plant construction is nearing completion. Contractor has been working on wells. Final remaining work is to install permanent ductile iron by-pass piping in the water treatment plant which is planned for mid-July. The additional equipment that the City requested has been sent to NDDEQ for approval. Once approved, the contractor will order the equipment. Moore's are working with integrator to fix a coding bug in the backwash process. The Water Tower Project is being bid on July 10th. If bids are favorable Moore's would be asking for the City to award a contract at the August meeting or potentially ask for a special meeting to award a contract sooner.

CITY WORKERS REPORT – City workers met with Mittleider's Excavating and Brian Buskness regarding installing water/sewer on a lot on State St NE. Discussion was done on if the manholes can be extended or new ones need to be installed. This would be at the cost of the developer. Mayor Myron will speak with Brian Buskness on the details of current manholes are heavy and relined so don't want to move them. Water pump was fixed on the lagoon tractor. The military generator did not run at all when the storm took out the power. The workers will check on price of a new generator and if someone would/could fix this one and/or if there is any value for trade, etc. A culvert was removed from 4th Ave NW and grass planted. The council approved renting a land leveler to see if it would be a good fit for the City. Bill Busch brought up the fence material for the compost area. Discussion was held on options for the compost pile which is full. Ceiling fans in the hall need to be replaced. A 54"fan is approximately $250. Cold patch will be purchased to use by UCC. DEQ inspection at the water plant was done with some insignificant items that need to be done. One repair is a door that needs to be put up on the water tower so no one can climb it. Chlorine was ordered. Watersmith was here and pulled pump 2. Flushing of hydrants is on the list to do. Question was presented as to who mows on NP St. The guys will go mow it.

CM Dean motioned to purchase three (3) ceiling fans for the hall and have someone install them. 2nd CM Mitch – all ayes, no nays – motion carried. Absent CM Dacotah Dockter

OLD BUSINESS: Water bills - 1 1 residents need to catch up. Fence Ordinance will be published. Laundry/Fish Cleaning Station – CM Joe gave ND Game & Fish another quote start to finish to look at. Concrete could be poured in September/ October. Laundromat – check into prices from a couple of contractors for demolishing and hauling it away. Enterprise Ordinance first reading was done. Public comment time policy – Auditor Rhonda is checking with other entities on what they did.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA- Liquor Licenses were given to The Decoy and Cobby's Bar & Grill. The agreement between Medina Public School and the City was received back and both parties have signed. Sidewalk Ordinance was provided for review and if any changes need to be done.

NEW BUSINESS: None

Presentation of bills – CM D e a n motioned to pay bills that were presented. 2nd CM Joe - all ayes, no nays - motioned carried. Absent CM Dacotah Dockter.

CM Mitch motioned to adjourn meeting at 9:44 PM. 2nd CM Dean - all ayes, no nays – motioned carried. Absent CM Dacotah Dockter.

/s/ Myron Gunderson, Mayor
/s/ Rhonda Schlecht, Auditor

City of Medina Regular Meeting
August 4, 2025 7:00 PM

The regular meeting of the City of Medina, Stutsman County, was called to order at 7:00 PM in the Memorial Hall. Present were Mayor Myron Gunderson, CM Dean Moser, CM Mitch Gunderson, CM Dacotah Dockter and CM Joe Schmidt. Rhonda Schlecht (Auditor), Lance Loock and Sid Higdem (City Workers) present.

Reading of the minutes 7/7/25– CM Dean approved minutes with Bill to Bob, remove 6 after contract and change Mayer to Mayor. 2nd CM Dacotah– all ayes, no nays – motion carried.

Public Comments – Amy and Jason Stockwell requested clarification on the laundromat and camera comments in the May minutes. Discussion on stop signs and speeding through town. CM Joe will check with the County on flashing speeding signs on the main road coming into town. Stockwell's inquired on the water pooling in front of their house when it rains. Tom from Moore Engineering went with Jason to evaluate the situation.

