



**PRESCOTT'S CLASS OF 2020**

# CARDINAL CONNECTIONS

A PUBLICATION OF PRESCOTT SCHOOL DISTRICT - SPRING 2020

Highlights  
of this  
Edition

## EXTRAORDINARY TIMES, INNOVATIVE MEASURES, AND EVERYDAY HEROES

**Dr. Rick Spicuzza, Superintendent**

When the school year began on a sunny, September day in 2019, we could not have imagined the events that would transpire within the world and into our district. The words *unprecedented* and *unparalleled* accurately described our mission to make the transition from classroom to kitchen table, and continued to provide rich educational experiences.

Our entire staff worked behind the scenes anticipating the eventual mandated closure. Custodial staff cleaned tirelessly with extra procedures to disinfect learning areas on a daily basis, while food service took ancillary steps for safely preparing and serving meals. Educators collaborated on a building by building basis examining: What resources do we currently use that would make the transition seamless? What is the familiar technology that would support student lessons? How can we interact with students that would reflect the classroom experience? This included (MES) daily messages to families, (MIS) participating in clubs and making learning visible, (PMS) staff interacting with a spirit day and many programs, and (PHS) Mr. Fiege kicking off the closure with a two-week Cardinal Challenge to engage kids and get everyone accustomed to a wake-up schedule! Activities Director, Matt Smith, kept abreast of possible changes in activities and athletics, while coaches continued to interact with participants in a virtual manner.

Despite the adversities, our Food Service Team continues to prepare and distribute 3,960 meals per week, while the PSD Board of Education plans for the future of our district's facilities: providing safe and secure entrances at every building, and aligning learning spaces to our progressive academic programming.

Since March, we have all held roles in teaching, learning, sharing, listening and adapting with extraordinary efforts. We thank our staff, families and the community for their roles in creating a successful school year during these challenging times!

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**PSD's Extraordinary Year**



*Inspiring lifelong learners for future success...*

# CLASS OF 2020 **TOP TEN**

## VALEDICTORIAN



**ZACHARY KNEE**

**PARENTS:** Scott & Joni Knee  
**COLLEGE:** UW - Madison  
**MAJOR:** Biomedical Engineering

## SALUTATORIAN



**ANNA MERCORD**

**PARENTS:** Ron & Jennifer Mercord  
**COLLEGE:** UW - Madison  
**MAJOR:** Biomedical Engineering

## CLASS OF 2020 GRADUATION

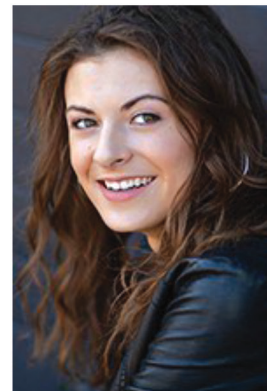
Friday, June 5 - Family Ceremony  
Details Communicated by Principal Fiege

### REMAINING TOP STUDENTS IN ALPHABETICAL ORDER:



**RILEY ANFINSON**

**PARENTS:** Jon & Laurel Anfinson  
**COLLEGE:** UW - River Falls  
**MAJOR:** Undecided



**ALEXIS FREDERICKS**

**PARENTS:** Jason Fredericks & Wendy Niesl  
**COLLEGE:** University of Kansas  
**MAJOR:** Architectural Engineering

# 2020 PRESCOTT TOP TEN



**MEGAN GILLES**

PARENTS: Joel Gilles & Jayne Henderlite  
COLLEGE: U of M - Duluth  
MAJOR: Undecided



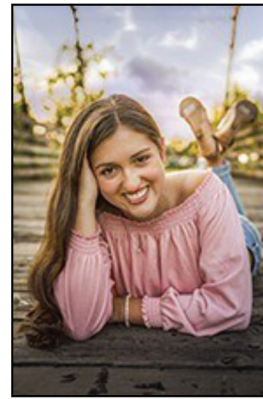
**MCKENNA JOHNSON**

PARENTS: Brian & Rae Johnson  
COLLEGE: UW—Stout  
MAJOR: Graphic Design



**LAUREN KORFHAGE**

PARENTS: Scott & Joan Korfhage  
COLLEGE: Iowa State University  
MAJOR: Microbiology



**EMILY MAGEE**

PARENTS: Chris & ReAnna Magee  
COLLEGE: UW - Eau Claire  
MAJOR: Choral Music Education



