

The Story of Our School Song:

The music to the Little Falls school song, “Hail to our Colors”, was originally created by Kenneth Pinckney in 1936 for the city of Mankato, Minnesota as part of a more extensive composition entitled “The Key City March”. A short time later, Ken added words to the bridge of the music and entered a “fight song” contest for Mankato Teacher’s College. Called the “Purple and the Gold”, Mr. Pinckney won the contest, and it remains the school song of Minnesota State University – Mankato to this day.

Ken accepted the position of instrumental music instructor for the Little Falls schools in 1939. In the early 1940s, the school district adopted Ken’s composition as their school song. At that time, Little Falls and Mankato both used purple and gold as their school colors, so it was an easy fix to change a few words to tailor the song for Little Falls. In later years, Little Falls altered their colors to be purple and white so another small change to the wording was necessary. The school song, “Hail to our Colors” was a lasting gift from Kenneth Pinckney to the Little Falls community and is still sung with pride today.