Visitors recognized: Bob Algya, Dennis Lanigan, Joe Deede, Joe Heupel (MED)- observing, Joe Kim (not present), Jordon and Tom with Moore Engineering

Bob Algya – (Dennis Lanigan here on this matter) – Bob presented his bill from Scherbenske's on the water leak. Discussion was done and the City agreed to pay the bill. The Council will check with Abby at Dalsted & Ryan if this bill can be added to 107 Water St E tax bill.

Joe Deede – Joe is checking on vacating alley behind his house. Abby (City Lawyer) is strongly against vacating City streets and alleys. Joe Deede has to get costs to Auditor Rhonda for the publishing and any other fees for vacating and pay them up front before the 90 days start. Joe was also checking if a price was agreed upon for the Cub Cadet and sweeper. The Council will research this further.

Joe Kim was not present but Auditor Rhonda explained the situation and CM Dacotah will reach out to him.

Tom (Moore Engineering) - Water Treatment Plant recent work completed on Well #2 and is online. Additional equipment that was requested has been delivered. Final remaining work will be installing Well #1 and install permanent ductile Iron by-pass piping and dryer in Water Treatment Plant. Moore Engineering is waiting for a quote from the City Workers for roof repair on the plant to put a request in for the remaining contingency money. The closeout process for this project will start next month. Testing has been done on the pumps and can run off of pressure to serve the City during the Water Tower Internal coating project. Water Tower Project was bid with two options. Paving will be redone at School Street E and 3rd Ave SE this month. Tom discussed the options for the pump station by Dave Nadeau's. The Council will discuss this with the homeowner.

CM Dacotah motioned to award the bid to Maguire Iron and Option 2 (add Jet Mixer). 2nd CM Joe – all ayes, no nays – motion carried.

CITY WORKERS REPORT – Advantage Electric was here and installed 3 new fans in the hall. There is an increase in the original quote due to needing 2 new cages for the fans. Some alleys were worked on with the land leveler that they were trying out. Discussion on the compost area regarding items not being put in correct piles and that the area is full. Tim Staloch has a pit and would burn the branches if the City would haul them out to him for $1,000. The workers will check prices for someone

Continued on page 4...

Medina Booster Club

Medina has had some changes to start the new school year. Besides the school's own expansion, student athletes have been able to practice and play in the new Dakota Heritage Bank Activity Center, right next to the school.

DHBAC is a project of the Medina Booster Club. Seeing elementary girls and boys basketball teams in recent years relegated to practicing at the outdoor basketball court at the park, the Booster Club was spurred to help provide a safer option for students, while also providing a new facility for community gathering and wellness.

While the facility has been built and the court portion is in use, there is much work remaining to be done. The Booster Club intends to use an upstairs portion of the building as a community wellness center, with gym and workout equipment. And fundraising continues to pay for a loan to build the center.

The Medina Booster Club's mission is to foster an environment that inspires students, coaches, parents and the community to collectively create a positive and spirited atmosphere for Medina Public School extracurricular activities.



Along with the new DHBAC (photo above), the Booster Club supports our sports teams and activities like Bingo for Books, meals for students going to the county spelling bee, locker candy to honor students in activities, and much more. And we need your help!

We are seeking donations to help complete the DHBAC. We also need volunteers to join the Booster Club. Booster Club members help plan fundraising, help decide how funds are used and volunteer at activities. There never are enough hands to go around, and we want to see more community member participation.

We are planning another dinner event, scheduled for Jan. 3, to help raise money for DHBAC and the other activities we support. We have space on planning committees to help. We are also planning to hold several raffles and other fundraisers.

Please support these efforts, as we are optimistic that these activities will help enrich the lives of our students as well as the community.

