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*White Bear Lake  
Area Schools*

2017

**ANNUAL UPDATE**

*to the community*



## From the Superintendent

We invite you to read through this 2017 Annual Report to the Community, a combination of the most recent achievement information, updates from the current school year, and highlights of district initiatives.



As you will read, the community and District have many reasons to be proud. This past Election Day, White Bear Lake Area Schools' operating levy renewal passed with 80% of voters in favor of the question. This reflects an unprecedented level of support by our community. We are in the midst of work by Strategic Planning Action Team members, who will collaborate through the winter months to determine the District's focus for the next three to five years. White Bear Lake Area Schools is growing, with an overall district enrollment this fall that was a 4% increase compared to last year.

We hope you will connect with us in some way, whether it is through committee membership, activity attendance, or following district happenings online.

Thank you, White Bear Lake Area community, for your ongoing support of our students!

- Dr. Wayne Kazmierczak, Superintendent

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*Leading minds to learning,  
hearts to compassion,  
and lives to community service.*

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***Elementary Schools***

**BIRCH LAKE / 651-653-2776**  
1616 Birch Lake Avenue  
White Bear Lake, MN 55110

**HUGO / 651-653-2798**  
14895 Francesca Avenue  
Hugo, MN 55038

**LAKEAIRES / 651-653-2809**  
3963 Van Dyke Street  
White Bear Lake, MN 55110

**LINCOLN / 651-653-2820**  
1961 Sixth Street  
White Bear Lake, MN 55110

**ONEKA / 651-288-1800**  
4888 Heritage Parkway North  
Hugo, MN 55038

**OTTER LAKE / 651-653-2831**  
1401 County Road H2  
White Bear Township, MN 55110

**MATOSKA INTERNATIONAL  
IB WORLD SCHOOL**  
**651-653-2847**  
2530 Spruce Place  
White Bear Lake, MN 55110

**VADNAIS HEIGHTS**  
**651-653-2858**  
3645 Centerville Road  
Vadnais Heights, MN 55127

**WILLOW LANE / 651-773-6170**  
3375 Willow Avenue  
White Bear Lake, MN 55110

***Middle School IB World Schools***

**CENTRAL / 651-653-2888**  
4857 Bloom Avenue  
White Bear Lake, MN 55110

**SUNRISE PARK / 651-653-2700**  
2399 Cedar Avenue  
White Bear Lake, MN 55110

***High School Campuses***

**WBLAHS - NORTH CAMPUS**  
**651-653-2920**  
(Grades 9-10)  
5045 Division Ave  
White Bear Lake, MN 55110

**WBLAHS - SOUTH CAMPUS**  
**651-773-6200**  
(Grades 11-12)  
3551 McKnight Road  
White Bear Lake, MN 55110

**WBL AREA LEARNING CENTER**  
**651-773-6400**  
2449 Orchard Lane  
White Bear Lake, MN 55110

***Other Sites***

**DISTRICT CENTER OFFICES**  
**651-407-7500**

4855 Bloom Avenue  
White Bear Lake, MN 55110

**EARLY CHILDHOOD PROGRAM**  
**651-653-3100**

- Normandy Park Education Center  
2482 East Cty Rd F, White Bear Lake
- Tamarack Nature Center  
5287 Otter Lake Rd  
White Bear Township
- Birch Lake Elementary  
1616 Birch Lake Ave  
White Bear Lake
- Hugo Elementary  
14895 Francesca Avenue, Hugo
- Otter Lake Elementary  
1401 County Road H2  
White Bear Township
- Vadnais Heights Elementary  
3645 Centerville Road  
Vadnais Heights

**WHITE BEAR AREA SENIOR PROGRAM**  
**651-653-3121**

2484 East County Rd F  
White Bear Lake, MN 55110

**TRANSITION EDUCATION CENTER**  
**651-773-6051**

13497 Fenway Blvd Circle N  
Hugo, MN 55038



# STUDENT GROWTH

## Measures of Academic Progress (MAP)

Our schools measure the academic growth of each student in grades 1-9 with the Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) test, a nationally-normed assessment based on national and state standards. Compared to the national average of one year of growth, our student gains in 2016-17 were highly competitive.

- » Average math gains in grades 1-9 were one year, three months.
- » Average reading gains in grades 1-9 were one year, three months.

*NWEA provides nationally-normed fall to spring growth targets for individual students. Average yearly growth is the sum of all actual student MAP growth, grades 1 through 9, divided by the sum of individual student expected growth. Reading growth in White Bear Lake Area Schools averaged 130% of a year and math growth averaged 128% of a year.*

Average  
**MATH  
GROWTH**

**1** year  
3 months

Average  
**READING  
GROWTH**



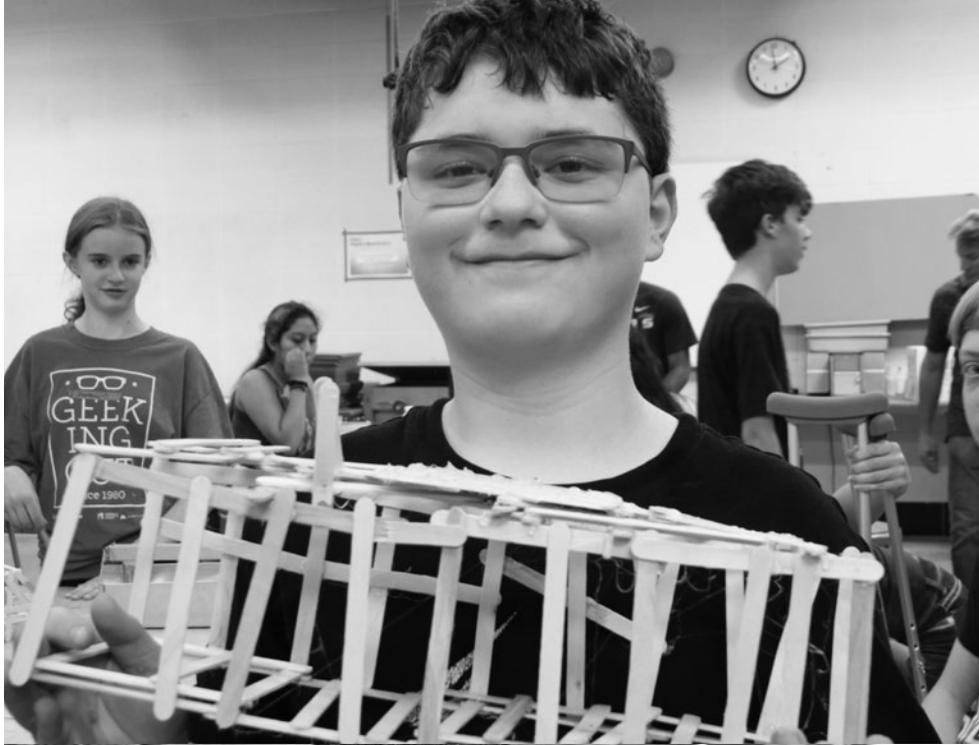
## Welcome Back Conferences

are designed to support each elementary student's academic and social development. Teachers have time to assess each student's reading level before the school year begins, and families have one-on-one time with teachers.



