



SEWARD MONTESSORI SHARKS

Seward Chess Club Meets Tuesdays and Fridays

The Seward Chess Club will be meeting in the Seward Cafeteria after school from 2:00 – 3:00pm on Tuesdays and Fridays when school is in session. **The first day will be Friday, November 30.** This drop-in session is open to K-8 and all levels of players including those with little to no experience playing chess. Parent pick-up is required and parents are encouraged to arrive early and join us. A snack will be served to participants.

There is no charge to participate in the Seward Chess Club drop-in sessions. Attendance is not mandatory but students are encouraged to attend as often as possible. Participation in competitive tournaments may require additional fees.

All families are required to register their students for the Seward Chess Club at:
<https://osfce.wufoo.com/forms/spbmjmx1ure674/>

We consider everyone who plays chess at Seward as being part of the Seward Sharks Chess Club. We have three types of participants:

- **Beginners** – are just learning and play casually
- **Intermediates** – have a good understanding of the chess pieces and may attend a scholastic chess tournament occasionally
- **Advanced** – participate regularly in local, state and national scholastic chess tournaments and attend specialized chess instruction

Intermediate and Advanced players represent Seward Montessori and may compete in scholastic chess tournaments and competitions throughout the year. It may also be possible to participate in State Chess Championships and “Nationals,” the US Chess Scholastic Championships.



Seward Sharks competed at 2017 Supernationals – US Scholastic Chess Championship in Nashville, TN. The team finished in 9th place in the K-6 U1000 section with Noah Weiser coming in 1st place in the country.

Intermediate and Advanced players are expected to participate in additional training and preparation with the Club and on their own. These players and their families will also be asked to assist with fundraising and logistics for the Seward Chess Club. Please contact me soon if your player would like to participate in tournaments.

Seward chess players of all abilities are encouraged to participate in the MPS Check it Out Chess Tournament on December 1, 2018 at Keewaydin School. Check it Out is often a student's first chess tournament. It's free, fun and a great way to get students excited about playing chess. Learn more and register at www.mpschess.org

The Chess Club promotes the **Community Drop-in Chess program through Minneapolis Parks and Rec at Matthews Park Rec Center Thursdays** from 6:00-7:00pm. This program may or may not be staffed by Seward chess coach. A number of our families do attend this somewhat regularly. Because this program is open to the community we require parental supervision for new or younger players.



Minneapolis Public Schools has also contracted with ChessKid.com to offer GOLD accounts to our students across the district.

ChessKid.com is a child-safe online resource that offers excellent chess tutorials, lessons and live online play for students. It's highly recommended that all Seward Chess Club players register for their free MPS account at www.mpschess.org



Seward Sharks are K-3 1st Place Team at 2017 MSCA State Championship. (Seward was also K-5 Team Champion!)

The Seward Chess Club is run by parent and community volunteers with strong support from Principal Tammy Goetz and the main office as well as player's parents and teachers. **Donations to the Seward Chess Club are always welcome. Donations may be left at the Seward Office Attn: Seward Chess Club.** These donations will support T-shirts, chess equipment and fees and expenses related to tournaments.

Parents are encouraged to join us for chess club and play games or help with snack or clean up. The Seward Sharks Chess Club is growing and I'm anticipating another successful year. I look forward to seeing everyone on Tuesdays and Fridays.

Pete Munene

[Seward Montessori Chess Club](http://www.mpschess.org)
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