Contact a Booster Club member for more information on upcoming opportunities, events and meetings.

continued from Page 3…

to haul and/or equipment to rent to haul the branches. Lift #5 by Cottonwood Corner is dangerous and no good. The light didn't work when the pump went out. They would like to redo the pump so it can be pulled out to work on. They requested a quote which was not available at the time of the meeting. DPC was out and inspected the lifts. The mobile generator could be fixed IF parts could be found. The City Workers will get quotes for a new or used 30KW generator. A request for Butler to come out and do routine service on the payloader and skidsteer was requested. The Council is OK with Butler servicing the equipment. The Water Plant is still under construction and working good. Hydrant flushing will be done possibly next month (waiting until these projects are completed). Lance will be testing this month. Fall Festival would like to request the use of the hall for the band and any other activities if there is inclement weather. The Council said that would be OK but they are responsible for the clean up.

OLD BUSINESS – Working with four residents on water bills, Fence Ordinance is waiting on Abby for the correct wording to publish so this can move forward. Discussion on the laundromat with washers and dryers down – fix or replace. Fish Cleaning Station – A quote from S & S Construction was sent to ND Game & Fish. NDGF is willing to provide 75% of the total, to a max of $70,000 and willing to provide and install the barracuda table/ grinder which is valued at >$30K. If accepted, the NDGF will prepare a cooperative agreement to send for signatures. This will be for FISH ONLY – no birds. The building would be put on existing City land. A construction loan would be done. Donations could be given towards the fish cleaning station.

CM Dacotah motioned to proceed with the agreement with ND Game and Fish for the Fish Cleaning Station and proceeding with construction. 2nd CM Joe – all ayes, no nays – motion carried.

Buildings – None Streets – None Water – None

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA – None

NEW BUSINESS – Three CD's are maturing at Dakota Heritage Bank and will be renewed. Question on charging for two dumpsters that were placed for a clean up. The Council agreed to charge for the 2 dumpsters. An insurance claim was started for sewer backup at a residence.

CM Mitch motioned to transfer $7,819.99 and $8,429.43 from Specials to General for Phase II loan payments. 2nd CM Dacotah – all ayes, no nays – motion carried.

PRESENTATION OF BILLS – CM Dean approved paying all bills that were presented. 2nd CM Dacotah – all ayes, no nays – motion carried.

ADJOURN – CM Dacotah motioned to adjourn the meeting at 10:23 PM. 2nd CM Joe – all ayes, no nays – motion carried.

/s/ Myron Gunderson, Mayor
/s/ Rhonda Schlecht, Auditor

Principal's Message



As I look out the school window, I notice the fall colors making their presence known all around. Autumn always feels too short where we live, and maybe that is why I try to take in the beauty of the changing leaves—knowing that too soon they will be on the ground and covered with the white stuff. When autumn arrives, it also means we are fully back into our school routines. Each year brings a fresh start, and we get to settle into "school."

A few weeks ago, I was visiting with a friend who recently retired from education. He mentioned that he was going to miss "school," but not miss "education." That got me thinking. He was right. *School* is everything that happens when we are with our students—it's the interactions in the hallway, the conversations before and after school, the activities, and of course, the learning. *Education,* on the other hand, often refers to the mandates and requirements.

We are here because we love the *school* part of things. We love getting to know your children and your families. We love cheering students on in their activities and seeing them pursue their interests. At the same time, we recognize the mandates and expectations that come with education, and we take our responsibility seriously to follow them and share resources as needed. Sometimes these mandates require tough conversations or phone calls, but we know those are necessary to ensure the safety of everyone in our school community, as well as our property. Our goal is always to be proactive so we can spend more time focusing on the *school* side of things.

We value the conversations and interactions we share with students, families, and the community. We are thankful for the time we get to spend together at school. As I watch the fall season unfold outside, I am reminded of how blessed we are to be part of "school." Thank you for sharing your children with us. We are proud to be part of their *school* experience.