### Preschool

More than 800 students are nurtured and develop a love of learning through our White Bear Lake Area Schools early childhood programs. All of the District's preschool sites have a Parent Aware rating of four stars, the highest possible rating. Teachers assess the growth of children and take appropriate measures to ensure they are kindergarten-ready.



### Middle School

Students at Central and Sunrise Park Middle Schools take the MAP assessment in the fall and spring in math and reading. Teachers and counselors use these assessments along with other data to help students select courses. Intervention support is provided for students who test below grade level. Accelerated and enriched class options ensure that our students are challenged.

### Elementary

Students at our nine elementary schools are assessed by teachers using a range of grade-appropriate assessments in reading, math and science to measure progress toward local and state standards. Student growth is measured using the MAP assessment. Instructional support is personalized so students who test below grade level receive extra intervention and support, and students who already exceed standards are challenged through our comprehensive Gifted and Talented program.



### High School

High school teachers assess students through common assessments in each subject. Nationally-normed assessments include the MAP test in reading and math given in the fall and spring for ninth graders, the PreACT offered to tenth graders in the fall, and the PSAT and ACT offered to eleventh graders. Counselors and teachers use these data, along with an understanding of student motivation and goals, to help students select from more than 200 course offerings, including 42 college-level courses.

# STUDENT PROFICIENCY

Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCA) Student proficiency is measured by the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessment (MCA) tests, Minnesota's state requirement for testing under the Federal Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

2016-17 WBLAS MCA COMPARISON TO STATE AVERAGES			
	State	WBLAS	WBLAS % above state
Reading	60.1%	63.7%	+3.6%
Mathematics	58.6%	65.2%	+6.6%
Science	53.9%	60.5%	+6.6%

Source: Minnesota Department of Education's "Minnesota Report Card"



## SCIENCE

*Science scores have risen 3.0 percentage points since the new science standards and assessment in 2012.*

## READING

*Reading scores have risen 0.2 percentage points since the new reading standards and assessments in 2013.*

## MATH

*Math scores have risen 4.1 percentage points since the new math standards and assessment in 2011.*



### Supporting Literacy Instruction

Literacy coaches partner with elementary classroom teachers to model best practices, observe teaching strategies, offer individual teachers strategies for improvement, and regularly host workshops to help all elementary teachers improve the success of students in reading.

This program is highlighted in a video that can be found on the District Videos web page or directly here.



### Science and Math

For 2017, science and math scores remain significantly higher than the state average. Science scores have risen three percentage points since the new assessment was released by the state in 2012. Math scores have risen more than four percentage points since the new math standards and assessments began in 2011.

### Reading

Reading scores have shown a lower level of growth since 2013. To improve student growth, in the spring of 2016, teaching staff and administration developed a new model for the 2016-17 school year. Funds were reallocated internally to deploy five literacy coaches.

# HIGH EXPECTATIONS & ENRICHMENT

**57%** Rising to the challenge



57% of our middle school students took advanced or enriched courses.

1,062 out of 1,878 middle school students took advanced or enriched courses in math, science, language arts, social studies, or world language.

**70%** Responding to the challenge



An increasing range of college-level courses, plus an initiative encouraging students to understand the importance of college-level work at the high school, has raised the percentage of high school seniors taking a college-level course during their high school career. For the class of 2017, 70% of seniors have taken one or more college-level courses, up from 54% for the class of 2016.

418 out of 600 students in the class of 2017 took at least one college-level course during high school. This includes Advanced Placement, College in the Schools, Project Lead the Way, and Post-Secondary Enrollment Options.

## Colleges and Universities on campus

During the 2016-17 school year, our students earned a total of 1,995 college credits through 15 College in the Schools and concurrent enrollment courses taught by WBLAHS teachers, valued at \$962,818 by University of Minnesota tuition rates (based on \$482.54/credit).

## \$2.4 million

The total value of credits earned by WBLAHS students in College in the Schools (CIS), concurrent enrollment, Advanced Placement (AP), Project Lead the Way (PLTW) and Post-Secondary Enrollment Options (PSEO) courses during 2016-17 was \$2.4 million at 2017 University of Minnesota tuition rates.

*\$2,438,425 is based on credit earned through a college-level class or earned via Advanced Placement scores. Cost savings is based on University of Minnesota AP credit requirements and 2016/17 tuition rate of \$482.54 per credit hour. Student credits earned include AP (\$1,022,502), CIS and concurrent enrollment (\$962,818), PLTW (\$78,172), and PSEO (\$374,934). Based on estimated numbers of credits earned through qualifying scores or grades in college-level classes.*

## Student Support Services

White Bear Lake Area Schools have high expectations for all students and offer a continuum of specialized instruction for students with special needs. Our programs are individualized and comprehensive.

## STEM initiatives

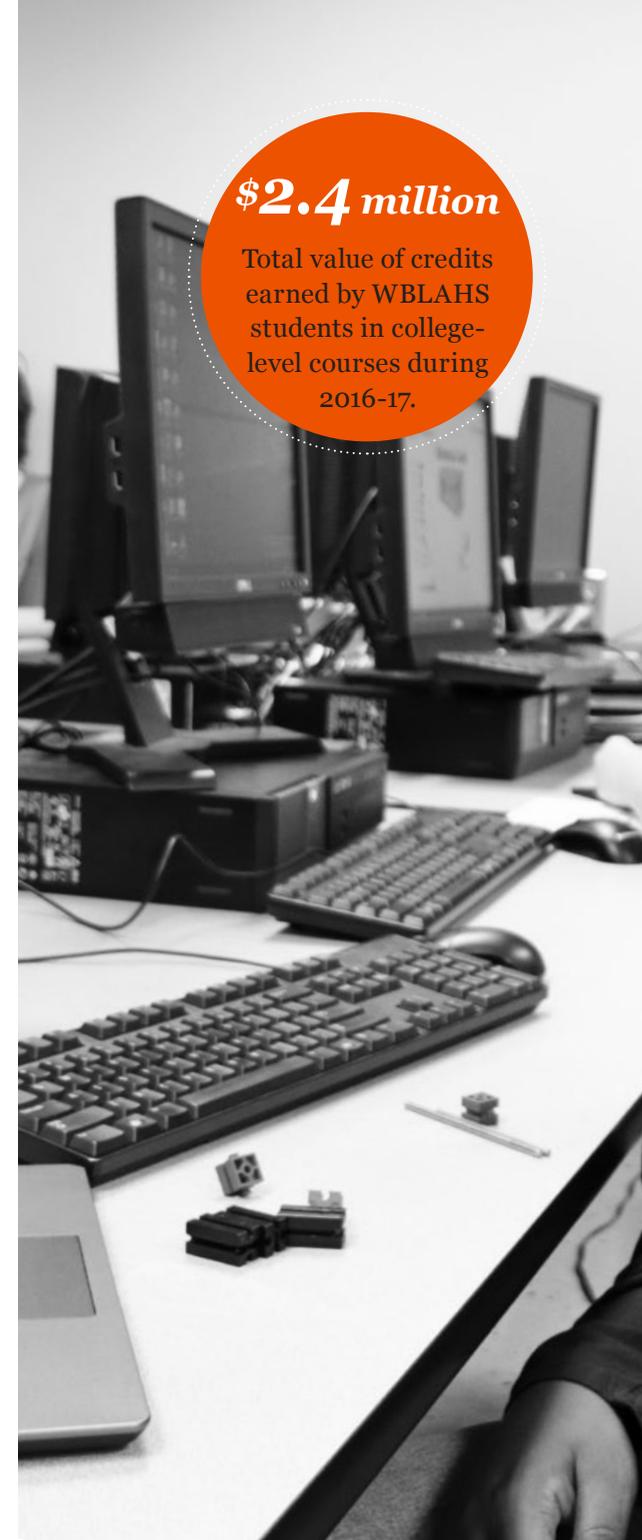
The middle schools and high school campuses offer courses through Project Lead the Way, a rigorous, innovative program focused on science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Two of our elementary schools, Willow Lane and Otter Lake, have been implementing a cross-school STEM partnership since the 2015-16 school year.

