

August 7, 2023

To: Spectrum Community

Re: Important Updates

Only two weeks until Open House and 21 days until the first day of school! Please review the following important information and plan accordingly.

OPEN HOUSE – Thursday, August 24

What time should I attend Open House on Thursday, August 24th?

*Students whose last name begins with A-M should plan to attend Open House 4:00–5:45 p.m.

*Students whose last name begins with N-Z should plan to attend Open House 5:45–7:30 p.m.

Reminder: Those who would like to get a head start and avoid the long lines for pictures at Open House are welcome to join us for pictures at the high school building only on August 17 for our NEW (optional) pre-Open House picture opportunity.

Here are a number of the things happening at Open House: (1) walk through student schedules to find classrooms and meet teachers; (2) find and fill lockers; (3) have school pictures taken; (4) try food from CKC Good Food, (6) get transportation questions answered; (7) meet coaches and ask questions about activities/athletics; (8) reconnect with friends and families; and (9) meet our Volunteer Coordinator and pick up clothing orders.

You won't want to miss it!



FALL ATHLETICS REGISTRATION

Registration for Fall Athletics can be found [HERE](#).

Questions about registration should be sent to athletics@spectrumhighschool.org.

FALL (REQUIRED) SPORTS MEETING – MONDAY, AUGUST 7 – 6:30 P.M. IN THE HIGH SCHOOL GYM

All students and one parent/guardian must attend this meeting if interested in participating in any of the following activities: football (grades 7-12), volleyball (7-12), cross country (7-12), clay target (7-12), boys or girls' soccer (7-12), middle school football (6-8) or middle school girls' volleyball (6-8). This is a great opportunity to learn about the team, meet the coaches, and discover if the sport is right for you! Those not attending the mandatory meeting will need to successfully complete and return a quiz before they can register for fall sports.



STUDENT SCHEDULES – AUGUST 14

Student schedules will be available on Parent Portal on Monday, August 14. A communication will be sent out from the School Counselors. High school students who need corrections made to their schedule (due to gaps in schedules, missing classes to meet graduation requirements, etc.) will then be able to sign up for a time to connect with their School Counselor.

SUPPLY LISTS

Supply Lists for Middle School and High School students are available on the website [HERE](#).

BUSING – BUS STOP INFORMATION WILL BE AVAILABLE ON MONDAY, AUGUST 21

Northstar Busing is busy creating bus routes for Spectrum students. Bus stop information will be available on Parent Portal on Monday, August 21. Northstar will be available at Open House, August 24 under the big tent. Bus stops are only able to be created after the transportation form is submitted through the Online Registration process in Infinite Campus.

SPECTRUM GEAR ORDERS @ OPEN HOUSE

A great way to show your school spirit is to order some Spectrum gear and clothing in advance. The online school store that closed on July 28 should be available at Open House for pick up! A new order opportunity will open at Open House.



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES @ SPECTRUM

Spectrum is a great place to work and we are looking to add people to our team! Please review the open positions below and consider applying [here](#) or forwarding to someone who you feel would be a good addition to Spectrum. Feel free to contact us for more information.

Position	Description	Contact
Paraprofessional	Work with an amazing group of special education teachers to service the needs of individual or small groups of students. This is a great job for parents looking for a schedule that matches your Spectrum student(s).	Dan DeBruyn, Executive Director, @ ddebruyn@spectrumhighschool.org
Maintenance Technician	This is a <u>full-time benefits eligible</u> position with primarily daytime hours and occasional evenings or weekends to help cover special events. Will perform routine building and grounds maintenance, general cleaning, special event preparation, and ensure a clean and safe school environment. Performs routine maintenance and repairs and uses a variety of indoor/outdoor tools and mechanical equipment. Must have a strong mechanical ability, detailed cleaning skills, good time management, and demonstrated background working well with others.	Rick Peterson, Facilities Director, at rpeterson@spectrumhighschool.org
Girl's Middle School Volleyball Coach	Looking to hire a Middle School girls' volleyball coach for the fall 2023 season. Begins August 21.	Rick Peterson, Activities Director, at rpeterson@spectrumhighschool.org
Physical Education Teacher	This is a full-time licensed Physical Education teacher opening, currently in the 6 th grade building. Adaptive license preferred. Health license helpful.	Dan DeBruyn, Executive Director, @ ddebruyn@spectrumhighschool.org
Concessions Coordinator	Part-time. Begins August 21.	Rick Peterson, Activities Director, at rpeterson@spectrumhighschool.org



