Pine City Public School District Newsletter

April Edition

April 2026

320-629-4000 * ISD578.ORG * @ISD_578

Welcome to Pine City Public Schools!

Find the Latest News for the District on our website at www.isd578.org with new posts each week highlighting our students, staff and the great things happening in Dragon Territory!

#DragonPride
#RollDragons

Pine City High School

2025-26 Yearbook

Go Dragons!

Order Here!

www.tinyurl.com/pchsyearbook2025-26

Spring is Here!

It's been a busy start to the spring season here for our Dragon students, teachers and families. Many enjoyed some time away over spring break, while others endured the flip-flopping Minnesota weather we always seem to have in the move from March to April.

The final two months of the school year there are busy at all building levels. MCA Testing, Field Trips, Sports Activites, Band & Choir Concerts, Prom, Spring Play, Field Day... the list goes on! While these special moments are always a fun and exciting addition to the year, this is a good time to remind everyone that you are a student first - keep studying hard and completing those assignments. Stay focused and you'll be ready for success to complete the school year right!

Speaking of field trips... Registration has opened for a Como Zoo Field Trip through Pine City Early Childhood. Check out the details and be sure to register soon!

Use this QR Code or Click this Link to register for Como Zoo:



We Are HIRING

APPLY NOW

Do you know someone who would be a good addition to Pine City Schools? New postings have been listed for the upcoming school year through our Frontline Jobs Board. Learn more at isd578.org

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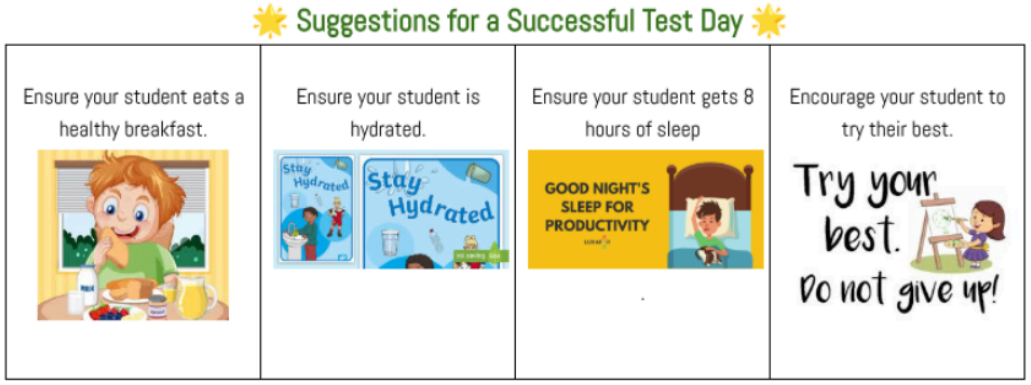
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Upcoming Events

- **School Board Meeting**
  Monday, 4/20 - 6:30-8:00pm
  HS Boardroom
- **School Board Meeting**
  Monday, 5/18 - 6:30-8:00pm
  HS Boardroom
- **Graduation**
  Friday, 5/29
  HS Gym

Upcoming: MCA Testing

The Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCAs) are next week! These are state standardized tests for many Minnesota Grades. Our Testing Taskforce has sent out all the information they have available to our dragon families. Still, if you want to know more, we have many resources listed on our website.



For more information regarding testing, strategies, and morning of tips, visit our website: *isd578.org > Menu > Departments > Teaching and Learning > Assessment Page*

East Central Career Fair

Tuesday, April 14th
12:00PM - 2:00PM

Pine City Public Schools will be a participating as an employer booth at the upcoming East Central Career Fair! Held at the Pine City Pizza Pub, this is a free, in-person career fair designed to connect job seekers in east-central Minnesota with local employers who are actively hiring. The event also offers free resume review services and one-on-one support to help attendees increase their chances of employment.