**FAITH STILES**

PARENTS: Jerry & Lisa Stiles  
COLLEGE: UW - La Crosse  
MAJOR: Exercise Sports Science



**MOLLY THOMLEY**

PARENTS: Michael & Allison Thomley  
COLLEGE: UW - Madison  
MAJOR: Pre-Pharmacy

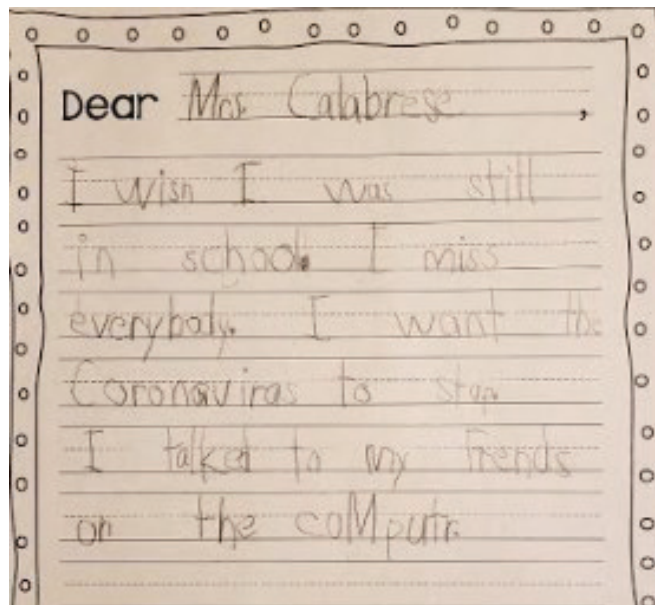
CLASS OF 2020

# MES STUDENTS & STAFF: CREATING THE FUTURE

Thank you parents, students and teachers who navigated the Off-Campus Learning process as we discovered what was working and what needed to be changed or modified. Our commitment, as always, was to continued learning and engagement of our students.

Teachers found new, fun ways to connect - handwritten messages sent through the postal service, Google Meet discussions, sidewalk chalk greetings and May Day basket distribution. They used technology like MobyMax, Class Dojo, Brain Pop Jr. and Razkids more efficiently and are excited to use them once students are back in the classrooms.

With the extension of the school closure order and more questions looming, we felt the best way to forecast the future was to create it. We've enjoyed the photo examples of students engaged in learning activities that you've shared: the video lesson on Chromebooks about clocks, potato grass heads in science and kindergarten letter writing. One student shared the following with Mrs. Calabrese about the coronavirus!



When the opportunity arose to share the evolution of a tadpole into a frog, we shared weekly video lessons for students to predict and watch this unusual transformation. Although we weren't able to share the last several weeks with students in the classroom (as we would have preferred) we are fortunate to have bridged the connection and appreciate your partnership to keep them engaged in educational activities.

We are waiting with anticipation to see what the fall will bring, but in the meantime we hope you have a fun and relaxing summer making memories with your family!

# MALONE INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL: E + E + E+ I = GROWTH

Hats off to the 2019-2020 Malone Intermediate School students and families. It's certainly been a year to remember! We started out the year snuggled into our routines, only to end the year snuggled into our homes. It truly has been an inspiration watching our students persevere through this challenging year. I've seen them travel to far away places (virtually) and use color theory that EDUCATES, build structures and forts that EMPOWER, produce puppet shows and obstacle courses that ENGAGE and create poems and stories that INSPIRE! And then the feeling you get when a student like Taylor (photo below), realizes that that MUSIC CAN CHANGE the WORLD! Pure JOY!

Our MIS teachers worked hard this year to provide engaging learning experiences for our students, while at the same time, contributing to a safe, positive, and creative school culture. Maybe your child talked about the clubs he participated in, whether it was Friendship Club, the Literacy Club, the Math Club, the Art Club, or maybe the Singing Club. Or perhaps she talked about the school store, the Gingerbread Houses or Pajama Day. Did they rave about picking up trash for Earth Day? The Penny Challenge? Or maybe you heard them talking about the Spelling Bee, Geography Bee, History Day and National Current Events League. At MIS, we understand that engagement in school is what develops our school

community and what we all need to do to encourage continued growth.

We didn't end the year with each other like we would have hoped, but we know that each of our students is loved, cared for and will persevere through these challenging times to come out stronger than ever. We would like to THANK YOU for your partnership this year and sharing your children with us each day. We are anxiously waiting for the start of the 2020-21 school year where we will be reunited with our students again.

