

MPS/SPPS Teacher Strike Resources and FAQ

Childcare and Physical Space Resources

MPS reports the following:

Extremely limited openings will be available for PK-5 child supervision at only a few school sites for families who cannot find other childcare. Families are strongly encouraged to find other childcare options as openings are intended for families who have no other child supervision option. If a strike is called, your school will have information for families on how to request this school-based child supervision. Meals will be provided to children.

Childcare (for fee) at YMCAs

[YMCA of the North \(ymcanorth.org\)](http://ymcanorth.org)

Available to all families across Hennepin County for children kindergarten – grade 6; registration is required and can be completed online or in person at the time of child drop off at identified site.

Operating hours 7 am – 5:30 pm.

If MPS teachers strike:

- HAROLD MEZILE NORTH COMMUNITY YMCA (\$12/child/day)
1711 West Broadway Ave, Minneapolis, MN 55411
612-588-9484
Childcare Site Director: Helemina (612) 876-2606
- BLAISDELL YMCA – SOUTH MINNEAPOLIS (\$45/child/day)
3335 Blaisdell Avenue South, Minneapolis, MN 55408
612-827-5401
Childcare Site Director: David (612) 814-1110

If SPPS teachers strike:

Hennepin County Department of Community Corrections and Rehabilitation
300 South Sixth Street, Minneapolis, MN 55487
612 348-3000 | hennepin.us



- ST. PAUL YMCA – MIDWAY (\$45/child/day)
1761 University Avenue West, Saint Paul, MN 55104
651-646-4557
Childcare Site Director: Abbie (612) 814-1707

Drop In Physical Spaces

- [Best Buy Teen Tech Center](#) Downtown Minneapolis Central Library
300 Nicollet Mall
Open to youth ages 12 – 19 in the after-school times M – Th 3 pm – 8 pm
- HHM youth can access drop-in centers and other resources through the [Youth Services Network](#)
- Hennepin County Libraries are open. Locations and hours are here: [Library locations | Hennepin County](#)
- Minneapolis Parks and Recreation (call sites to confirm):
 - [REC PLUS](#): Will mirror programming for School release Days (for current Rec Plus clients only)
 - Open 8 am – 6 pm
 - Sites McRae, Matthews, Waite, Webber, Hiawatha School and Lynnhurst
 - Other 7 sites are closed
 - [RECREATION CENTERS](#):
 - Sites:
 - North: [North Commons](#) (612-370-4921) and [Fairview](#) (612-370-4922)
 - Northeast: [Northeast](#) (612-370-4920) and [Luxton](#) (612-370-4925)
 - Upper South: [East Phillips](#) (612-370-4888) and [Longfellow](#) (612-370-4957)
 - Lower South: [Nokomis](#) (612-370-4923) and [Sibley](#) (612-370-4954)
 - Southwest: [Whittier](#) (612-370-4966) and [Bryant Square](#) (612-370-4907)
 - Open 12 pm – 3 pm for free, drop in elementary school programming K – 5th; preregistration will be required through the [Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board](#) and will be made available on their website in the event of strike
 - [Youthline](#) sites open with teen programming from 3 – 9 pm
 - [Fun on the Run](#) outdoor programming continues 3 – 5 pm at those sites
 - All other MPRB registered programming continues as scheduled

Food and Meal Resources

- After the first day of the strike, a daily meal bag consisting of one breakfast and one lunch will be available each day for pick up at the school where the student is enrolled. Pick-up hours will be communicated by the school, or can be inquired about here: answers@mpls.k12.mn.us or (612) 668-0230.
- [Food Pantries, Food Banks, Hot Meals – Minneapolis, MN](#)
- Northpoint Health and Wellness food programs are open and available:
Monday – Thursday | 10:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.
Talk to a Navigator if you want help with any other programs at Northpoint Health & Wellness or in the community or call (612)767-9500.
- **If clients who need food are unable to visit the food shelf, they can select someone else – like their county worker – to pick up their food.**
- [Free Meals – Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board \(minneapolisparcs.org\)](#)

Academic Support Resources

The district is encouraging families to access online learning resources during a teacher strike.

