

PAPERMAKER NEWS

KIMBERLY AREA SCHOOL
DISTRICT NEWSLETTER

ISSUE NO. 15 | SPRING 2025

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EXPLORING POSSIBILITIES: CAREER PLANNING IN GRADES 5–8 AT KASD



At the Kimberly Area School District (KASD), we believe future success starts now. That's why career planning begins early, sparking curiosity in elementary school and gaining momentum through each grade.

In 5th and 6th grade, students dive into career clusters, learning how their interests and strengths connect to real-world paths. Career clusters are a helpful way for students to start thinking about which types of careers might match their strengths and interests.

As they grow in self-awareness, they begin to see where they might fit in tomorrow's workforce.

By 7th and 8th grade, career exploration becomes part of the weekly routine. Every Tuesday during TLC (homeroom), students use the Xello platform to take interest inventories, set goals, research careers, and reflect—all with support from dedicated TLC teachers.

Beyond the classroom, hands-on experiences help students bring learning to life. Whether it's a guest speaker, a project, or a career fair, these moments make abstract ideas feel real—and help students start narrowing their focus.

Students aren't navigating this alone. With guidance from educators and support from families, career planning becomes a shared journey. We invite parents to stay involved, ask questions, and encourage exploration at home.

Career planning isn't a one-time talk—it's a lifelong mindset. It begins early, grows with each student, and unlocks a world of opportunity. Learn more at bit.ly/KASDCareerPlanning.



FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT



Welcome to the spring edition of Papermaker News. As we move into the final stretch of the school year, it's the perfect time to recognize the achievements that set our district apart.

In this edition, you'll read about how our students continue to excel across academics, the arts, and athletics. Our career-focused programs are preparing students for real-world success, and our commitment to a well-rounded education remains strong.

We take pride in being the top academically performing district in the area and in earning recognition across the state for our achievements. This level of success would not be possible without the ongoing support of our community.

Thank you for your partnership; I'm proud of what we've accomplished together.

Sincerely,

Robert Mayfield, Ed.D.
Superintendent

KIMBERLY CULINARY STUDENTS TAKE CENTER STAGE AT NFL DRAFT EVENT



Twenty-seven talented Kimberly High School culinary students recently participated in a once-in-a-lifetime experience at the 2025 NFL Draft event *Taste of the Draft*, held April 23 in Green Bay. This high-profile event brought our students alongside nationally renowned chefs, NFL legends, and industry leaders for an unforgettable evening of food, football, and community impact.

A standout moment came when KHS senior Ava Hermes was introduced at the event's dinner by the Green Bay Packers Board and NFL staff, an honor she earned for her original salad. Ava's creation was one of only three dishes by Wisconsin high school students selected to be served at the event. This recognition highlights not only Ava's creativity and skill but also the exceptional talent within Kimberly's culinary program.



Ava Hermes

Thanks to the school's partnership with ProStart®, 27 students joined the team behind the scenes, helping prepare and serve dishes alongside celebrity chefs Andrew Zimmern, Mark Bucher, and Paul Bartolotta. The experience allowed them to sharpen their culinary skills while learning from some of the industry's top professionals.

"This is a class I started just four years ago and the amount of growth and opportunity we've seen has been amazing," said Culinary Teacher Olivia Koepke, who was recently named the 2025 Wisconsin ProStart Teacher of the Year. "From mentorships and competitions to working with James Beard chefs, ProStart has opened so many doors for our students."

ProStart's focus on hands-on experience and industry connections has made a powerful impact at Kimberly. With classroom instruction backed by real-world opportunities like *Taste of the Draft*, students are building skills and confidence that will carry them far.

Proceeds from *Taste of the Draft*, through nonprofit GENYOUth, will provide nutritious meals to Wisconsin children in need. To learn more, visit <https://bit.ly/tasteofthedraft2025>.



Olivia Koepke
KHS Culinary Teacher



Double the *Excellence*: KHS Students Earn Perfect ACT Scores

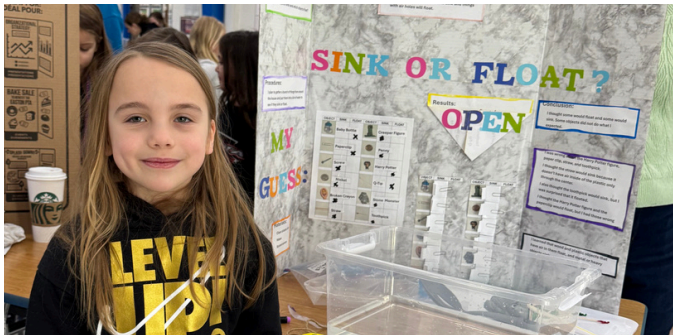


Noah Kluender Jackson Matz

Congratulations to Noah Kluender and Jackson Matz, Kimberly High School juniors, for receiving a perfect score on the ACT. What an incredible accomplishment! On average, fewer than half of 1% of students who take the ACT earn a top score, and we have TWO!

Science Sparks *Wonder* at Janssen Elementary Fair

Our young scientists at Janssen Elementary recently showcased their incredible research at this year's Science Fair! From erupting volcanoes to fascinating robotics, these K-4 students wowed the crowd with their curiosity and creativity. Check out the full recap on our website <https://bit.ly/JanssenScience25>.



Kimberly Choirs *Collaborate* with Disney Music Pros



Our Kimberly High School Choir students turned their Disney dreams into reality, mastering music workshops and even contributing to a Disney movie soundtrack! Students immersed themselves in a professional recording studio and received singing lessons from Disney's music professionals.

Moana Jr. Makes a *Splash* at JRG

Our talented middle school students took the stage for their spring musical, Moana Jr., delivering a series of outstanding performances. With two dynamic casts, each brought heart, humor, and energy to the beloved story.



Reading with the *Champs*

The state champion girls basketball team recently shared their love for reading with students at Woodland Elementary. It was an amazing opportunity for our high school students to ignite a passion for reading while setting a great example for the younger generation.





Kimberly Area School District
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BOARD OF EDUCATION

- Mary Pribbenow
- Tim Handrich
- Deb Roberts
- Kell Bales
- David Conrad
- Ammie Ebben
- Carrie Van Thiel

Upcoming meetings are scheduled for May 12, 2025, June 9, 2025 and July 14, 2025.

View upcoming meeting dates, agendas, and minutes online at www.kimberly.k12.wi.us.

NOW ENROLLING



4-YEAR-OLD & 5-YEAR-OLD KINDERGARTEN

- Highly Qualified Teachers
- 4K Morning and Afternoon Options
- A Strong Literacy Foundation
- Before/After Care Options
- Play-Based Learning

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FOR YOUR INFORMATION

ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

Welcome to the fifteenth edition of this publication from the Kimberly Area School District. Contact Jill Peeters, Marketing & Community Coordinator with questions or concerns at (920) 788-7900 or jpeeters@kimberly.k12.wi.us.

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FOR MORE INFORMATION

For information about KASD, visit our website, call our District Office or find us on facebook.

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