## International Baccalaureate

- » Both of the White Bear Lake Area School District middle schools became IB World Schools in January of 2015.
- » Matoska International IB World School, an elementary option for all families since 2010, received re-authorization in January of 2015.
- » As part of our continuous improvement work, the District is currently conducting a comprehensive program review of our IB programs.

**\$2.4 million**

Total value of credits earned by WBLAHS students in college-level courses during 2016-17.





PLTW / \$78,172 / 67 seats

PSEO / \$374,934 / 274 seats

CIS and concurrent enrollment / \$962,818 / 393 seats

AP / \$1,022,502 / 778 seats

Total = \$2,438,425, based on U of M credits at \$482.54 per credit.

### Early Childhood

- » In 2016-17, we served more than 260 children in our preschool program and 121 children in our parent and child ECFE classes (preschool number includes both general ed and special ed students).
- » White Bear Lake Area Schools Early Childhood options have expanded to meet growing demand. The program has added additional classes at Birch Lake Elementary and a new School Readiness Plus Program.
- » Outreach Facilitators provided early childhood programming at various community locations to increase exposure to early learning opportunities.
- » For 2017-18, we offer early childhood opportunities at Normandy Park, Tamarack Nature Center, Birch Lake, Hugo, Lakeaires, Otter Lake and Vadnais Heights Elementary Schools.

### Elementary

- » As the result of a Gifted and Talented program review, innovative new programs were implemented to challenge all students in the fall of 2013. A school-within-a-school for the exceptionally gifted has been in place since 2015-16.
- » Full K-5 implementation of the District's elementary world language program began in the fall of 2013. All elementary schools offer a world language, with Spanish at Birch Lake, Hugo, Lakeaires, Matoska, Oneka, Otter Lake, and Willow Lane. Chinese is offered at Lincoln and Vadnais Heights.
- » An elementary orchestra program is available for students in grades five through seven. The program will expand to upper grades in the coming years.

### Middle School

- » Students have the opportunity to take Chinese, French, German or Spanish during each of their middle school years.
- » For 2016-17, 57% of middle school students at Sunrise Park and Central took at least one advanced or enriched class in math, science, language arts, social studies, or world language.
- » Project Lead the Way courses allow students the opportunity to take STEM classes such as *Design and Modeling* and *Robotics* in grades six, seven and eight.

### High School

- » White Bear Lake Area High School offered a total of 43 college-level courses to students grades 9-12 during the 2016-17 school year. Additional college-level classes were added for the 2017-18 school year.
- » The percentage of the WBLAHS class of 2016 that took college-level courses during their high school career was 54%. For the class of 2017, the percentage rose to 67%. There were 110 AP Scholars in White Bear Area High School in 2017.
- » At the high school level, students can choose from Career Pathways programs in four areas: manufacturing, construction, information technology and healthcare.

# PREPARATION FOR CAREER

WBLAS continues to be a recognized leader for developing Career Pathways aligned to workforce needs.

- » A Manufacturing Pathway made possible in part due to a \$250,000 grant received from United Way.
- » A Construction Trades pathway with strong support from trade unions.
- » An IT pathway in conjunction with Century College and area businesses.
- » A Healthcare pathway featuring concurrent enrollment coursework for credentials as a certified nursing assistant (CNA).

4



## Humphrey Innovation Award

For the second time, in 2015, White Bear Lake Area Schools was honored by the University of Minnesota's Humphrey School of Public Affairs with a prestigious Local Government Innovation Award. The initiative for which the district has been recognized is *Courses that Count: Partnering to Reduce Remedial Coursework*, facilitated in partnership with Century College.

110

Advanced Placement Scholars

556 students from White Bear Lake Area Schools took at least one AP exam in 2017.

18

22

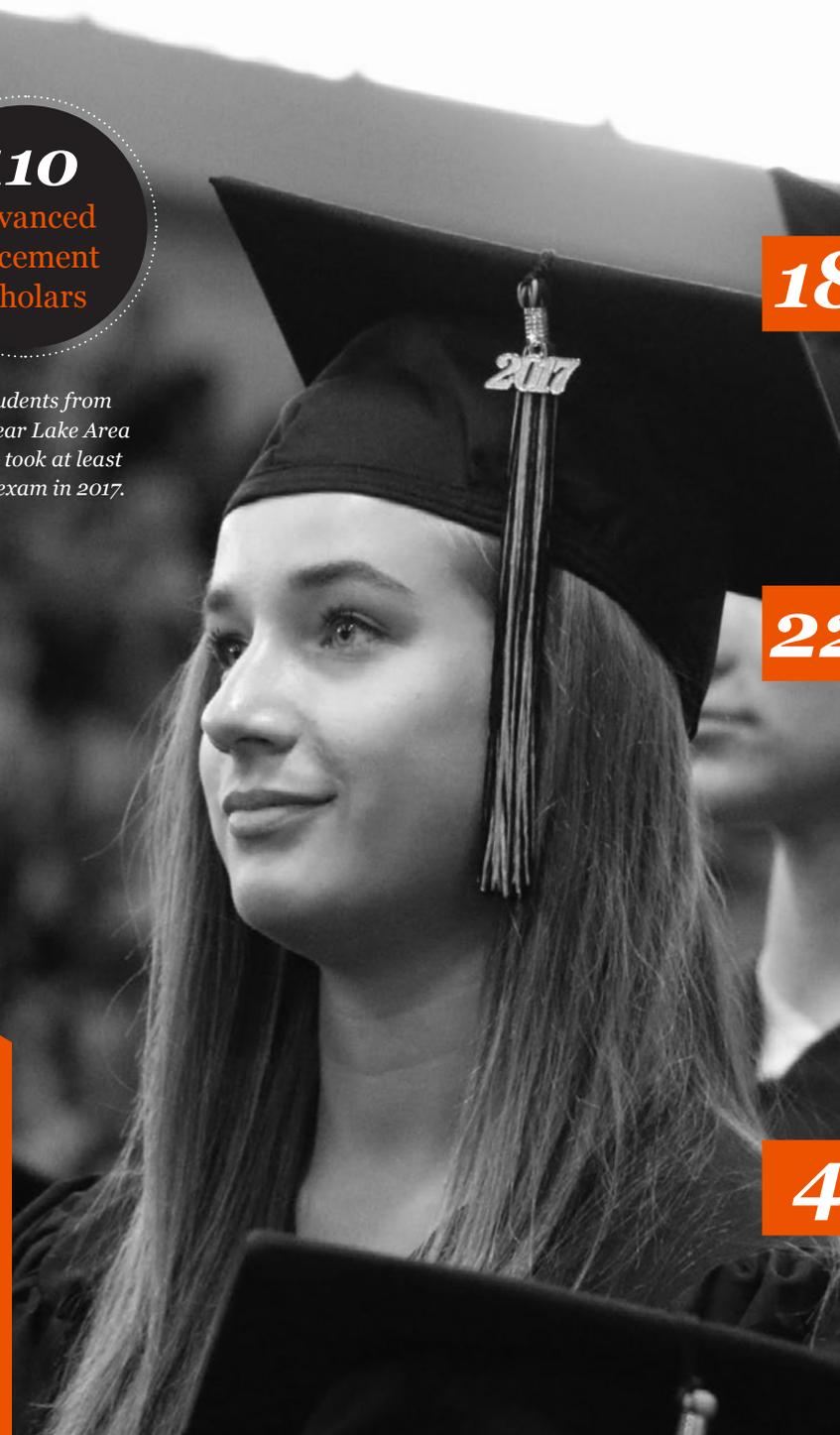
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2016-17  
778 AP EXAMS TAKEN