MPS Shared:

- [learning enrichment activities](#)

The Hennepin County Libraries also share a host of virtual learning resources

Apply for an e-card to access virtual resources here: [Library e-card application](#)

- [Early learning | Hennepin County \(hclib.org\)](#)
- [Dial-a-Story | Hennepin County \(hclib.org\)](#)

Call 612-543-8851 to listen to a recording of a short story on-demand. The story changes weekly.

- [Arts and culture | Hennepin County \(hclib.org\)](#)
- [Books and reading | Hennepin County \(hclib.org\)](#)
- Free K – 12 in-person tutoring at 12 library locations – places and hours listed on the chart below

FREE K-12 HOMEWORK HELP

	mon	tue	wed	thu	fri	sat
Augsburg Park 7100 Nicollet Ave. Richfield	5-7:30	—	5-7:30	—	—	—
Brookdale 6125 Shingle Creek Pkwy. Brooklyn Center	4:30-7:30	4:30-7:30	—	—	—	—
Brooklyn Park 8500 W. Broadway Ave. Brooklyn Park	—	—	—	4-7	—	—
Cedar Riverside Opportunity Center 505 15th Ave. S., Minneapolis	—	3:30-6:30	—	3:30-6:30	—	—
East Lake 2727 E. Lake St. Minneapolis	—	4-7	4-7	—	—	—
Franklin 1314 E. Franklin Ave. Minneapolis	—	—	3:30-7:30	3:30-7:30	—	—
Hosmer 347 E. 36th St. Minneapolis	4-7:30	—	—	—	—	1-4
Nokomis 5100 34th Ave. S. Minneapolis	3-7:30	—	—	—	—	—
North Regional 1315 Lowry Ave. N. Minneapolis	4-7	4-7	—	—	—	—
Roosevelt 4026 28th Ave. S. Minneapolis	—	3-5	—	3-7:30	—	—
Sumner 611 Van White Mem. Blvd. Minneapolis	4-7	—	—	4-7	—	—
Webber Park 4440 Humboldt Ave. N. Minneapolis	—	4:30-7:30	—	—	—	—

Hennepin County Workers can make a referral to Education Support Specialists for remote:

- Individualized education support
- Educational advocacy
- Tutoring
- School navigation
- And more!

Additional virtual learning resources:

- [BrainPOP](#) Activities for students in all school subjects during school closures.
- [At-home Learning Resources for Kids \(mensaforkids.org\)](#)
- [Cyberchase | PBS KIDS](#)
- [Be A Learning Hero](#) Culturally inclusive, free self-directed math and reading skills checks with automated individualized skill practice; literacy building

Social Emotional and Wellbeing Supports

Virtual options for managing stress:

- [Change to Chill](#)
- [MYCepaz](#)
- [Seize the awkward](#)

Recreation

- [All youth programs and sports are free beginning this summer at 17 Minneapolis parks and facilities – Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board](#)
- [Teen Programs – Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board \(minneapolisparcs.org\)](#)
- [Magazine | Mysite \(youthmove-mn.org\)](#) Seeking visual art, stories, articles, music, dance, theatre, podcast segments and more! [Propose a project](#). If accepted, youth will be paid to create it.
- [Best Buy Teen Tech Center](#) Downtown Minneapolis Central Library

Counseling

- Free remote counseling [Home – Walk-In \(walkin.org\)](#)
- [846s.org](#) Working with underserved communities to co-create a safe and nurturing environment to break down stigma associated with accessing mental health therapy and help connect people with culturally competent therapists. Download the FREE “[UnPackThat App](#)” and set up an appointment to speak with Dr. Remi Douah. You can also call (+1 612 447 9733) Dr. Remi Douah to discuss your concerns directly.

Community Resource Guides

- [Resources for youth | Hennepin County](#)
- [Youth Services Network](#)
- [Handbook of the Streets](#)
- [Connect to economic supports | Hennepin County](#)

Mental Health Emergencies

If you're in a mental health crisis or know someone who is, we can help. The Cope mobile crisis teams can come to where you are.