CareerForce
EAST CENTRAL CAREER FAIR



Elementary News

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Upcoming Events at Elementary School

- **MCA Testing**
  April 13-17 & 20-24 & 27-30
- **PTO Fun Run**
  Friday, 5/1
  Elementary Track
- **Science Fair**
  Tuesday, 5/5 - 8:00-3:00
  Elementary Auditorium Gym
- **Science Fair**
  Wednesday, 5/6 - 8:00-12:00
  Elementary Auditorium Gym
- **Band Concert**
  Thursday 5/7 - 6:30PM
  High School Auditorium
- **Choir Concert**
  Tuesday 5/12 - 6:30PM
  High School Auditorium
- **Field Day**
  Friday, 5/15
  High School Track
- **Reward Day**
  Friday, 5/15
  Elementary Track

Music in Our Schools Thank You!

As an end to Music in our Schools Month in March, Pine City Elementary welcomed Rolf and Carrie Erdahl. Both are professional musicians and travel to area schools to present music programs. Pine City was selected as a location this year thanks to a personal connection with Ms. Ada Erdahl, our junior high & 6th grade band director. The program on Mozart and instrument families was presented to grades K-4. Rolf plays string bass and Carrie plays oboe.



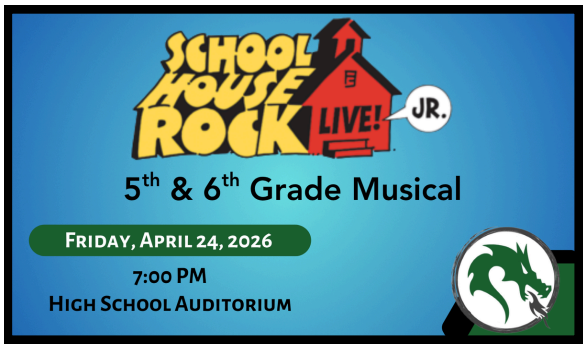




One Night Only - School House Rock Live, Jr.

The last 3 months a group of 5th & 6th grade students have been meeting after school two days a week and rehearsing their lines, songs and choreography in preparation for their musical, "School House Rock Live, Jr.". One public performance will be held on Friday, April 24th at 7:00 PM.

Tickets for the show are $5 for adults. All Pine City elementary and high school students can see the show for free! Tickets will be available at the door, no advance tickets will be sold. Doors open for seating at 6:30 PM.





Open Media Center

Students are invited to Open Media Center! Students can read a book, play a game or work on any activities available in the Media Center.

Upcoming dates: Thursdays - April 16 & 23. Each class is $5. Must register individually for each class.
Use this link to visit the registration page.

High School News

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Upcoming Events at High School

- **Spring Play Performances**
  4/10 & 4/11 7:00 PM & 4/12 2:00PM
  High School Auditorium
- **MCA Testing**
  April 14 & 16
  May 5-8
- **JH Choir Pops Concert**
  Thursday 4/30 - 7:00PM
  High School Auditorium
- **Prom 2026 - Grand March**
  Saturday, 5/2 - 5:00PM
  High School Auditorium
- **7-12 Band Pops Concert**
  Monday 5/4 - 7:00PM
  High School Auditorium
- **HS Scholarships Awards Ceremony**
  Monday 5/11 - 7:00PM
  High School Auditorium
- **SH Choir Pops Concert**
  Thursday 5/14 - 7:00PM
  High School Auditorium

June Driver's Education Class Available



The State of Minnesota requires that all newly licensed drivers under the age of 18 complete 30 hours of classroom instruction and six hours of behind the wheel instruction, before they are granted a driver's license. In addition, the state requires that prospective drivers pass a written test before a permit to receive behind the wheel instruction is granted.

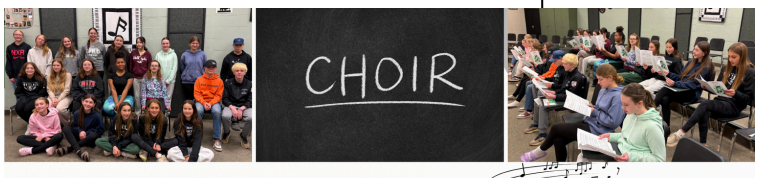
A June Driver's Ed Class will be offered this year and registration will open on April 15th through the website. Learn more at isd578.org/page/drivers-education

All of the classes will be held in
7th Grade House Commons at the High School

Schedule is subject to changes

Monday, June 8th	8:00 - 11:00 AM
Tuesday, June 9th	8:00 - 11:00 AM
Wednesday, June 10th	8:00 - 11:00 AM
Thursday, June 11th	8:00 - 11:00 AM
Friday,June 12th	8:00 - 11:00 AM
Monday, June 22nd	8:00 - 11:00 AM
Tuesday, June 23rd	8:00 - 11:00 AM
Wednesday, June 24th	8:00 - 11:00 AM
***Wednesday, June 24th Parent meeting 6:00 -8:00 PM**	
Thursday, June 25th	8:00 - 11:00 AM
Friday, June 26th	8:00 - 11:00 AM

**There will be a free/optional supplemental parent class in the 7th Grade House of the High School on Wednesday, June 24th 6:00-8:00 pm.