## ON THE RISE

District Advanced Placement (AP) program has expanded since 2010-11

.....  
COMPARED TO 590 AP EXAMS TAKEN IN 2010-11



# PREPARATION FOR COLLEGE AND CAREER

## 2017-18 Advanced Placement (AP) Classes

- » American History
- » Art History
- » Calculus AB
- » Calculus BC
- » Chemistry with Biochemistry
- » Computer Science
- » Principles of English
- » English Language & Composition
- » English Literature & Composition
- » Environmental Sciences
- » European History
- » Human Geography
- » Macroeconomics
- » Microeconomics
- » Music Theory
- » Physics
- » Statistics
- » Studio Art
- » World History

## 2017-18 College in the Schools (CIS) and Concurrent Enrollment Classes

- » eCIS Basic & Applied Statistics ESPY 3264
- » eCIS Writing Studio 1201 and CIS Writing Studio 1301
- » eCIS Mathematical Modeling & Predictions PSTL 1006
- » CIS Advanced Sign Language 207
- » CIS Advanced Sign Language 208
- » CIS American Democracy in a Changing World 1001
- » CIS Authority & Rebellion: American History to 1865 HIST 1307
- » CIS Modern Chinese 1011
- » CIS Modern Chinese 1012
- » CIS Global America: US History Since 1865 HIST 1308
- » CIS Introduction to Literature 1001
- » CIS German 1003
- » CIS German 1004
- » CIS French 1003
- » CIS French 1004
- » CIS Spanish 1003
- » CIS Spanish 1004
- » CIS Critical Reading & Thinking RDNG 1000
- » CIS Exploring Teaching 2128
- » CIS Program Fundamentals 2402
- » IT Explorations
- » Photojournalism

## 2017-18 Project Lead the Way (PLTW) Classes

- » Civil Engineering and Architecture
- » Digital Electronics
- » Introduction to Engineering Design
- » Principles of Engineering

*Project Lead the Way STEM classes are nationally-certified courses that allow students the opportunity to earn university credits.*

## 2017 ADVANCED PLACEMENT SCHOLARS

### 55 AP Scholars

Valeed Abid	Chance Doherty	Brandon Krekelberg	Olivia Schwintek
John Anderson	Nicholas	Joseph Kroll	Ian Shepler
Owen Anderson	Domrongwattanak	Anna Lee	Lily Simms
Christopher Auger	Zachary Duncanson	Samuel Maijala	Brooklyne Spiess
Anna Barton	Logan Fike	Christine McMakin	Amanda Sullivan
Samuel Broberg	Isabella Hage	Travis Momsen	Nathan Thomas
Sabrina Bush	Nash Hanson	Chloe Nelson	Patrick Timmons
Austin Callahan	Andrew Her	Hope Nelson	Abraham Townley
Jayna Carpenter	Rachel Hiniker	Nicole Peterson	Joseph Tschetter
Michaela Craigan	Kiara Hohn	Michael Prelgo	Kennedy Tschida
Jessica Crosson	Erica Holbrook	Katie Regnier	Abby Walker
William Deery	Quinn Johnson	Liliana Rodriguez	Olivia Wennen
Emma Deutsch	Theodore Karp	Jack Rogowski	Raymond White
Liselle Diaz	Kevin Kaufer	Micalah Sagnes	Emma Williamson

### 24 AP Scholars with Honor

Denton Anderson	Ashley Dalbec	Marc McCutcheon	Benjamin Richter
Kyler Bahrke	Harrison Fischer	William Moris	Molly Riley
Matthew Baumgardner	Meghan Gamradt	Kyle Neuendorf	Kaylie Rusler
Nicholas Blanding	Kami Kendall	Tejas Nivarty	Gage Sibik
Zachary Cadalbert	Olivia Kunshier	Sydney Peterson	Matthew Weinberger
Austin Carroll	Elizabeth Lilygren	Ashley Reinhardt	Andrew Zarling

### 31 AP Scholars with Distinction

Isaac Anderson	Jared Cilley	Calista Hughes	Kylie Noonan
Micah Anderson	Emma Corcoran	Carrie Hunner	Signey Oslund
Elsa Ballata	Jacob Dalhoff	Daniel Johnson	Miriam Probst
Connor Barton	Samantha Engrav	Jacob Johnson	Ashley Renstedt
Andrea Berlin	Hannah Falk	Emma Larsen	Douglas Shield
Madison Bjostad	Ryan Hall-Hunt	Madison Loppnow	Scott Shield
Justin Blank	Sarah Hirsch	Shea Niccum	Blake Welle
Katelyn Cannon	Chad Holman	Keely Nistler	

### 3 National AP Scholars

Carrie Hunner  
Jacob Johnson  
Shea Niccum

### 3 National Merit Honors

Daniel Johnson  
Elizabeth Lilygren  
Liliana Rodriguez

### 1 National Hispanic Scholar

Liliana Rodriguez

### Advancement via Individual Determination (AVID)

White Bear Lake Area High School began implementation of the Advancement via Individual Determination (AVID) program in the fall of 2010. The program offers rigorous instruction to students in the academic middle who have the individual determination to prepare for a four year college. In AVID classes, students collaborate, engage in inquiry, and learn college-level reading, writing and study strategies.