INFINITE CAMPUS ONLINE REGISTRATION REQUIRED (ALL RETURNING FAMILIES)

All families with students RETURNING for the 2023-2024 school year MUST complete the Annual Update in Infinite Campus. This will include verifying demographic information and requesting transportation. This NEW streamlined process keeps all information in one place and ensures families complete all necessary information for each student for the upcoming school year. All families (including returning students) requesting transportation (busing) for a student must complete this process.



NEW SCHOOL BREAKFAST/LUNCH PROGRAM

As you may have heard, the Minnesota legislature passed a new law in the spring of 2023 requiring all schools that receive federal funding through the free and reduced meal program to make available free breakfast and free lunch for all students. Spectrum is continuing to make plans for the implementation of these new requirements. This will require significant logistical changes for the Spectrum food service program.

Spectrum will be working with a new caterer this year, **CKC Good Food (CKC)**, to increase our capacity from approximately 200 lunches and no breakfast daily to serving up to 900 breakfasts and lunch daily. CKC is anxious to work with Spectrum and will be introducing themselves at Open House on Thursday, August 24th, where they will be serving samples of their menu items to students and families under the big tent.

While all meals will be free to students, in order to receive a free breakfast or lunch, families will be required to complete a meal order monthly for each student. This will allow Spectrum to order the correct number of meals and ensure meals are available for their students. **Order forms will be going out later this week.**



School breakfast will be brand new to Spectrum and there are many logistics to serving 900 students in a 25 minute timeframe with a cafeteria that accommodates a much smaller number of students at one time. Northstar will be aiming to have buses arrive at school between 7:10-7:20 a.m. to accommodate those interested in eating breakfast. School buildings will continue to open at 7:00 a.m. with school starting at 7:25 a.m. Breakfast will be available 7:00-7:20 a.m. Car riders interested in eating breakfast should plan accordingly.

EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS/FREE AND REDUCED APPLICATION

While all school meals will be free to all students starting this school year, Spectrum highly encourages all families who qualify for free and reduced benefits under the federal guidelines to continue filling out the application and submitting it prior to the start of the school year. Note: A new application must be submitted each year. The updated Educational Benefits Application will be available soon on the school website [HERE](#).

Here a handful of additional benefits for families, their students, and the school when qualifying families complete and submit their applications:

- Spectrum receives government grant funding based on the number of attending students who qualify for free and reduced benefits. This funding can be \$30,000-\$50,000 and helps to pay for staffing of courses that serve the needs of students performing below grade level. Other federal grants are often tied to these applications.
- Families who qualify for free and reduced benefits (based on the completed applications) have access to discounted fees on school-related field trips and activities.
- Other low cost or free opportunities may include fees for certain types of educational testing.

IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

Monday, August 7th (6:30 p.m. @ High School Building) – Fall (mandatory) Sports Meeting

Thursday, August 17th (morning @ 6th Grade and High School Buildings) – 6th and 9th Grade Orientations. Specifics will be sent by email to 6th and 9th grade families before orientation.

Thursday, August 17th (3:00-6:30 p.m. @ 6th Grade Building) – Instrument Selection Night for Beginning Band

Thursday, August 17th (3-7 p.m. @ High School Building) – NEW this year. (Optional) Pre-Open House Picture Opportunity. Avoid long lines at Open House and consider having your student's picture taken early (for grades 6-12)! Pictures will still be available to be taken at Open House.

Thursday, August 24th (evening @ all buildings) – Open House

Monday, August 28th – First Day of School (Starts at 7:25 a.m. All students will start in Advisory and receive their Chromebooks)

