



Minnesota Guild of Public Charter Schools

*Single-purpose authorizer of chartered
schools in Minnesota*

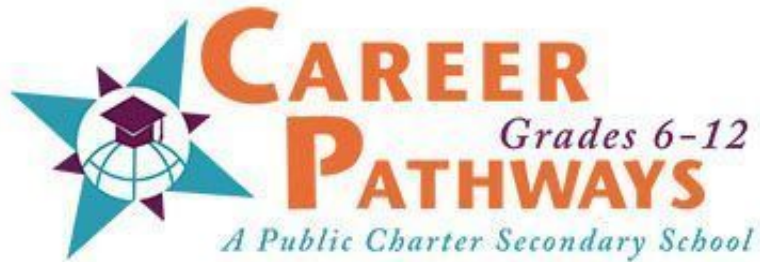
<https://www.guildschools.org>



Director's Post Jim Zacchini

I know what a busy season it is for everyone... testing, wrapping up this academic year, and looking to the next, so I'll keep this brief. I want to thank Career Pathways, our spotlight feature school this month (and Exploration last month), for allowing us to highlight their engaging experiential and PBL work respectively. I wanted to take a moment to invite you all to share with [Debbie](#) and [me](#) directly other excellent examples of the work you do every day. We truly wish this newsletter to be both informative as regards news and key dates, and a resource for celebrating and sharing success.

School Spotlight



What is Experiential Learning?

Experiential learning is an **engaged learning process whereby students “learn by doing” and by reflecting on the experience.**

Opportunities for students to engage intellectually, creatively, emotionally, socially, or physically.



EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING

Career Pathways is introducing Experiential Learning Wednesdays! Learning can take place within school AND outside in the community. Moving forward, for the remainder of the school year, Career Pathways Staff and Students will be headed out in the community!

Every Wednesday we will have planned outings / field trips that you can sign-up for. From Museums to Amusement Parks! Students can earn different credits based on their reflections of

the outing!

<https://cpathmn.org/college-tour-experiential-wednesday/>

News, Updates, and Key Dates

- **May 1-31st ~ Mental Health Awareness Month**
- **May 3rd - National Teacher Appreciation Day**
- **May 5th - Setting SMART Goals for WBWF Training** ~ Description: Provide participants with an overview of what SMART Goals are, strategies for developing SMART goals, and a clear articulation of how SMART Goals can be used to achieve a World's Best Workforce. Essential Details: Before the workshop, all registrants will receive a Microsoft Teams calendar invite via the email address provided in the registration form.

To register: <https://survey.alchemer.com/s3/6479128/Registration-Form-Setting-SMART-Goals-for-WBWF-05-05-22>

- **May 8th - National Charter Schools Week**
- **May 13th Charter School Finance Board Training** ~ This online, self-led course explores the 3 basic responsibilities of a board relative to charter school finances. Participants will learn about the financial resources available for chartered public schools. They will learn the board's role in seeking and ensuring adequate resources; its responsibilities for financial management and oversight; and how to ensure accountability to the citizens of Minnesota for the public funds that have been entrusted to the board.

To register: <https://www.mncharterschools.org/calendar/calendar-detail.php?ID=8466>

- **May 17: Honoring Our Differences and Shared Humanity** ~ The two speakers provide insight on critical issues impacting schools—in high-energy discussions, interviews with everyone in education from prominent researchers to classroom practitioners, and thoughtful analysis through an equity and justice lens. Engaging keynote speakers - Live student performances - Panel discussions with students and movement leaders - Breakout sessions by and for educators - Student-led roundtable discussions - Workshops on self-care and healing - Science Museum exhibit access - And more.

To register: <https://scl4e.org/>



National Deaf History Month

This awareness month runs through March and April because it recognizes three key, historical moments that impacted the deaf community. On March 13, 1988, the 'Deaf President Now' or DPN movement successfully campaigned for a deaf president to be installed at Gallaudet University. April 8 marks the anniversary of the founding of Gallaudet University, the only higher education institution for deaf and hard of hearing students. The university is named after Thomas Hopkins Gallaudet, an influential figure whose research and advocacy led to an improved educational system for deaf and hard of hearing children. Finally, April 15th commemorates the founding of the American School for the Deaf, one of the first public schools for deaf children.

There are countless ways hearing people can serve as allies to the deaf and hard of hearing community. First and most importantly, listen to the stories and experiences of deaf people. Deaf people have documented their experiences and should be the experts on how to help their community. Gallaudet University maintains a [list of books related to deaf history](#) and this is a great starting point to learn more about deaf history and culture.



Asian & Pacific-Island Heritage Month/Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month

<https://www.minneapolis.org/calendar/holidays/aapi-heritage-month/>

May 1 ~ May 31

According to the [Federal Asian Pacific American Council](#) (FAPAC), the theme for AAPI Heritage Month 2022 is “Advancing Leaders Through Collaboration.” The FAPAC encourages local and national governments to prioritize collaboration, development, diversity, transparency, and inclusion through leadership training of AAPI people. Why the Date of AAPI Heritage Month is Significant

The month of May [was chosen](#) for AAPI Heritage Month because it commemorates the immigration of the first Japanese people to the United States on May 7, 1843. May is also a significant month because it recognizes [Golden Spike Day](#), May 10, 1869, which marks the [completion of the transcontinental railroad](#) that was built with significant contributions from Chinese workers.

