

# EDUCATION

STRAIGHT A'S  
The Journal welcomes ideas for stories about students from and in our community.  
Call the Journal at 285-7411

## The eye of the storm

We'll continue this discussion about natural and manmade disasters from our last article. As mentioned before, we are in a time period of possibly facing a variety of different scenarios that would create tremendous problems for us. Thus, we do need to prepare ourselves and plan on how best to re-act to a disaster. One thing we can't do is fall back to the 1950s-1960s and pull down the shades, duck and cover, like we did as preparation for a nuclear attack.

On the other end, one thing we must do is recognize and adapt to a largely unwelcome new reality.

So what can we do, what should we do and most importantly, what must we do? Most importantly, the issue of emergency preparedness needs to be on the action agendas of the groups associated with the school. The action agendas must create a genuine sense of urgency to achieve and maintain readiness.

Another important preparedness activity is to reach out and coordinate with those who the school will have to act with during a drastic emergency. Many of the emergency situations we face at school will also involve others in the community. So coordinating with others is very important in the overall plan. A serious planning effort needs to be made. When addressing a plan and being faced with the large number of possible disaster scenarios, the entire situation can



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ISD 361 SUPERINTENDENT

become paralyzing. There are too many potential scenarios to develop contingency plans for all. To try and do so, the results would be so detailed that the people would hardly remember a rough outline of them. So, instead of planning for each one, the school must be ready with a response. A response could be to hold students in school, send them home, or move them to another building location in the community.

A response system also needs to have personnel organized with responsibilities. Along with the organized responsibilities, a communication arrangement between all involved will be a real necessity.

The bottom line is that preparing for these new possible disaster emergencies is something we shouldn't have to be doing, but with the conditions of our times, being ready with a response to a drastic emergency is a real necessity.

Source: National Clearinghouse for Educational Facilities

## Minnesota schools to gain access to free geographic software

New agreement between state and ESRI will help schools integrate cutting edge technology into course

### JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

With geospatial technologies quickly becoming one of the fastest growing technology fields according to US Department of Labor, the Minnesota Department of Education has negotiated a statewide license with ESRI allowing their Geographic Information Systems software to be available to all K-12 schools, public and private, and non-formal educational organizations and programs at no cost.

To see the rapid expansion of geospatial technologies, one would need look no further than the growth of smart phones,

which give people instant access to mapping software and a personal global positioning system. Smart phones are just one of the many applications of GIS technology.

By increasing access to Esri's GIS software, students across the state will gain important geotechnology skills that will help them achieve rigorous academic standards leading to career- and college-readiness.

Minnesota is the 23rd state to enter into an agreement with ESRI. Schools that register to receive the software will be able to integrate the technology for administration and instructional

uses. Administration uses include such jobs as facilities management, school safety, demographic analysis and transportation. Some curriculum examples include:

Literacy: GIS provides opportunities for students to create and examine multi-layered maps, charts and other kinds of informational text—a key skill for 21st century literacy.

Science, Mathematics, and Career and Technical Education: The STEM disciplines require students to work with various forms of data and to construct arguments based on those data. GIS

is a tool that supports instruction in these areas while encouraging student engagement in mathematics and science concepts.

Social Studies: The revised Minnesota K-12 Academic Standards in Social Studies call for students to develop geospatial skills through representations and technologies in order to acquire, process, and report information in a spatial context. Using GIS, students will engage in geographic inquiry, a process in which they ask geographic questions and gather and analyze information to solve problems and create plans.

### EDUCATION BRIEF

#### Hamly receives BA degree

Veronica Hamly, of International Falls, received a bachelor of arts degree in interdepartmental studies from the University of Iowa after the 2013 spring session.

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## Stroke Support Group

Brought to you by Rainy Lake Medical Center and  
ISD 361 Community Education

**\* Begins September 10th Every 2nd Tuesday of the month 10 a.m., Faith United Church**

For more information please call Sarah Monahan at: (218) 283-5420  
smonahan@rainylakemedical.com

This Stroke Support Group is for stroke survivors, families, friends and caregivers.

**Rainy Lake MEDICAL CENTER**  
*In association with Essentia Health*

## 9th Annual International Falls Bass Championship

*Come for the Fishing... Stay for the Fun!*

**Save These Dates August 22, 23 & 24, 2013**

**The International Falls Bass Championship is Minnesota's Premier Bass Tournament**

**\$10,000 1st Prize** with a unique 2-2-2 format: 2-person teams, 2-days of fishing, on 2-bodies of water taking full advantage of great fishing on both Rainy Lake and Rainy River. **\$30,000 Total Prize Money**

[www.ifallsbass.com](http://www.ifallsbass.com)

## We're Teaming Up For A Great Fundraiser!

The Journal prides itself on providing the most local and complete news & sports for our community.

Now we have created a program to assist local non-profits, school programs and churches with their fundraising efforts.

Program participants will have the opportunity to sell newspaper subscriptions to friends and neighbors, receiving \$5 for every new subscription sold. This will help organizations pay for new uniforms, plan trips and support each organizations community.

The Journal, your local news source, wants to team up with your group or team to help reach your fundraising goal.

Contact Dana at the Journal 285-7411 ext: 248 to get started.

INTERNATIONAL FALLS, MINNESOTA

# The Journal

**"Under the Tent" Live Weigh-Ins at Smokey Bear Park Friday & Saturday starting at 4 p.m.**

**IFBC KID'S FISHING TOURNAMENT**  
**Saturday, Aug. 24 8 am - 10:30 am Ages 3-12**  
11:00 am Awards at Smokey Bear Park  
**3 PRIZE CATEGORIES: AGE 3-5, 6-9, 10-12. One adult must accompany child.**  
Please contact Carol Schultz for more information or register at the main ticket booth.

**5K BASS DASH SAT. 9 am**

**Friday & Saturday 11am-3pm**  
**Family Fun Zone in Smokey Bear Park**  
**Play games for prizes and have fun in the zone! Free of charge!**  
**Inflatable Bounce • Kid's Games • Tractor Rides & Much More!**  
**Thursday, Friday & Saturday**  
**Food • Entertainment • Arts/Craft Fair**

**"Under the Tent" Nightly Entertainment**

- Teen Idol Contest • Casting Call Talent Show
- DJ Music • Raffle Drawing • Classic Cars

**WWW.IFALLSBASS.COM**