- Adults 18 and over call 612-596-1223
- Children 17 and under call 612-348-2233

Technology Supports

Public Resources

- [The Emergency Broadband Benefit Program \(getemergencybroadband.org\)](#)

- [PCs for People](#) provides affordable computers and low-cost internet to eligible individuals
- [Digital Equity – City of Minneapolis \(minneapolismn.gov\)](#)

Internal HC Resources

- To request technology support for county clients, submit a [Technology Needs Assessment](#). This brief form provides information about the client, their technology needs, and other information. There is also a privacy notice that should be read aloud to the client. Questions: techneeds@hennepin.us
Staff can request:
 - Computers
 - Internet access
 - Assistance using technology

Frequently Asked Questions for MPS Families (from the district)

[FAQs For Families \(google.com\)](#)

1. When will the strike happen?

The Minneapolis Federation of Teachers (MFT) union has indicated **its intention to begin a strike as early as Tuesday, March 8, if a contract agreement is not reached before that date.**

While a **strike can be averted at any time until then** through contract agreement, we encourage families to start planning now on how they will manage [child care](#) and other family logistics if a strike happens. MPS is working to provide child supervision for students in grades PK-5 at a few school locations.

2. How long will the strike last?

We are not sure how long the strike might last—it could be a couple of days, a few weeks or longer. The strike will end once MPS and MFT reach a contract agreement.

3. Can a strike be avoided?

Yes, if both MPS and MFT come to contract agreement at any point in this process, the strike can be avoided.

4. Are all teachers members of MFT? Will all teachers be striking?

All staff in teaching positions are a part of the MFT though all may not be paying and voting members. Some teachers may decide not to participate in the strike. However, if MFT does strike, all classes will be canceled during the strike.

5. Will my child be in school during the strike?

No, all MPS classes will be canceled, including online classes, if a strike occurs.

6. Can students who are taking PSEO continue to go to class?

Yes, PSEO students can continue with their college-based classes.

7. Will college classes for Transition Plus students continue?

PSEO classes will continue; Concurrent Enrollment classes (which are taught by MFT members) will be canceled during the strike.

8. Will school buildings be open?

Schools will be open for staff who report to work and for families to pick up meals. Students may access buildings for the School-Based Clinics, which will remain open during the strike. Varsity athletics practices will also be held after school.

School health offices will NOT be open since the Licensed School Nurses are on the MFT contract.

9. Will meals be provided to children during the strike?

After the first day of the strike, a daily meal bag consisting of one breakfast and one lunch will be available each day for pick up at the school where the student is enrolled. Pick-up hours will be communicated by the school.

10. Will there be child care available during the strike?

Extremely limited openings will be available for PK-5 child supervision at only a few school sites for families who cannot find other child care. Families are strongly encouraged to find other child care options as openings are intended for families who have no other child supervision option. If a strike is called, your school will have information for families on how to request this school-based child supervision. Meals will be provided to children.

11. Will health clinics at school sites be open?

Yes, the School-Based Clinics run by the [City of Minneapolis](#) and Hennepin County/NorthPoint in nine MPS high schools will remain open during the strike.

However, school health offices will NOT be open since the Licensed School Nurses are on the MFT contract.

12. Will students be able to meet with their school based mental health therapist during the strike?

Yes, school-based mental health therapy services will continue.

13. Will there still be Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE), Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) or Early Childhood Screening during the strike?

No, all Early Childhood programs and services will be canceled while the strike is active.

14. Will my child still be able to participate in sports?

High school varsity athletics (basketball, hockey, wrestling) will continue during the strike. All middle school sports are completed until the spring season. Junior varsity and B-squad can practice on a case-by-case basis based on whether there is adequate adult supervision available. Families should hear from or can contact their coaches or athletic directors for more information. Adaptive Athletics will be canceled.

15. Will my child be able to participate in after-school activities other than sports?

No, there will be no after-school activities.

16. Will MPS [contract alternative programs](#) be open or closed?

In the event of a strike:

The following alternative schools **will close**:

1. Longfellow Alternative High School
2. Minneapolis Academy and Career Center (MACC)

The following alternative schools and specialized programs will **remain open***:

1. Loring Nicollet Alternative School
2. MENLO Park Academy
3. MERC Alternative High School
4. NaWAyEe Center School
5. PYC Arts and Technology High School
6. Ronald MacDonald House
7. Takoda Prep/American Indian OIC
8. VOA High School

***Note:** Some student support services may be scaled back but door-to-door transportation services for special education students will continue.

17. Will there be Community Education classes?

[Adult Education](#) will be canceled because teachers are members of MFT. [Youth Enrichment](#) classes will not be held.

Community Education's [Adult Enrichment](#) classes will be held as scheduled.

