CELEBRATING STUDENT SUCCESS

District 281 Debate students shined bright at the 2018 Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL) State Tournament January 12-13!

Armstrong High School Junior Maggie Wuollet crowned the Lincoln-Douglas State Runner-Up (2nd Place). Cooper High School Senior David Necas qualified to elimination rounds and finished as a Quarter-Finalist (Top 8). He is one of only two students from Robbinsdale Area Schools to ever qualify to the state tournament four consecutive years. They are pictured at the left, along with AHS junior Nadrat Amos (center). All earned All-State honors at the event.

The Cooper High School One-Act production of “The Macbeths” earned a “Star Rating” at the 2018 Class AA One Act Play Festival on February 8!

“The Macbeths” is an original production conceived by the company using text from William Shakespeare’s classic tragedy. Thirteen Cooper students in grades 10-12 make up the acting and technical company. Cast members were Lily Perkins, Dani Dahlseid, Sandi Flahn, Veronique Le, Claire Redding, Kiusayka Santiago, Jimmy Whitcomb, Matthew Hunke, and John Brownell. Erin Marshall, Lucy Weld, Katelyn Gisvold, and Felicia Villalobos provided support.

Armstrong, Cooper Students Earn Arts Honors

Armstrong High School seniors Josie Welsh and Jehdessa Borreson, and Cooper High School students junior Sophia Nguyen and senior Katie Amundson, recently won Gold and Silver Key awards in the Scholastic Arts award competition. Josie’s ceramic pitcher, Sophia’s painting, and Jehdessa’s found object sculpture are under consideration for a national award, and were displayed in the Regis Center for The Arts West Gallery at the University of Minnesota. Katie’s photograph was on a monitor in the gallery.

Looking to the future, Katie will be attending Central Lakes College in Brainerd and Sophia still has a year to decide, but knows that she wants to go to art school. Josie will be attending Montana State to study mechanical engineering and Jehdessa is planning on exploring the world.

Draevon May Senior, Armstrong H.S.

Draevon has been named a National Merit Finalist! More than 1.6 million students apply for the National Merit Scholarship Program each year. Semi-finalists represent less than 1% of each state’s high school seniors.

Super Kids, Super Sharing singers

Students from FAIR School Crystal and Northport Elementary School had the honor of performing January 18 at the NFL’s first major event to kick off Super Bowl LII!
Dear District 281 Residents,

I hope this message finds you well.

We are excited to share the good news about the many great accomplishments and awesome things our students are doing in Robbinsdale Area Schools! The “Robbinsdale Rapid Report” will arrive in your mail more often, replacing the twice-yearly “School Performances” newsletter we have been doing.

We hope you enjoy the updates. It’s a Great Day to Be in Robbinsdale!

Sincerely,

Carlton D. Jenkins, Ph.D.
Superintendent, Robbinsdale Area Schools

**DID YOU KNOW: District 281 students performed at Orchestra Hall!**

More than 550 students from Robbinsdale Area Schools took the stage at Orchestra Hall Monday, November 13, during the district’s Annual Fall Music Festival. The concert featured performances from Armstrong and Cooper Bel Canto, Cantori, Concert Choirs, Symphonic Bands and Symphonic Orchestras. The Robbinsdale Elementary All-District Choir also performed.

The combined Symphonic Bands played the American premier of “The Last Giant” by Otto M. Schwarz. The combined choirs and orchestras performed selections from “Carmina Burana” by Carl Orff.

Organizers of the event noted students last previously performed “Carmina Burana” in 2010, which means that many of this year’s 12th-grade students performed this work as 5th-grade students in the All-District Choir.