



Bucks' Giannis to miss 2-4 weeks due to a calf strain

SPORTS, 1B

DAILY TRIBUNE

WEEKEND

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2025 | WISCONSINRAPIDSTRIBUNE.COM PART OF THE USA TODAY NETWORK

Rapid technological shift adds wrinkle for already-strained educators



Turning to AI for help writing lesson plans and assessments not only saves time, but it also gives teachers a tool for brainstorming ideas, helping them feel less isolated in their work. PHOTOS VIA GETTY IMAGES

AI could worsen school inequalities

Katie Davis and Aayushi Dangol
University of Washington
THE CONVERSATION

Today's teachers find themselves thrust into a difficult position with generative AI. New tools are coming online at a blistering pace and being adopted just as quickly, whether they're personalized tutors and study buddies for students or lesson plan generators and assignment graders for teachers. Schools are traditionally slow to adapt to change, which makes such rapid-fire developments especially destabilizing. The uncertainties accompanying the artificial intelligence onslaught come amid existing challenges the teaching profession has faced for years. Teachers have been working with increasingly scarce resources – and even scarcer time – while facing mounting expectations not only for their students'

See **SCHOOLS**, Page 3A



How teachers end up using, or not using, AI to support their teaching – and their students' learning – may determine whether AI's use in schools narrows or widens existing equity gaps.

HMONG-LANGUAGE QPR

How new training is changing suicide prevention

Nida Tazeen
AI-assisted reporter
USA TODAY NETWORK

A new mental health initiative is making suicide prevention education more accessible to Hmong-speaking communities in central Wisconsin. The effort, a collaboration between several local organizations, provides official QPR (Question, Persuade, Refer) training materials in the Hmong language, according to a community announcement. The materials, now certified for use by trainers across the country, aim to reduce language and cultural barriers that often prevent people from seeking help. The Hmong American Center, Marathon County Health Department, Aspirus Health, New Beginnings for Refugees and the QPR Institute contributed to the project. The initiative blends professional translation with deep community input. "Language matters in mental health conversations," said Hannah Schommer, a public health educator with the Marathon County Health Department. "These materials reflect how our community is working together to make prevention training more accessible, more respectful and more effective for everyone." The translated materials use the White Hmong dialect, which is widely understood within Hmong communities in Wisconsin and throughout the U.S. Local leaders reviewed every element of the content to ensure clarity, relevance and cultural sensitivity. The National QPR Institute provided oversight to ensure the materials meet the standards of the national program. "We don't talk about suicide the same way across all cultures," said Bee Lor, program manager at the Hmong American Center. "Directness can sometimes shut people down. These resources were adapted with that in mind, so families can have safer, more supportive conversations." Each organization brought key strengths to the table – funding, national connections and cultural insight – to ensure the materials meet

See **PREVENTION**, Page 9A

Mid-State Technical College graduation set for Dec. 13

Nida Tazeen
AI-assisted reporter
The Daily Tribune | USA TODAY NETWORK

WISCONSIN RAPIDS – Mid-State Technical College will host its mid-year graduation ceremony at 11 a.m. Dec. 13 at the Wisconsin Rapids campus, according to a community announcement. The indoor event will celebrate graduating students, their families and invited guests.

Crystal Scheibe, a cosmetology graduate from Wisconsin Rapids, will deliver the student address. Stacy Brock, a cosmetology and barber technologist instructor, will offer the faculty send-off. Benjamin Peters, a senior mechanical engineer at TCR Inc. and technology and engineering education instructor in the Nekoosa School District, will give the keynote address. In-person attendance is limited to ticket holders, but the ceremony will be livestreamed for remote viewers. The lives-



Mid-State Technical College hosts its mid-year graduation Dec. 13. PROVIDED BY MID-STATE TECHNICAL COLLEGE

team will be available at mstc.edu/graduation. Highlights of the event will be shared on Mid-State's social media accounts and at #MidStateClass25 after the ceremony. This story was created by reporter Nida Tazeen, NTazeen@usatodayco.com, with the assistance of Artificial Intelligence (AI). Journalists were involved in every step of the information gathering, review, editing and publishing process. Learn more at cm.usatoday.com/ethical-conduct.