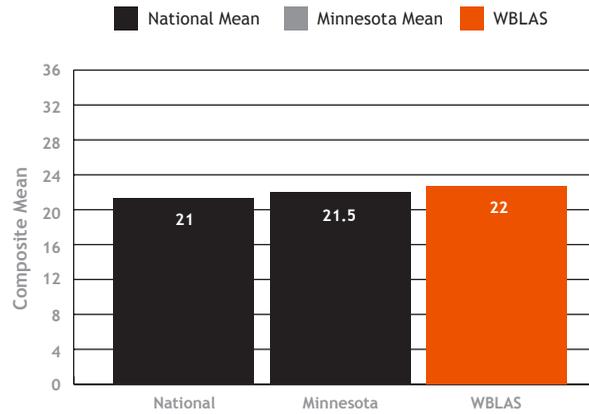
### Post-Secondary Enrollment Option (PSEO)

Juniors and seniors at White Bear Lake Area High School have the opportunity to attend Minnesota post-secondary institutions as high school students. Twenty-seven members of the class of 2017 were PSEO students.

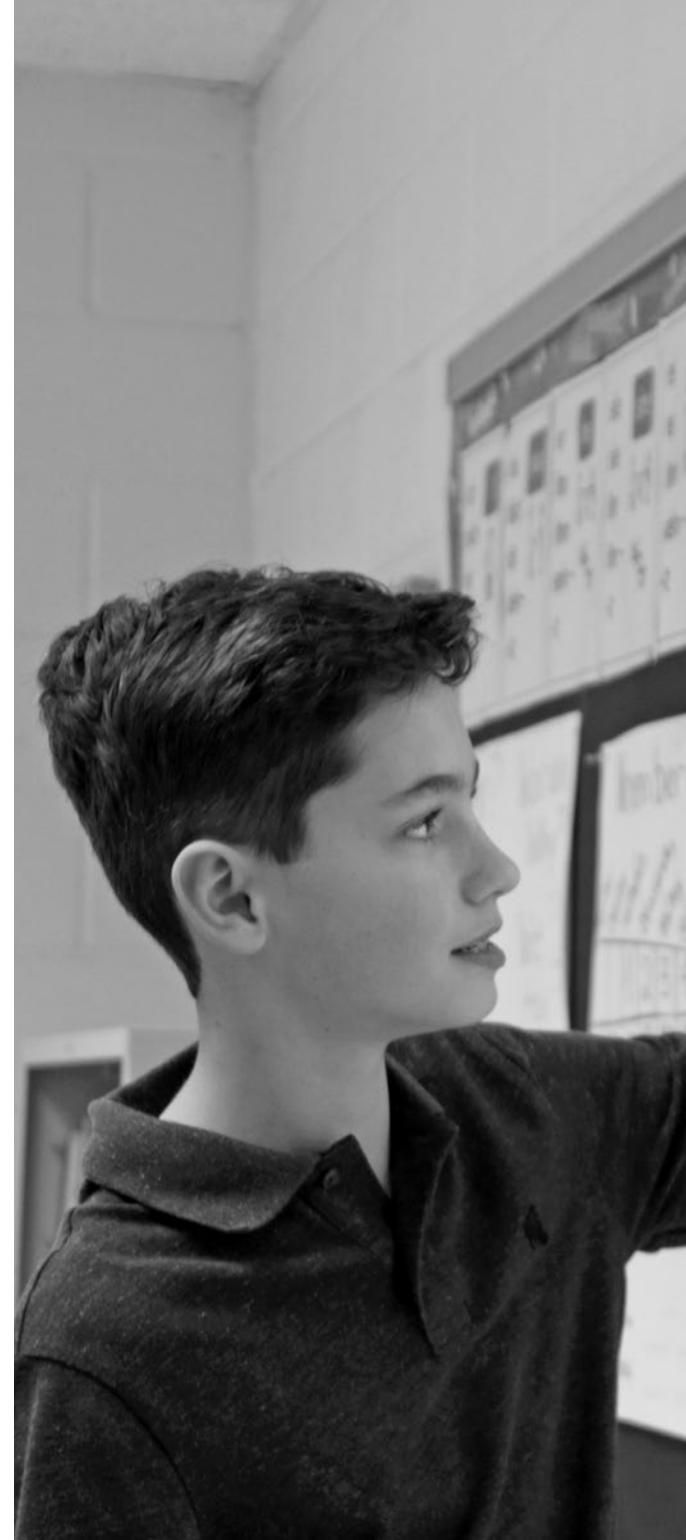
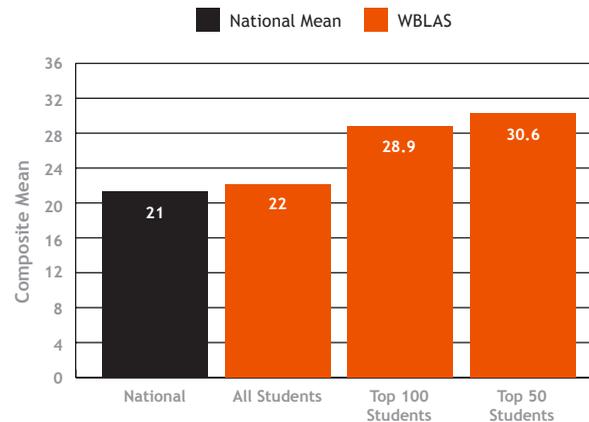
### ACT

The ACT is the most commonly taken college entrance exam in Minnesota, required by most Minnesota colleges. The White Bear Lake Area School District encourages all students to take the ACT test. Every member of the class of 2017 had the opportunity to take the ACT free of charge during the school day. White Bear composite scores remain higher than both the national average (by 1.0 point) and the Minnesota average (by 0.5 point). There is a strong relationship between taking challenging courses, such as honors, AP and CIS classes, and increased scores on college entrance exams.

ACT COMPOSITE AVERAGES, CLASS OF 2017



ACT COMPOSITE SCORE COMPARISON, CLASS OF 2017





### Rigorous Curriculum

- » **SCIENCE** - The White Bear Lake Area School District is making progress in science as a result of science notebooks, Engineering is Elementary, Foss Science Curriculum and staff professional development. District science scores rose 3 percentage points since the new standards and test in 2012.
- » **READING** - Factors contributing to a positive 3.6 percentage point spread between the state average reading score and White Bear Lake Area Schools' average reading scores include continued literacy training for teachers and implementation of our comprehensive literacy curriculum aligned to state standards. We continue to successfully implement a highly structured intervention program designed to meet the individual needs of all students.
- » **MATH** - The District's average proficiency growth across grade levels is 4.1 percentage points since new standards were first assessed in 2011.
- » **CURRICULUM ADVISORY** - The World's Best Workforce Advisory Committee includes parents, students, teachers, administrators and community members. They serve as a sounding board for the community, gain knowledge about the District's curriculum and its development, and positively influence changes within each curriculum area.

### Response to Intervention (RtI)

This framework is a system of high-quality instruction and tiers of intervention matched to student need. RtI is implemented in all elementary schools and middle schools.

### Community Support

- » Community volunteers provide important mentoring, math and reading help and classroom support. Families actively support students through parent-teacher organizations.
- » This past Election Day, White Bear Lake Area Schools' ten year operating levy renewal passed with 80% of voters in favor of the question. This reflects an unprecedented level of support by our community.

### Excellent Teaching and Support

Lincoln Elementary teacher Nick Marty, who also serves as a Digital Learning Specialist throughout the District, was named 2017 Teacher of the Year and represented White Bear Lake Area Schools in the state Teacher of the Year program.