18. Will MPS make any online activities available to students during the strike?

Students and families can access online learning materials on the [learning enrichment activities](#) site. We are currently translating all these materials and will share them with families as soon as possible.

19. Can my child check in with their principal during the strike with questions or concerns?

Yes. All buildings will have at least one administrator at the building who can answer questions.

20. What about students receiving special education services?

All special education services will be canceled, including transportation (except at alternative schools as noted above). Special education services and school time will be made up at the same time general education services are made up.

Adapted Athletics and other activities for students receiving special education services will be canceled during the time of the strike.

Homebound services would be discontinued during the time of a strike.

21. Will school days need to be made up?

Depending on the timing and length of a strike, school time missed because of the strike may need to be made up to meet state and graduation requirements. This could mean losing spring break days or the school year could go further into the summer. A final determination of how MPS will proceed likely will be part of a contract agreement.

22. How will a strike affect graduation?

It is not currently anticipated that graduation will be affected by the strike.

23. How will families receive communication?

Families will receive information from MPS through email, robocalls and texts. They are also encouraged to go online to our [MFT negotiations webpage](#) for regular updates.

24. Who do I ask if I have more questions?

Families can send questions to answers@mpls.k12.mn.us or 612.668.0230.

Resources from the Superintendent for SPPS Families

Important Information About Possible Strike

Dear Saint Paul Public Schools Families,

Since September, Saint Paul Public Schools (SPPS) has been negotiating a new employment contract with the Saint Paul Federation of Educators (SPFE). The bargaining teams have been meeting regularly and will continue to do so, including this weekend if necessary, with the intention of settling a fair contract and avoiding a strike. You can find all of the proposals, mediation updates and other information about negotiations at spps.org/negotiations.

If SPPS and SPFE are unable to reach an agreement by the end of the day on Monday, March 7, SPFE has announced it will call a strike beginning Tuesday, March 8. This means there will not be school for SPPS students until there is a new contract. SPPS has plans in place to help care for and feed your children in case a strike occurs. I am able to give you an overview now, and ask that you watch your email, social media, spps.org and other information sources closely in the coming days for more details. As a reminder, Friday, March 4, was a previously scheduled non-school day; **there is no school for grades PreK-12 this Friday.**

Monday, March 7

Students will report to school as usual. After-school activities will take place. Transportation and other services will continue as normal.

If a strike happens:

Tuesday, March 8, and until further notice:

- All PreK-12 classes, ECSE and ECCE classes and services will be canceled. There will NOT be child care the first day of the strike, with the exception of Discovery Club for pre-registered families on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Breakfast and lunch will be available for all students age 18 and under; locations will be announced in a future communication.
- All students in grades PreK-12 will be able to keep their iPads, and will have access to [standards-based academic activities online](#).
- Varsity athletics will continue for the duration of the strike on a case-by-case basis. All other sports and practices will be postponed.
- If a strike lasts more than two days, those hours will need to be made up either over spring break or in summer.

Wednesday, March 9

- SPPS will open Kid Space at most elementary schools for students in grades PreK-5. Kid Space will follow the school's regular start and end times and will be supervised by non-striking SPPS staff. **Capacity will be limited based on available staffing.**
- Buses will run to Kid Space sites. Students will be picked up and dropped off at their normal times and bus stops. **Details about Kid Space sites and registration will be available at 7:30 a.m. on the first day of a strike. Registration will begin at 8:30 a.m. the same day.**
- Kid Space is not an academic program. Kids will participate in supervised, age-appropriate activities. Breakfast and lunch will be served.
- Breakfast and lunch will be available at all Kid Space sites for children age 18 and under; this includes youth who are not enrolled in Kid Space. More information about mealtimes and locations, including rec centers and libraries, is available at spps.org/kidspace.
- **There will be no health staff on-site.** If your child has special health, medical or other needs, the district may not be able to provide the support that would keep them safe in this program. Based on the pre-registration information, staff will contact you if we have concerns or questions about supporting your child.
- Kid Space will be staffed by SPPS employees who will continue working if a strike occurs. We will be able to serve a limited number of students. If you have other options available for your child, please keep Kid Space open for families who do not have other options.

Contact

Department of Community Corrections and Rehabilitation

Kathrine Williams

kathrine.williams@hennepin.us

Cell: (612) 385-8782

Website
hennepin.us