50 YEARS Celebrating Arbor Day
<https://www.arborday.org/>
April 29, 2022

In the last 50 years, the Arbor Day Foundation has planted and distributed nearly 500 million trees in more than 50 countries around the world to fight global issues facing humankind. And we're just getting started.

National Arbor Day is April 29, 2022. This year marks the 150th anniversary of the tree planter's holiday, and we're excited to celebrate with you! Below you will find information about Arbor Day events happening where you live as well as resources to help you plan a celebration in your community.

A GREENER FUTURE FOR EVERYONE

We plant trees because Tree Campus K-12 inspires the next generation of tree stewards through experiences that bring the benefits of trees to life both inside and outside the classroom. The program fosters positive connections between youth and the trees in their community and cultivates within its participants a lifelong respect for trees on a global scale. People need trees. And when planted in the right place, they have great impact. Trees help slow climate change, filter our air and water, foster biodiversity, and strengthen our communities. They create the kind of transformational change the world needs now. With your help, you can plant trees today for a better tomorrow.



<https://shop.arborday.org/campaign/general-donation>



The Coronavirus pandemic has drastically altered our lives. The uncertainty of these challenging times can cause stress, fear, anger, isolation, and ultimately impact our overall health and well-being. For people who already suffer from anxiety, depression

and other mental disorders, these emotions can become even more pronounced during a crisis of this magnitude.

Since [May is Mental Health Awareness Month](#), health organizations and affiliates throughout the country—notably Mental Health America and the National Alliance on Mental Illness—are increasing their efforts to bring awareness and educate the public through the media with campaigns and local events regarding mental illness and some of the stigmas and misconceptions that are often associated with it.

Mental Health Awareness Month began in the United States in 1949. According to the [National Alliance on Mental Illness](#) and the [National Institute of Mental Health](#), one in five Americans are affected by mental health issues. Some of these conditions include bipolar disorder, panic attacks, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder and schizophrenia. However, most of those at risk often fail to seek proper care and attention for a variety of reasons that range from lack of health insurance, fear, or embarrassment of their situation.

Each year millions of Americans face the reality of living with a mental illness. During May, NAMI Minnesota joins in the national movement to raise awareness about mental health by holding special presentations, author talks, classes, and more in our effort to fight discrimination, provide support, educate the public, and advocate for policies to help people with mental illnesses and their families.

“Surviving the War Against Myself”: A Presentation by Thomas Dunning

Thomas Dunning is a passionate mental health activist, fueled to break the discrimination that surrounds mental illness. Diagnosed with Borderline Personality Disorder, Social Anxiety Disorder and PTSD, Thomas is making it his mission to ensure that no one struggling with their mental health feels alone. As a mental health speaker, Thomas brings an authentic and passionate viewpoint to the topic and pushes the message of ‘healthy body, healthy mind’. Based in the UK, Thomas will be speaking about his own mental health journey as well as steps he has taken to help others. A certificate of attendance is available for this class and will be sent after you fill out the evaluation.

Monday, May 2, 1:00-2:00 PM

Registration Link:

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAscu-rqDwqHNEM5GX8MO_SNsIWiohQzWig



HISTORY OF NATIONAL TEACHER DAY

May 3, 2022

<https://nationaltoday.com/national-teachers-day/>

In 1953, Eleanor Roosevelt stood up to Congress in hopes of convincing them that teachers needed a day to be recognized for all that they do. Until that point, the celebration of the day wasn't clear. It's believed that some schools in certain states were already observing the day, but there wasn't a clear consensus and she wanted to make it official.

The National Education Association (NEA) in partnership with the Kansas State and Indiana State Boards of Education, lobbied Congress in order for the day to be recognized. Despite her best efforts, the first National Teacher Day didn't become an official national day until 1980.

At its inception, National Teacher Day was celebrated on March 7 until 1984 when it was moved to May. Thanks to the assistance of the National PTA, it evolved into Teacher Appreciation Week, giving teachers more time to bask in appreciation. A year later, the NEA established that the first Tuesday of the week would be National Teacher Appreciation Day.

Today, the official national day celebrates teachers by gift-giving and the showering of accolades from students and parents alike. The hashtags #TeacherAppreciationDay and #NationalTeachersDay are used on social media to show teachers making a difference to the world at large.

#TeacherAppreciationDay



#NationalTeachersDay



Vision & Mission

***Vision:** The Guild advances the original vision of the charter school model, in which teachers have the choice to professionally organize and work to create innovative, research-based schools that rely on teacher expertise to identify and use effective teaching strategies, promote engaged student learning, create professional autonomy, and ensure effective, shared responsibility for outcomes.*

***Mission:** As a single purpose authorizer, the Guild will improve the educational achievement of Minnesota students by advocating a systemic approach to charter school formation and operation that promotes stakeholder accountability, autonomy, and competence. The Guild authorizes and monitors charter schools in accordance with Minnesota Statutes section 124E. The Guild's charter school portfolio encompasses a variety of school types and populations served by educational programs in Minnesota,*

with a specific interest in schools that serve students most affected by the achievement gap and low graduation rates.

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