Junior High Choir Pops Concert
Thursday, April 30
7:00 PM
Pine City High School



7-12 Band Pops Concert
Monday, May 4
7:00 PM
Pine City High School

Upcoming Events

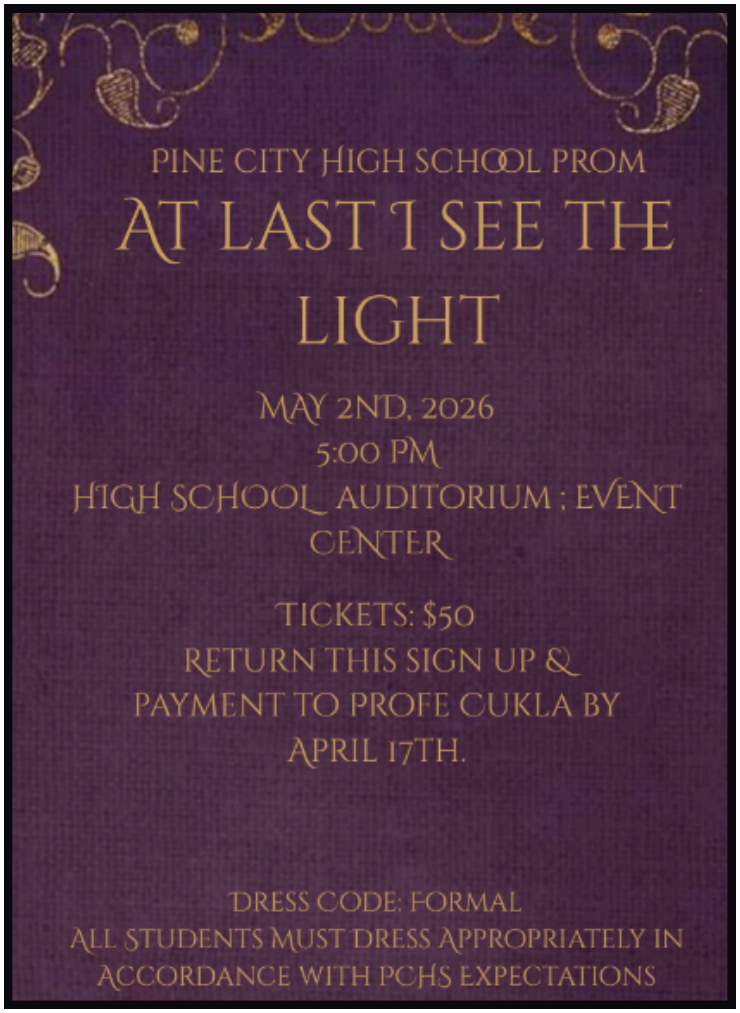
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Prom 2026: At Last I See The Light

There is only 1 more week to sign up for Prom 2026! Deadline for sign-up will be Friday, April 17. Students should turn in their completed forms to Profe Cukla. Once you have turned in your sign up form & payment ($50/person), you will be able to select your table number and dinner preference.



Post Prom Parent Volunteers!



Deja Mettling & Melanie Bloomquist will be leading the planning for Post-Prom Activities this year. Parents interested in being part of the planning or volunteering should call/text Melanie at 320-296-0536.

Grand March for Prom 2026: A New Location

This year, we are breaking tradition for the Grand March of our Prom-goers! With a lengthy pros & cons list for both locations, the Junior Board decided on hosting this year's Grand March in the **High School Auditorium**!



Tickets will go on sale on April 20th and be available at the High School Reception Window. Due to the new space, there is a limit to how many we can seat in the auditorium. We ask that families try to limit about 3 tickets per family. Tickets will still be based on a first come, first serve basis.