Mrs. Tara Hofmann, Principal

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE: ✓

CONGRATULATIONS! 39 elementary students from Medina completed the Summer Reading Challenge! Each student was awarded $10 in Medina Bucks to spend at any Medina business. A BIG thank you to the sponsors of this Challenge: Dakota Heritage Bank of Medina and Hometown Credit Union of Medina. Another BIG thank you to Karen Schlecht of Dakota Heritage Bank for coordinating the Medina Bucks.



SHRED EVENT

Oct. 2 through Oct. 31

Free & Open to the Public

Dakota Heritage Bank in Medina is holding a shred event. You are welcome to bring items for shredding to the bank during the hours of 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. You will place your items in a locked shred bin and all bins will be picked up for on-site shredding on Nov. 5.

Items to be shredded must adhere to the following:

- **No metal binders, paper clips or metal file hangers**
- **No cardboard**
- **No plastic**
- **No wet/damp papers**
- **Please be aware that some documents such as tax returns may be enclosed in a shred-proof material which you must remove.**

Member FDIC

DHB
DAKOTA HERITAGE BANK
Sharing Our Heritage. Sharing Our Future.

Medina English Lutheran Church Presents

TRUNK OR TREAT

OCTOBER | 31 | FRIDAY

Join us for a frightfully fun night full of games, free meal, and trunks with lots of treats!

DOORS OPEN AT 5:30 PM | TRUNKS 7:00-7:30

Location:

English Lutheran Church, Medina

Contact:

Taylor Dockter (701)367-7738
Karissa Yunck (701)659-3433

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
TRUNKS WANTED

ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Helping Children Learn®

Tips Families Can Use to Help Children Do Better in School

October 2025

Medina Public School

Learning from mistakes builds skills and self-confidence



Nobody's perfect, and like all kids, your child will sometimes make mistakes on tests or assignments. But that's no reason for either of you to get discouraged!

Research shows that when children are encouraged to learn from their errors, they do better in school. When they fix their mistakes, students learn that they can improve. And when they avoid repeating the errors, they learn they can get smarter—and that boosts their confidence about their ability to learn.

Begin any discussion about your child's schoolwork by pointing out what your elementary schooler did well. Then, to help your child concentrate on learning from mistakes:

- **Ask if your child understands** why an answer is wrong. If so, have your student correct it. If your child isn't sure, offer suggestions or encourage your child to ask the teacher for help.
- **Talk about ways** your child can avoid making that kind of mistake again—by reading carefully, slowing down, double-checking work, etc.
- **Celebrate progress.** Did your child make fewer mistakes on this test than the last one? Praise the improvement and talk about how learning from past mistakes likely made a difference.

Source: H.S. Schroder and others, "Neural evidence for enhanced attention to mistakes among school-aged children with a growth mindset," *Developmental Cognitive Neuroscience*, Elsevier B.V.

Take your child on a virtual STEM trip

Digital media offers exciting ways to spark your child's interest in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields. By taking virtual field trips online together, you can help your child experience:

- **Museum exhibits.** You and your child can take a self-guided tour of the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History (*www.naturalhistory.si.edu/visit/virtual-tour*). See 360-degree views of exhibits about dinosaurs, oceans, gems and minerals and more. Help your child read the exhibit text to learn more about the items on display.
- **National parks.** See the natural wonders of the Grand Canyon and Yellowstone without leaving home (*www.nps.gov/subjects/npscelebrates/find-your-virtual-park.htm*).
- **Mars.** Footage from NASA's Perseverance rover lets your elementary schooler explore the Jezero Crater on the red planet's surface (*www.youtube.com/watch?v=yOplTCgnJFQ*).

Give a responsibility lesson

Doing chores at home teaches children about responsibility—and that pays off in school. Chores can help your child:

- **Develop school skills,** such as following directions and timeliness.
- **Feel invested** in work and take pride in successful effort.
- **Learn basic life skills,** such as caring for clothes and keeping things clean.