### Continuous Improvement

The District conducts a thorough continuous improvement process to review and evaluate the effectiveness of instruction and curriculum. The focus of the review process is to use timely, accurate data to regularly inform and improve teacher practice and student achievement. Stakeholders throughout the system are involved in setting measurable goals and evaluating progress toward the goals. In the summers of 2015, 2016 and 2017, building school improvement teams participated in data retreats where disaggregated data was studied, reflected upon and used to develop continuous improvement goals. Teams collaboratively monitor student progress throughout the school year and adjust instructional strategies to assist students in meeting their learning goals.



# 2016-17 AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

### » AP Scholarship program

113 students were honored in the Advanced Placement Scholar program in the categories of AP Scholar, AP Scholar with Honors and AP Scholar with Distinction.

### » National Merit program

Three District students were honored as Commended Students in the National Merit Program.

### » National Hispanic Recognition Program

Student Lilianna Rodriguez was one of 5,000 students to be recognized in the National Hispanic Recognition Program, out of the 250,000 Hispanic/Latino juniors in the nation who took the PSAT/NMSQT test.

### » Girls' Cross Country Team

The Girls' Cross Country Team earned the 4AA Section Championship and earned a trip to the State Meet.

### » Boys' Cross Country Team

The Boys' Cross Country Team took second place in the 4AA Section Championship and earned a trip to the State Meet.

### » Middle School Cheerleading

The White Bear Middle School Cheerleading Team represented the district in the MCCA State Cheer Off and was named the grand champion in the middle school division.

### » High School Cheerleading

The varsity girls' High School Cheerleading Team was named School Song champion in the varsity division and received third place overall in the MCCA State Cheer Off. One team member made the All-State team.

### » Unified Bears

White Bear Lake Area Schools' Unified Bowling Team and Unified Basketball Teams competed at the state level.

### » Varsity Bowling Team

The White Bear Lake Area High School Bowling Team earned first place in the conference tournament and competed in the state bowling competition.

### » WBLAHS Fall Musical

The cast and crew of the White Bear Lake Area High School Fall Musical "Mary Poppins," won a total of 23 awards in the Hennepin Theatre Trust Spotlight Award Program, including a newly-created "Outstanding Achievement in Musical Theatre."

### » Band

Twenty-seven band students earned a place in honor, all-conference or All-State bands.

### » Choir

Fifteen choir students earned a place in honor, all-conference or All-State choirs.

### » Art Awards

Twenty-seven WBLAS middle school and high school students received Scholastic Art Awards, including Gold Key Awards. One student earned a Silver Key in the National Scholastic Art Awards. Six students earned high marks in state art competitions.

### » Middle School MBDA Honor Band students

Five district middle school students were selected to participate in Honor Jazz Band or Honor Band.





» **The Prudential Spirit of Community Award finalist**  
WBLAHS Senior Madsyn Kephart was honored with The Prudential Spirit of Community Award for her work in founding a Unified Volleyball team for youth with and without special needs.

» **Alpine ski**  
WBLAHS Senior Kate Cox represented the District at the state level in Alpine Ski.

» **Nordic ski**  
Two Girls' Nordic Ski Team members represented White Bear Lake Area High School at the state competition.

» **Boys' Swim**  
Boys' swimmer Abe Townley competed at the State Boys' Swim Meet, qualifying in the 50 Yard and 100 Yard Freestyle races.

» **Moody Mega Math Challenge**  
White Bear Lake Area High School had two teams move into the second round of the Moody Mega Math Challenge, something attained by only 174 of more than 1,500 teams competing in the national challenge.

» **Wrestling**  
Five White Bear Lake Area High School Wrestling Team members competed at the State Wrestling tournament.

» **Girls' Basketball**  
The Girls' Basketball Team competed in the state tournament for the second consecutive year.

» **Speech Team**  
Student Nambi Mwassa earned the fifth place medal in "Serious Interpretation-Prose" at the State Speech contest.

» **SkillsUSA National Competition**  
Two White Bear students who attend classes at Century College through the District's work with Intermediate District 916 earned Gold Medals at the SkillsUSA State Competition and went on to compete at Nationals.

» **HOSA National Competition**  
Two White Bear students who attend classes at Century College through the District's work with Intermediate District 916 competed at State and National levels for Health Occupations Student Association (HOSA).

» **Middle School Choir**  
Eight White Bear Lake Area middle school students competed in state-level choir contests and concerts.

» **WBLAHS - South Campus Student Council**  
The White Bear Lake Area High School - South Campus Student Council was honored at the Minnesota Association of Student Councils conference as one of five Outstanding Student Councils.

» **History Day Students**  
Many Central and Sunrise Park Middle School students represented the District at the State History Day. Six of the students earned the honor of traveling to Washington, D.C. to compete at National History Day.

» **School Bus Safety Poster Contest**  
Six of our elementary students represented the District in the state-wide School Bus Safety Poster Contest.

» **Girls' Track**  
The Girls' Track team earned a spot to compete at the Minnesota State Track Coaches Association True Team competition. Additionally, individual Girls' Track Team members represented the District in the State Track Meet.

» **Boys' Track**  
Boys' Track Team member Josh Truen competed in the 800 meter race in the State Track Meet.

» **Archery**  
White Bear Lake archers performed strong at the National Tournament in both the 3D and the Bullseye tournaments and qualified as a team to attend the World Tournament for 3D and Bullseye.



# INNOVATIONS IN TECHNOLOGY

## Technology Integration

- » Technology integration is expanding across our schools. We continue to advance the District mission by providing tools, training and support that:
  - strengthen Communication, Collaboration, Critical Thinking and Creativity (4C's).
  - equitably support best practice teaching and personalized learning.
  - promote innovation.
  - accelerate preparation for college and career.
- » Digital Learning Specialists work with staff to integrate technology and innovate teaching and learning. This support ensures that we are maximizing resources in White Bear while sharing our best ideas across grade levels, departments and buildings. We are expanding our innovative use of technology at all levels, including our Chromebook 1:1 in grades six through twelve and classroom deployments in elementary school.



### 1:1

Since 2016-17, students in grades six through twelve have 1:1 access. For the 2017-18 school year, each grade three through five classroom has a Chromebook set, and kindergarten through second grade students have 2:1 access in their classrooms.

## Infrastructure

- » WBLAS continues to strengthen and expand our technology infrastructure. With wireless access points in every learning space and increased bandwidth, we continue to prioritize a safe, secure and fast network. We have nearly 9,000 Chromebooks and 4,000 personal computers deployed for staff and students across the District. A team of technicians collaborate to ensure that the entire system is working smoothly so WBLAS can focus on teaching and learning every day.

## Innovative technology

- » WBLAS is committed to integrating technology in every classroom in order to engage students, accelerate student learning, and ensure that students gain the 21st century skills they need to succeed. The Technology Department follows a deliberate and successful course of action that prioritizes usable and sustainable devices, a secure and reliable network infrastructure, efficient and integrated applications along with innovative professional support anchored in Communication, Collaboration, Critical Thinking and Creativity.