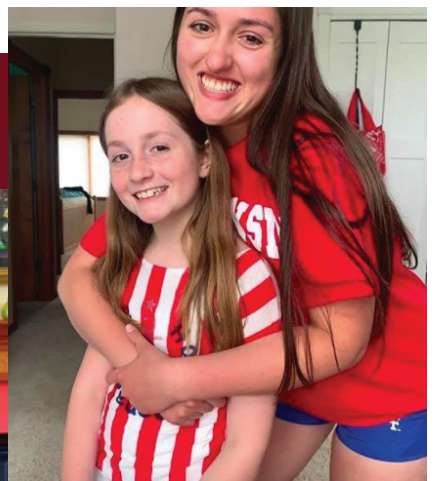




# WE ARE PRESCOTT HIGH SCHOOL



MIKE & SULLY



## STUDENTS DRESS UP TO SPREAD SPIRIT!

L: Riley Radloff & Madison Hildebrandt, Iconic Duo

M: Ella Schultz, Movie Character

R: Emily Magee & Sibling, Patriotic on America Day

★ BEST AMONG WI HIGH SCHOOLS-2020 ★  
BASED ON RANKINGS FROM U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT

Teachers continued to work with students weekly on instruction. Every Wednesday, teachers reached out to students and connected with them to support them academically, socially and emotionally.

During the week of May 4-8, the high school hosted Spirit Week for students and staff to foster school community. Every day was a different dress up day, such as America Day, Iconic Duo Day and Cardinal Pride Day. The same week we recognized Teacher Appreciation Week.

Students sent hundreds of gestures to teachers with messages of thanks, inspiration and support. Every day held a separate theme:

**Monday:** Say Thanks - send a note of thanks, email, or pop in during office hours to express gratitude.

**Tuesday:** Share Smiles - make a teacher smile or laugh with a picture sent to them virtually.

**Wednesday:** Check-in Day--teachers check in to ensure that students are okay academically, mentally, and emotionally. Do the same for them.

**Thursday:** Sing Praises--share an inspirational song

with a teacher (s)--sing the part that would make them smile and inspire them.

**Friday:** Shout out Day--use social media to give a positive shout out to your teachers and/or school.

On May 20, we hosted a virtual awards night to recognize our students who've achieved at high levels academically, as well as those seniors who won other awards.

We are honored that Prescott High School significantly improved its ranking among area schools in this year's US News & World Report. The staff and students have made efforts to make the learning experience relevant and impactful for each student's future.

PHS is honoring the Class of 2020 in numerous ways. During the last week of April, we released a video tribute to the seniors from teachers and staff. We ordered yard signs for senior families and community members who wish to show support for the class. Finally, we have been working as a district to create a Senior Spotlight feature for each member of the Class of 2020.

**"Hats off" to this memorable group of students!**

# ACTIVITIES & ATHLETICS

Cardinal Nation, hoping all is well with you and your families. This is obviously a unique time with some winter seasons being cut short and the year transitioning to Off-Campus Learning in March. For spring sports to have the WIAA and other organizations cancel the regular season and postseason tournament was a tough situation for our coaches and athletes to face, especially for our seniors. We are extremely proud of our seniors and all they've accomplished in their careers at PHS. They have left a legacy of excellence and dedication that we can applaud.

As the state shutdown for schools and school facilities is scheduled to end June 30, the WIAA did extend contact days for spring sports to 30 days starting July 1; we are optimistic to get the green light to get some practices and events in for our spring athletes (more information to come in June). When guidelines from the state on best practices are laid out for us, we plan (at this time) to have our fall and winter sports contact days take place in July. This will be a busy and opportunistic time for our students as many are involved in a plethora of activities, which is fantastic! Kudos to all our coaches/advisors/teachers, students and families for their positive attitudes and Cardinal Pride in all that they do!

## Prescott Track and Field Class of 2020



Not pictured: Maddie Johnson, Emily Magee, Joe Schulte, Ryan Pederson



This senior class of athletes is memorable to the high school track coaches, and not because your graduating year landed during a global pandemic. We will never forget your tireless work ethic, dedication to academics and athletics, your outstanding leadership abilities, and most of all, your ability to adapt when things get tough.