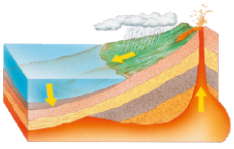
Ask your child to teach you



Having your child teach you can reinforce newly-learned information in your student's memory—and reveal gaps in comprehension. Try these strategies:

- **Ask your child** to explain an assignment, teach you a concept or read a passage from a school text aloud.
- **Let your child give you** a quiz about topics the class is studying. Ask questions, even if you understand everything.
- **Present a "problem"** you are having, and ask your child to help you solve it. What should you do first?

Graphics clarify meaning



Photos, maps, graphs and illustrations can give students a clearer understanding of a text's meaning. Encourage your child to study graphics before reading and ask:

- *What do the images show?*
- *What details are included?*
- *What might the material be about based on these graphics?*
- *Why might the author have included them?*

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ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
Helping Children Learn®
Tips Families Can Use to Help Children Do Better in School — October 2025

Q&A How seriously should I take my child's negativity?

Q: My child keeps saying "I hate school." I'm not sure how to respond. I don't want to make a big thing out of a casual moan, but I don't want to ignore a real problem, either. What should I do?



A: You are right that not all children who say they hate school actually do. Sometimes, they are just looking for attention, or for a chance to delay doing schoolwork. However, since your child has said this more than once, something may be going on.

To figure out what it is:

- **Start a conversation.** At a time when you are both calm, say, "You've said you hate school a few times. What's making you feel this way?"
- **Ask follow-up questions** if your child can't identify the problem. Is your child struggling in a subject, or feeling lonely or overwhelmed?
- **Brainstorm together** about actions your child can take, such as increasing study time, joining a school activity or asking for help.
- **Point out that almost all** situations have pros as well as cons. Ask what your child likes about school.
- **Reach out to the teacher.** Explain how your child is feeling and ask for suggestions and support.

Parent Quiz Are you teaching decision-making?

Your child will make many decisions in school that can affect achievement: To tackle a challenge or give up, to give in to peer pressure or do what's right, etc. Are you teaching your child how to choose wisely? Answer *yes* or *no* below:

___**1. Do you tell** your child that all choices have consequences?

___**2. Do you include** your child in family decision-making discussions?

___**3. Do you set** an example by thinking through decisions aloud as you make them?

___**4. Do you encourage** your child to ask questions and gather relevant information before making a choice?

___**5. Do you offer** plenty of chances to make decisions and then expect your child to live with the outcomes?

How well are you doing?

More yes *answers mean you are helping your child learn to think decisions through. For each* no, *try that idea.*

"You cannot make progress without making decisions."
—Jim Rohn

Optimize test outcomes

In addition to learning the subject matter before tests, your child will also benefit from learning effective test-taking strategies. Encourage your elementary schooler to:

- **Pay careful attention** to directions, and ask the teacher for clarification if they are confusing.
- **Answer all questions** and show all work. The teacher may award partial credit, and blank answers won't earn points.
- **Read all answer choices** on multiple choice questions and cross out those that can't be right before choosing an answer.
- **Use extra time to review** answers and check for careless mistakes.

Exercise is brain-building

Getting regular exercise is vital for your child's physical and mental health. And studies show it boosts children's alertness and memory, too. To add exercise to your child's life in fun ways:

- **Start family traditions** that include physical activity, such as taking a hike every weekend.
- **Perk up chores.** Play upbeat music or race to finish the job.
- **Include your child** in your own exercise activity, such as jogging or stretching.

Source: A. McPherson and others, "Physical activity, cognition and academic performance," *BMC Public Health.*

Help make schoolwork work

Schoolwork should be a priority for your child. If your student can't finish assignments because of other activities, adjust the schedule to allow your child enough time to focus on the schoolwork. Also remember that assignments are meant to help students practice skills. Your child's best effort, not perfect work, is the goal.