Class of 2026 Graduation Reminders

There are many important dates coming up for Seniors! Luckily, Mrs. Foster and Mrs. Dennis have sent out all of these dates in a letter - one likely also found in your Google Classroom! Keep an eye out for those dates, and don't be afraid to ask questions!



Upcoming Events

April Edition

April 2026

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PINE CITY ELEMENTARY

FREE SUMMER MEALS PROGRAM

NO COST. NO SIGN-UP. JUST SHOW UP!

This summer, all kids and teens 18 years and under can enjoy FREE healthy meals at Pine City Elementary!

Monday - Thursday
11:00 AM - 12:00 PM
Meals must be eaten on site

June 15th - July 2nd
Closed June 19th
Enter at Main Door #1

QUESTIONS?
Contact: Carrie Staples 629-4167 or cstaples@isd578.org

Fuel your summer with good food and great vibes. Spread the word!

This institution is an equal opportunity provider

Summer is coming....

The snow finally melted and spring in starting to sprout through as the green grass is making an appearance and with its arrival comes the final quarter of the school year where our Dragon Families begin looking for activities for their students to enjoy during the summer months.

Food Service Director, Carrie Staples has shared that the FREE summer meals program will be held once again this year, but noted that all meals will be offered at ONLY the elementary school. Check out the flyer here for all the details!

SAFESITTER

The Safe Sitter® course is committed to increasing the number of young teens who can be safe babysitters. That includes caring for younger siblings. And young teens who can be safe babysitters also learn how to safely and confidently stay home alone!

Safe Sitter® is a one-day course founded by pediatrician, Dr. Patricia Keener. It is a course designed for 11-14 year olds that teaches the skills young teens need to safely care for children from infant through school age. It also includes CPR and Rescue Breathing. The course is taught by Welia Health staff.

What:	Safe Sitter® Class (for ages 11-14)
When:	Wednesday, June 10
Where:	Pine City Elementary School - Media Center *(This is a NEW LOCATION from previous years. Please enter door #24. This is the door near the Media Center/Auditorium)*
Time:	9:00am-2:30pm (Parents are invited at 2:30pm for a short program)
Fee:	$35.00

No lunch will be provided so please send a lunch/snack/beverage with your child. There is no refrigerator available so please plan accordingly.

REGISTER NOW

There is a two-step registration process:

Step #1 - Register on isd578.ce.eleyo.com
- Click on "Start Exploring" then "Youth Enrichment". *If you have not used Eleyo before, you will need to create a password when registering. Please remember this password as this will be used when registering for future classes/sports/events etc.*

Step #2 - Print important paperwork to fill out and bring to class.
- The Safe Sitter® Registration Form AND Safe Sitter® Student Contract will be emailed to you 2-weeks prior to class . These two forms **MUST** be filled out and brought to class in order to participate.

Register For the Safe Sitter Class using this QR Code Or Click this LINK

Calender & Activity Pages

Use This Link to get the most up to date schedules for all sports and more events!

Community Ed Events

The STEAM CLUB

Students in grades 3-4 are invited to participate in **The STEAM CLUB.** Each session will provide new challenges that will allow students to be creative, work together in teams, learn new skills and have fun. This is a chance for your child to engage in Science, Technology, Engineering, Art or Math activities integrated with a lot of creativity!



Grades 3-4
Mondays -March 30, April 13, 20, 27
Class Times Vary-See Below
Class Fees Vary-See Below
Elementary School - Room #185 (Art Room)
Please enter in the band/choir door #16. This is located on the west side of the school near the basketball hoops.
Instructor: Mrs Blake

Each class has a different theme so sign up for as many as you would like! MUST register for each class individually. *Please note: some classes have different fees and times.*

March 30 - Fizzy Art ($10) 4:30-5:30
Painting with unique elements.

April 13 - Straw Rockets ($10) 4:30-5:30
Create a rocket and then measure how far it can fly!

SCIENCE TECHNOLOGY ENGINEERING ARTS MATHEMATICS

April 20 - Paper Tower Challenge ($10) 4:30-5:30
Using paper and tape and lots of imagination, create the tallest tower. Then create a tower that can support the most weight.