## Chromebooks and Tablets

- » With more than 9,000 deployed district-wide, Chromebooks offer quick access to all of our collaborative, online tools. Grades six through twelve now have 1:1 access to Chromebooks both at school and at home throughout the school year, making it easier to stay connected to teachers and classmates.
- » Chromebooks make up the majority of elementary classroom student devices as well, although more than 1,000 tablets are also deployed for use when touch and portability are a primary concern.

## Integrated Systems

- » Google's suite of productivity tools pairs well with Skyward, Schoology and our other systems. WBLAS staff and students incorporate these and other tools into our daily practice, using them to communicate more efficiently, collaborate more easily, provide more equitable access, offer timely feedback and expand learning beyond the traditional school day.



## Communication Innovation

White Bear Lake Area Schools embraces innovative communications tools to connect with families and community members. The department conducted an external communications audit in the spring of 2017 to ensure the District is best serving the communications needs of parents, staff and community members.

- » **PARENT ALERT SYSTEM** - The District uses the SchoolMessenger parent alert system. The system allows for voicemail and email alerts to be sent out instantaneously.
- » **COMMUNITY E-NEWSLETTER** - The Community e-Newsletter, sent out twice a month to families and community members, covers School Board proceedings, student and staff achievements as well as school and Community Education offerings.
- » **STAY SOCIAL** - Currently, 5,000 people follow the district on Facebook, Twitter or YouTube. Daily 624Facts are shared out through Facebook and Twitter.
- » **WWW.ISD624.ORG** – The District and school websites are designed to be easy-to-use and informational.
- » **VIDEOS** - A Community e-Newsletter Video Edition is sent twice a month. *The Week in 62.4 Seconds* videos highlight students learning each Friday. District videos are closed captioned in both English and Spanish.
- » **SCHOOL BOARD COMMUNICATION** - The Communications Office makes School Board Meeting Highlights and School Board meeting video/audio files available to the public after each School Board meeting.

## Innovation in the News

Many of the District's students, staff members and programs were highlighted in the local, regional and national news as examples of innovation and excellence.

Find links to media stories at [www.isd624.org/news/WBLAS-in-the-News.asp](http://www.isd624.org/news/WBLAS-in-the-News.asp)



# FINANCE

## Financial management

To help the District meet its educational goals, White Bear Lake Area Schools remain committed to fiscal responsibility to ensure that maximum resources reach our classrooms.

## Stewardship:

White Bear Lake Area Schools continues to demonstrate strong stewardship to our communities.

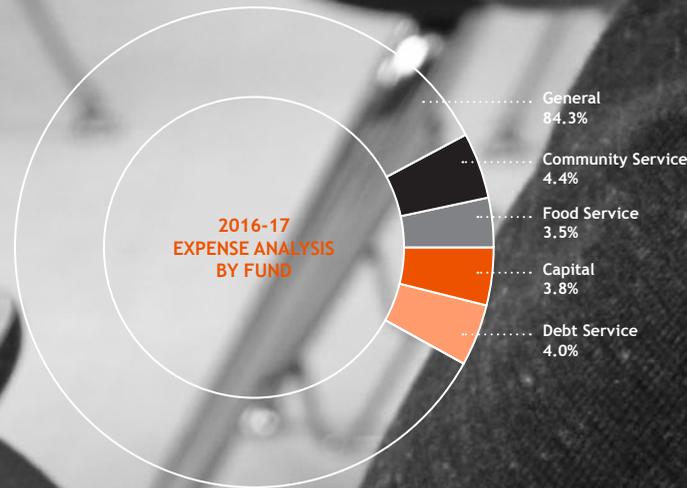
- » We have been recognized for excellence in financial reporting by the Association of School Business Officials and Government Finance Officers Association for 17 consecutive years.
- » The district has a AA bond rating, which we have received from Standard and Poor's every year the district has applied since 2010.
- » In November of 2017, area residents voted on the District's ten-year Local Operating Levy Renewal, with 80% in support of the question.

The district has a

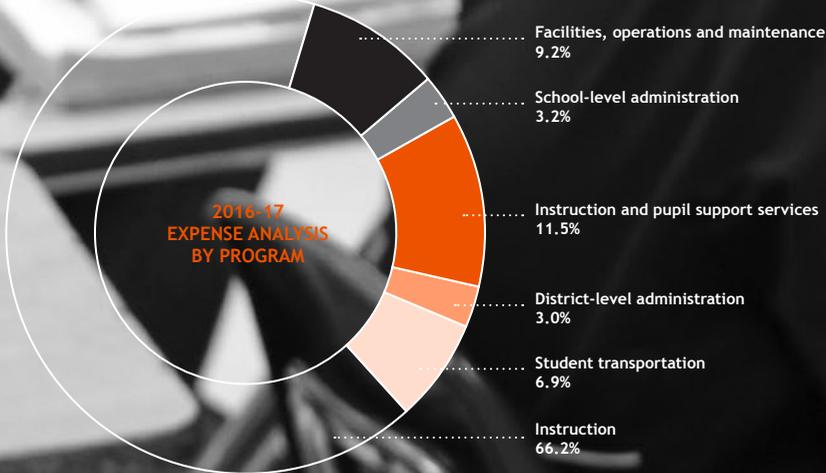
*AA bond rating,  
which we have received from Standard and Poor's  
every year the District has applied since 2010.*

**We have been recognized for  
excellence in financial reporting  
for 17 consecutive years**

by the Association of School Business Officials  
and Government Finance Officers Association.



Source: Consolidated Financial Statement MDE



# 2017-18 DISTRICT PROFILE

The White Bear Lake Area School District serves all or parts of Birchwood, Gem Lake, Hugo, Lino Lakes, Little Canada, Maplewood, North Oaks, Vadnais Heights, White Bear Lake and White Bear Township.

## Core Values

The White Bear Lake Area School District builds quality lives and strong communities through compassion, integrity, respect, responsibility and service.

## Mission

The mission of the White Bear Lake Area School District, a leader in innovative education and community partnerships, is to ensure our students:

- develop a love for learning,
- excel academically,
- are inspired to realize their dreams, and
- become engaged citizens with a global understanding

by challenging each student within a dynamic, respectful and inclusive environment that nurtures the unique talents and abilities of every student.

STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS 2017-18	
Free/Reduced Price Lunch	24.6%
English Language Learner	3.3%
Special Education	15.6%
American Indian/Alaska Native	0.4%
Asian	6.6%
Black/African American	5.5%
Hispanic/Latino	7.3%
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0.1%
Two or more races	6.1%
White	73.9%

Source: Minnesota Department of Education

STUDENT ENROLLMENT 2017-18	
Pre-K <i>Pre-K includes all District programs including preschool and early childhood at all District locations.</i>	595
Elementary (Grades K-5)	4,140
Middle School (Grades 6-8)	1,826
High School (Grades 9-12)	2,472
Transition Plus (Special Ed - ages 18-24)	35
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL K-T+</b>	<b>8,473</b>
<b>DISTRICT TOTAL BIRTH-T+</b>	<b>9,068</b>

Source: Minnesota Department of Education and District data

DISTRICT 624 STAFF PROFILE 2017	
Teachers with fewer than 3 years experience	5.9%
Teachers with 3-10 years experience	33.6%
Teachers with more than 10 years experience	60.5%



### School Board Members, July 2017 to present

Vice-Chair Don Mullin, George Kimball, Chair Janet Newberg, Student Liaison Ashley Rensted, Marge Newmaster, Clerk Ellen Fahey, Treasurer Kim Chapman, Scott Wilson, Student Liaison Makena Pratt, Superintendent Dr. Wayne Kazmierczak.