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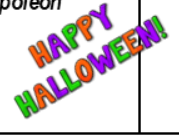
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October 2025



Breakfast served daily from 8:05 - 8:25 am. Milk and salad bar served every day with lunch. Menu subject to change.
Families are welcome for lunch — please make prior arrangements with the office.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 Sack Lunch ~~~~~~~~~~ ***School Picture Day*** 	2 Chicken Nuggets Hashbrowns ~~~~~~~~~~ ***VB @ Medina 4:30*** ***(JH, C, JV & Varsity)***	3 Tacos	4 ***CC @ Grand Rapids*** ***C Squad VB @ Carrington***
5 ***St. Mary's Catholic Church Chicken Dinner 11:30—1:30 @ Medina Legion Hall*** 	6 Hamburger Hotdish Green Beans ~~~~~~~~~~ ***JH VB @ Carrington 4:30***	7 Knoephla Soup Sandwiches ~~~~~~~~~~ ***Elem BBB @ Medina 4:30*** ***VB @ Wishek 3:30*** ***(JH, C, JV & Varsity)***	8 Chicken Wings Sidewinder Potatoes ~~~~~~~~~~ ***FFA District Leadership @ Tappen***	9 Chicken Alfredo w/ Pasta Peas ~~~~~~~~~~ ***Elem BBB @ Hazelton 4:30*** ***VB @ Medina 4:30*** ***(JH, C, JV & Varsity)***	10 Tator Tot Ole' ~~~~~~~~~~ ***CVHU Flu Shot Clinic & Student Vision Screenings*** ***Just Say No Club 2:45*** ***FFA meeting 7:00 PM***	11 ***CC @ Cooperstown*** 
12 	13 Bacon Cheeseburgers Baked Beans ~~~~~~~~~~ ***School Board mtg. 7:15am*** ***Parent-Teacher Conferences 1:30-7:30*** ***Students dismissed @ 1:15***	14 Tomato Soup Grilled Cheese ~~~~~~~~~~ ***CC @ Washburn 4:30*** ***Elem BBB @ Medina 4:30*** ***VB @ Steele 4:00*** ***(JH, C, JV & Varsity)***	15 Sweet & Sour Chicken Rice. ~~~~~~~~~~ ***Bookmobile*** ***Early dismissal @ 1:15 for Professional Development***	16 ***NO SCHOOL*** *Educators conferences*	17 ***NO SCHOOL*** *Educators conferences*	18
19	20 Tator Tot Hotdish Green Beans ~~~~~~~~~~ ***Elem BBB @ Medina 4:00*** ***VB @ New Rockford 5:00*** ***(C, JV & Varsity)***	21 Chili Garlic Toast Cottage Cheese ~~~~~~~~~~ ***Elem BBB @ Ashley 4:30*** ***VB @ Medina 5:00*** ***(C, JV & Varsity)*** ****Senior/Parents Night****	22 Pizza Corn 	23 Sub Sandwiches Chips ~~~~~~~~~~ ***Elem BBB @ Medina 4:30***	24 Chicken Wraps ~~~~~~~~~~ ***State CC @ Jamestown/Parkhurst***	25 
26 	27 Chicken Pot Pie Pasta Breadstick ~~~~~~~~~~ ***JH GBB practice begins*** ***Elem BBB @ Medina 4:30***	28 Chicken Noodle Soup Sandwiches ~~~~~~~~~~ ***Elem BBB @ Medina 4:30***	29 Pork Chops Rice Pilaf	30 Stuffed Baked Potato w/ Ham & Cheese	31 Dakota Nachos ~~~~~~~~~~ ***Volleyball Districts @ Napoleon*** 	

** Just Say No Club ** Red Ribbon Week **
** National FFA Convention, Indianapolis **

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We enter to learn,
We leave to achieve.

Title 1 Informational Meeting for Parents/Guardians

There will be a meeting to provide information about Medina Public School's Schoolwide Title 1 program at 5:00 pm in the Library during Parent Teacher Conferences on Oct. 13th.

If you are unable to attend, please feel free to take home the informational handouts that will be available in the lunchroom.



Medina Public School

October 13, 2025

1:30 - 7:30 PM