April 27- Paper Circuits ($15) 4:00-5:30
Students will learn about the basics of electricity and create a card that lights up. We will be using copper tape, which can be sharp. Students need to be able to listen and follow directions.

The STEAM CLUB

Students in grades 1-2 are invited to participate in **The STEAM CLUB.** Each session will provide new challenges that will allow students to be creative, work together in teams, learn new skills and have fun. This is a chance for your child to engage in Science, Technology, Engineering, Art or Math activities integrated with a lot of creativity!



Grades 1-2
Mondays - May 4, 11
4:30-5:30pm
$10 per class
Elementary School - Room #185 (Art Room)
Please enter in the band/choir door #16. This is located on the west side of the school near the basketball hoops.
Instructor: Mrs Blake

Each class has a different theme so sign up for as many as you would like! MUST register for each class individually.

May 4 -Mini Launchers
We will create mini launchers and then launch pom-poms, marshmallows, and other things. Which items go the farthest? Which items don't go very far? What's the science behind the launch?

May 11 - Zippidy Zoo
Using a variety of items such as raisins, toothpicks and feathers, students will create animals for their make-believe zoo. Students should bring a shoe box for this activity.

Please register online at isd578.ce.eleyo.com
(Must pre-register. Each class is limited to 18 students so please register early!)

Click on "Start Exploring" to view current classes. You will need to create a password when registering. Please remember your password as this will be used when registering for any upcoming Community Ed classes, youth sports, elementary choir etc.

Questions about the classes? Contact Mrs. Blake 320-629-4244 or jblake@isd578.org
Questions about registration? Contact Teresa Plasek 320-629-4030 or tplasek@isd578.org

The Pine Area Lions invite you to join us for

RUSTIC NIGHTS & TWINKLE LIGHTS

Daddy Daughter Dance

FRIDAY, MAY 8, 2026
6:30 - 9:00 PM



Pine County Fairgrounds Event Center
Kindergarten - 6th Grade
$35 per couple
$5 each additional girl

Hosted by the Pine Area Lions
Advance Registration Requested
by Monday, May 4th

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME

Pine City Public Library
Fridays through May 8*
10:00-10:45 am

ECFE EARLY CHILDHOOD FAMILY EDUCATION

east central regional library

Storytime is every Friday and continues though the end of the school year at the Pine City Public Library. We welcome you and your child for stories, songs and a creative art project. Come for one or all sessions. If Pine City Public Schools(PCPS) are closed due to weather, Storytime will be cancelled. If PCPS has a 2 hour late start, Storytime will still be on.

There is no cost or pre-registration.

**No Storytime On Feb 27, Mar 27, Apr 3*

Summer is coming!

The Dragon Wagon will be rolling once again this summer. If you'd like more information about the Dragon Wagon visiting your Child Care Center this summer, email adilts@isd578.org

Community Ed Events

Use This Link to for the latest information for Adult and Youth Classes in Pine City!

Community Ed Events

Pickleball

Pine City Area Pickleball in partnership with Pine City Community Education is offering two Friday evening pickleball classes!

Do you know Pickleball is the fastest growing sport in the USA? It is fun and easy to learn! It is also a great way to meet new people and become engaged in our community!

If you'd like to see what this popular sport is all about or already know the sport and just love to play, you now have a choice between two sessions.

- Adult players only please!
- All equipment is provided including high end demo paddles thanks to the Partner's in Healthy Living grant.
- Participants should wear comfortable clothing and gym shoes

OPTION 1 **6:00-7:00pm**
Beginners, Newer and Low Intensity Players*
For beginner players who want to give the sport a try.
Beginner players may request two free classes.

OPTION 2 **7:00-9:00pm Open Play (Any Level)***
Players are encouraged to group themselves on the courts with players at their level or play down so that all players have the opportunity to play.

Dates: Most Fridays February 6-May 29
Available dates are communicated through PlayTime Scheduler. When school is not in session, evening Pickleball is NOT played. Please see a detailed schedule at www.playtimescheduler.com

Location:
Pine City Elementary Multi *(enter in the main entrance of the elementary school and turn right. The multi door will be on the left.)*

Player Fee:
$5 per class paid to volunteer PCAP instructors.
Please bring exact change or check payable to PC Comm Ed.
*Please see below for details how to register for each class.