### School Board Members, January 2016 to June 2017

Superintendent Dr. Michael Lovett, Clerk Ellen Fahey, Vice-Chair Don Mullin (2017), Student Liaison Bryana Sherrick, Treasurer Kim Chapman, Student Liaison Hakeem Martins, Chair Janet Newberg, Marge Newmaster, Scott Wilson, Vice-Chair George Kimball (2016).



**WE BELIEVE:**

**Strategic Plan**

(Draft November 2017)

**MISSION**

The mission of the White Bear Lake Area School District, the community at the forefront of educational excellence, honoring our legacy and courageously building the future, is to ensure each student realizes their unique talents and abilities, and makes meaningful contributions with local and global impact through a vital system distinguished by:

- » Students who design and create their own future
- » Diversity of people and ideas
- » Safe, nurturing and inspiring environments
- » Exceptional staff and families committed to student success
- » Abundant and engaged community partners

**WE WILL:**

- ensure that each student is the primary agent in their learning.
- provide expanding access to a broad range of opportunities for all students.
- foster community engagement and partnerships.
- build organizational capacity.

**STRATEGIES**

**WE WILL:**

- embrace all cultures with humility and respect.
- ensure learning environments enhance students' educational experience.
- engage families as partners in the education of their children.
- ensure the social and emotional growth of our students.

**OBJECTIVES**

Each student meaningfully contributes to community.

**100% OF STUDENTS:**

- feel valued.
- accomplish their personalized learning plan.
- are prepared for and implement their design for their future.
- graduate.
- creatively adapt to an ever-changing world.



# DISTRICT PARTNERSHIPS

## » BUSINESS PARTNERSHIPS

Individual schools and programs partner with local businesses and organizations. The partnerships often are highlighted in our Community e-Newsletters. Find story archives at [www.isd624.org](http://www.isd624.org).

## » CENTURY COLLEGE

In our continued efforts to improve student learning and opportunities, our secondary schools are working with Century College to improve college readiness and increase concurrent enrollment options. The partnership received a Local Government Innovation Award from the University of Minnesota Humphrey Institute in December of 2015.

## » COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

The District partners with our ten municipalities to provide year-round recreational programs and athletic activities for the whole community through the Community Education and Recreation Program.

## » EQUITY ALLIANCE MN

The District's involvement in Equity Alliance MN offers inter-district partnerships and support for students and educators. The partnership coordinates student and educator programs.

## » HANGZHOU FOREIGN LANGUAGES SCHOOL

White Bear Lake Area Schools partners with Hangzhou Foreign Languages School, located in Hangzhou, China, for teacher and cultural exchanges. Teachers serve residencies in each school.

## » INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE PARTNERSHIPS

WBLAHS partners with schools in Meaux, France and Leipzig, Germany to provide international exchange experiences for students in German and French world language programs. WBLAHS played host to German and French students in the fall of 2017. Our students will travel to Germany and France in the spring of 2018.

## » LAKESHORE PLAYERS

The District works with Lakeshore Players, a highly-regarded community theatre based in White Bear Lake, to provide after-school classes and workshops for students.

## » MACPHAIL CENTER FOR MUSIC

Birch Lake Elementary partners with MacPhail Center for Music to offer an enhanced music program including piano and violin. Additional after-school and weekend music lesson opportunities are offered to the whole community.

## » TAMARACK NATURE CENTER

Otter Lake, Vadnais Heights and Willow Lane Elementary Schools and Central and Sunrise Park Middle Schools partner with Tamarack Nature Center to provide students with experiential learning on environmental issues. The Early Childhood Program also benefits from a partnership with the Center, which serves as a program site for the District's expanded "My Nature Preschool."

## » UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

White Bear schools have been identified as exemplary training sites for future teachers through the Teacher Education Redesign Initiative (TERI). The University of Minnesota continues to work with three district schools as Professional Development Sites and provides additional resources for teachers and students.

## » VADNAIS SPORTS CENTER

The Vadnais Sports Center serves as the home arena for the boys' and girls' high school hockey teams.

## » VOLUNTEERS

Community volunteers provide important mentoring, math and reading help and classroom support. Families actively support students through parent-teacher organizations.

## » WHITE BEAR CENTER FOR THE ARTS

Every elementary student receives six art experiences annually through a partnership with the White Bear Center for the Arts. The partnership received a Local Government Innovation Award from the University of Minnesota Humphrey Institute in 2010.

## » WHITE BEAR LAKE AREA EDUCATIONAL FOUNDATION

The Foundation supports our schools with the help of local businesses, alumni and community members. The Foundation provides teaching grants, scholarships and fellowships for teachers; offers an Angel Fund and Closet clothing donation for families with special economic needs; and works closely with the White Bear Lake Area Alumni Association.

## » YMCA

Through a partnership with the YMCA, elementary students receive water safety lessons during the school year. Extended Day participants receive summer swimming lessons. The YMCA serves as the home pool for our girls' and boys' swimming and diving teams and as a site for an outreach teen and senior center.



WHITE BEAR LAKE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT (ISD#624)  
DR. WAYNE KAZMIERCZAK, SUPERINTENDENT  
4855 BLOOM AVENUE, WHITE BEAR LAKE, MN 55110

*HAI SQHIA! Yog koj xav tau tsev kawm ntauw cov ntauw txhais ua lus Hmoob, thov hu tus Hmoob Liaison rau (651) 407-7623.*  
*ATENCIÓN: Si usted necesita hablar con una persona que hable Español, por favor, llame al (651) 407-7625.*

The White Bear Lake Area School District serves all or parts of Birchwood, Gem Lake, Hugo, Lino Lakes, Little Canada, Maplewood, North Oaks, Vadnais Heights, White Bear Lake and White Bear Township.

In addition to English,  
students in our district

Speak  
**46**  
home  
languages

- Afan Oromo/  
Oromo/Oromiffa
- Afrikaans
- Amharic
- Anauk
- Arabic
- Balinese
- Bengali
- Bosnian
- Cambodian/Khmer
- Chinese, Mandarin
- English Creolized
- Fanti
- French
- Fulah
- Georgian
- German
- Gujarati
- Hiligaynon/Illo
- Hmong
- Igbo
- Italian
- Japanese
- Kiswahili, Swahili
- Latvian
- Lithuanian
- Luganda, Ganda
- Malayalam
- Mandar
- Marathi
- Nepali
- Norwegian
- Pilipino, Tagal
- Portuguese
- Punjabi
- Russian
- Sign Language,  
ASL
- Somali
- Spanish
- Tamil
- Telugu
- Thai
- Tigrinya
- Ukrainian
- Urdu
- Vietnamese
- Yoruba

The district has five cultural liaisons that work to support students and families and to build bridges between home and school



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This Annual Update to the community complements the World's Best Workforce Plan and Report, which is required by Minnesota Statutes.