You've shared some of your favorite memories with me (Coach Emily): pasta parties with the team, sleeping on bus rides to meets, running repeat 300s in the pouring rain and wringing your clothes and hair out when you came inside, AND all of the ridiculous nicknames you've earned. Coach Emily rolling out your calves and hamstrings and not minding your stinky feet, Coach Carl painfully mending your shin splints, ice baths after practice (brr!), shoveling the track, the thrill of winning big meets, your coaches' ridiculous excitement over everything you do, earning a pan of brownies for practicing handoffs on a full stomach behind the hotel at state, and all of the emotional ups and downs that come with the grueling, yet rewarding, sport of track and field. To our Track and Field Class of 2020, I hope you remember the relationships you've formed along the way, the lessons you've learned about hard work and dedication, and most of all, how choosing to be involved in athletics throughout your high school career has shaped you into the amazing person you are today.

To our current and upcoming athletes, this senior class wants to tell you: Don't take anything for granted. Every practice, every meet, every opportunity you have to do what you love, put 100% into it, because you never know when it will be your last chance to step onto that track or into the field. Represent Prescott proudly every chance you have.



# ACTIVITIES & ATHLETICS

## WE'RE IN THIS TOGETHER

We chose to produce *High School Musical* this year for several reasons: We wanted our students to have the opportunity to play characters their own age, knew that students and the community would respond to this show, and had students to fit the cast. For the first time ever at PHS, we cast only high school students in this musical. This program has grown so much in the past four years, largely due to the involvement and leadership of our seniors. We are sad to see them go



because they have been crucial to its growth and development. We repeatedly hear that audience members would like a recording of the shows' musical selections because the singers are phenomenal and recreate the songs so well.

A special thanks to seniors: Anna Mercord, Anna Welter, Brandon Rundquist, Delaney Radke, Emily Magee, Jana Weber, Joe Schulte, and Maddie Johnson. Many of these students have been involved with multiple shows and have been an absolute pleasure to work with. Here are a few HSM notable memories: Jade Johnson willing to act like a starfish during our "auditions" scene - she is always open to taking risks! Maddie Johnson stepped up in her role as Miss Darbus, memorized MANY monologues and tried out a menagerie of accents. Watching Emily Magee try to fill a "sassy" role was a treat since she is the sweetest girl around! Delaney Radke fit right in as Sharpay (typecast?), Brandon Rundquist and Sophie Tibayan were the most adorable Gabriella/Troy pairing you'll ever find, and Talbot Stites in a new, more confident approach to Ryan's character. We were thrilled to have Anna Mercord, Jana Weber, and Joe Schulte join us for their first musical at PHS! Anna Welter has been amazing as our student director and we hope that this experience is a jumpstart to her future in directing! We sincerely appreciate the support of our administration as we navigated the possibility of a performance, but know... **"So much has happened, think of what we've done ."** (HSM)

## AND THE BAND PLAYED ON



The Prescott HS Band was busy again this year with great performances: two concerts, a trip to play at a Timberwolves game, and Pep Band inspired at nearly every home game. Unfortunately, we were unable to finish out our final events. I thank the musicians, especially the senior members, for all they do and the commitment (and energy!) they give to be involved. With all of the classes and activities offered at PHS, I'm fortunate these students kept band a part of their schedules. The following senior awards would have been presented at our final concert of the year, but were held virtually. I present: **Musicianship Award** - Emily Magee and Connor Hince;

**Most Improved** - Nicole Ptacek; **Leadership** - Anna Mercord, Hailee Winkler, Ellei Groskopf, Luke Hillman; **Drum Majorette/ Pep Band Leaders** - Molly Thomley, Luran Korfhage, Whitney Schommer; **Jazz Improvisation, Greatest Pep Bander, Garage Bander, and Ultimate Musicianship of Four Years Awards** - Jaden Kenow; **Semper Fidelis Marine Corps Award** - Anna Mercord; and, **John Philip Souza Award** - Hailee Winkler.

# PRESCOTT COMMUNITY UPDATES



## **23RD ANNUAL GOLF OUTING** **Wednesday, August 12, 2020** **Clifton Hills Golf Course**

Mark your calendars for our annual golf event! Proceeds support numerous projects that enrich our Prescott Community: The Performing Arts Center, First National Bank Fields, and generous contributions to Prescott School District's classroom activities and programs. It's a great way to have fun while supporting our community.

Get your team ready and watch for details at:  
[www.prescottfoundation.com](http://www.prescottfoundation.com)

## **REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!**

YCARE will reopen at Malone Intermediate School starting Wednesday, July 1. As always, your child's health and safety is our top priority and the daily operation of our programming will reflect guidelines to ensure we follow recommended COVID-19 precautions.