***Reserve your times to play using the free app PlayTime Scheduler or online at www.playtimescheduler.com.**
You will find us listed under USA, MN, and lastly Pine City Area. Both classes cap out at 18 players. Priority will be given to those registering in advance using PlayTime Scheduler. Walk-ins will be taken when space allows. All players are required to sign a liability waiver. Please direct any question you may have to pickleball.pinecity@gmail.com or call Janet at 612-390-6928.
PCAP reserves the right to cancel sessions when there are insufficient sign ups in PlayTime scheduler, conflicts for instructors or inclement weather.

Precision Driving Center | 55+ Driver Discount Program

Any driver 55 and older are invited to take the Driver Improvement class through the Precision Driving Center. This course will save you 10% on your auto insurance for three years. (Prior to taking the class, please confirm with your insurance company that they honor this discount.) There are no written or behind the wheel tests. NEW: The Refresher AND Beginner Classes are now both four hour classes. Classes are offered in-person or as an online self paced course or a virtual meeting. Please contact www.stcloudstate.edu/precisiondrivingcenter/ and click on "55+ Driver Discount Program" to start an online class or call 1-888-234-1294 to reserve your seat in an in-person or virtual class.

Tues Apr 21	**9:00am-1:00pm**	**High School Boardroom**	**$24**
Tues Apr 21	**5:00pm-9:00pm**	**Elementary Media Center**	**$24**
Tues May 19	**9:00am-1:00pm**	**High School Boardroom**	**$24**

YOGA

Beginner-Intermediate (Ages 16+)

Join us for a yoga practice suitable for both beginners and those with some yoga experience. This class focuses on building a foundation in yoga poses while progressing through more challenging poses and sequences. Classes will work to enhance mobility, balance and strength.

Whether you're new to yoga or looking to deepen your understanding and refine your practice, this class offers a supportive environment to explore and grow.

What to bring: comfortable clothing, water bottle, yoga mat and an open mind.

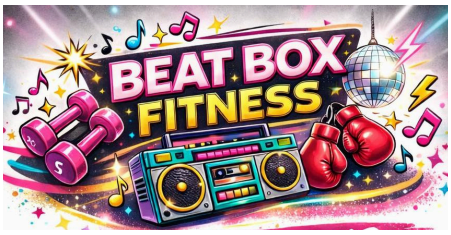
Thursdays
5:00-6:00pm

Mar 5,19 *(no class Mar 12 and Mar 26)*
April 2,9,16,23



Elementary School-Media Center (Enter main front door, watch for signs)

$10 per class
No pre-registration required, drop-in works best with everyone's busy schedules! *(please bring exact change or check payable to P.C. Comm Ed)*



THURSDAYS:
April 2, 9, 16 & 23
6:00 - 6:45 PM

Instructor:
Amy Miller

A NEW Beat Box Fitness Class has kicked off this month! A mix of cardio, weights, and dance all mixed into one! It is a fun way to get in shape, meet new people and have lots of fun doing it! Class size is limited, PRE-REGISTRATION is required. $7 per class.

Community Ed Events

Use This Link to for the latest information for Adult and Youth Classes in Pine City!

Pine Dragons PTO

The Pine Dragons PTO is organized for the purpose of supporting the education of children at Pine City Schools by fostering relationships among the school, parents, and staff members. All parents and guardians who have a child within Pine City Schools are members of the PTO.

Stay connected to the PTO on Facebook or through the website at: http://isd578.org/page/pto





The PTO organized two successful fundraisers last month that will benefit the students of Pine City elementary.

The Annual "Fun Run" Fundraiser set a goal to raise just $5,000 this year. Dragon families knocked that goal out of the park and a total of $10,277.77 was raised.

Also held last month was the McTeacher Night where staff and PTO volunteers worked at McDonald's. A total of $1,376.62 was raised.

Several additional volunteer opportunities are on the horizon with Pine Dragons PTO in the coming months as the school year winds down. Reach out to the them by completing this Volunteer Form using the Google Form. Link or QR Code is available here ---------- >



Fill Out a Google Form to be a volunteer! QR Code Or LINK