Summer Power is open to children aged 5 to entering 5th grade. The program incorporates learning and service activities with fun weekly themes. Visit the district website to for details & registration:  
[www.prescott.k12.wi.us](http://www.prescott.k12.wi.us).



*We wish to extend our gratitude and best wishes to MIS Principal, Donita Stepan, who has accepted the position of Superintendent of Schools in Thief River, MN. Thank you for your dedication to the students and staff at Malone Intermediate School. Go Prowlers!*

## **COMMUNITY EDUCATION:**

As we progress into summer, our programming is on hold until we get the all clear that we can begin to offer classes and/or trips once again. When we are informed, classes will be posted on the Community Ed Facebook page and the school district website. As we think ahead to fall, many of our classes will probably end up being online. Let me know what type of virtual classes you and family are interested in taking, and if you (or someone you know) is interested in sharing your knowledge or hobby via an online format: [ppeters@prescott.k12.wi.us](mailto:ppeters@prescott.k12.wi.us). Thank you for the continued support of your local Community Education program and investing in lifelong learning!

## **PRESCOTT COMMUNITY RECREATION**

Thank you for your patience as we've tried to organize a baseball season for our Prescott youth; unfortunately, PCR is canceling all baseball and softball 2020 seasons due to COVID-19. Prescott Community Recreation is a part of the district which is closed through June 30. Beginning July 1, we hopefully will reopen and will follow all public health directives that support our values of maintaining the health and well-being of our children, families, and greater community. We will inform you of updates once they are established. Prepaid fees will be processed over the next few weeks and refunded in the same manner in which you paid.

# 2020-21 ACADEMIC SCHOOL YEAR

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THUR	FRI	SAT	2020-2021 District Calendar
<b>SEPTEMBER</b>		1	2	3	4	5	<b>September</b>
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	1 School Starts
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	7 Labor Day: No School
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
27	28	29	30				28 Professional Development: No School for Students
<b>OCTOBER</b>					1	2	<b>October</b>
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	16 No School for Students & Staff
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	23 Professional Development: No School for Students
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	
<b>NOVEMBER</b>	1	2	3	4	5	6	<b>November</b>
8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
15	16	17	18	19	20	21	16 Professional Development: No School for Students
22	23	24	25	26	27	28	25-27 Thanksgiving Break: No School Students & Staff
29	30						
<b>DECEMBER</b>		1	2	3	4	5	<b>December</b>
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	Winter Break Dec 23-Jan 1: No School Students & Staff
27	28	29	30	31			
<b>JANUARY</b>					1	2	<b>January</b>
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	4 School Back in Session
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	18 Professional Development: No School for Students
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
<b>FEBRUARY</b>	1	2	3	4	5	6	<b>February</b>
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	26 Professional Development: No School for Students
<b>MARCH</b>	1	2	3	4	5	6	<b>March</b>
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
28	29	30	31				Spring Break Mar 29 - Apr 2 : No School Students & Staff
<b>APRIL</b>				1	2	3	<b>April</b>
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	
25	26	27	28	29	30		
<b>MAY</b>						1	<b>May</b>
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	3 Professional Development: No School for Students
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	28 HS Graduation Ceremony
30	31						31 Memorial Day: No School for Students & Staff
<b>JUNE</b>		1	2	3	4	5	<b>June</b>
6	7	8	9	10	11	12	2 Last Day of School
13	14	15	16	17	18	19	3 Professional Development: No School for Students
20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
27	28	29	30	1			

Quarters
First Quarter (11/2)
Second Quarter (1/15)
Third Quarter (3/22)
Fourth Quarter (6/2)

Trimesters
Trimester 1 (11/30)
Trimester 2 (3/3)
Trimester 3 (6/2)

Snow Day Makeup Plan
Days 1-3: No Makeup
Days 4+ (This order to be followed if possible)
1) Feb. 26 PD Day = Instructional Day, PD day moved off Calendar
2) May 3 PD Day = Instructional Day, PD day moved off Calendar
3) Adjustment in Instructional Minutes Added
4) June 3 Instructional Day, PD day moved off Calendar

KEY
School back in Session
Professional Development, No School for Students
Day Off, No School for Students & Staff
Holiday: No School for Students & Staff

NON-PROFIT ORG  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
PERMIT #5  
Prescott, WI

ECRWSS  
POSTAL - CUSTOMER - LOCAL



**EXTRAORDINARY  
REASONS TO CELEBRATE  
CARDINAL PRIDE!**



*By engaging students, staff, families and our community*