

2018

ANNUAL UPDATE

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White Bear Lake Area Schools



From the Superintendent

We invite you to read through this 2018 Annual Update 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, we are continuing to focus on our future. Last year, the district went through a Strategic Planning process that is being replicated at the building level this year. We are also in the midst of a Comprehensive Facilities Planning process that will help us look at our learning spaces, community spaces and the physical conditions of our buildings. The community engagement happening in our buildings and programs is exciting to see.

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 engagement and ongoing support of our students!

- Dr. Wayne Kazmierczak, Superintendent



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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 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 Avenue
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 Road F
White Bear Lake
 - Tamarack Nature Center
5287 Otter Lake Road
White Bear Township
 - Birch Lake Elementary
1616 Birch Lake Avenue
White Bear Lake
 - Hugo Elementary
14895 Francesca Avenue, Hugo
 - Lakeaires Elementary
3963 Van Dyke Street
White Bear Lake
 - 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

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STUDENT GROWTH

Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) and Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCA)

Our schools measure the academic progress of each student in grades 1 and 2 using the Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) test, and through Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCA) in grades 3 through 8.

- » Average math gains on MAP in grades 1 and 2 were one year, three months.
- » Average reading gains on MAP in grades 1 and 2 were one year, two months.
- » Grade 3 is the first year of MCA testing, which establishes a baseline for growth in grades 4-8.
- » 74% of students in grades 4 through 8 showed medium or high growth on the MCA for Math.
- » 73% of students in grades 4 through 8 showed medium or high growth on the MCA for Reading.

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.

Early Childhood

More than 850 students are nurtured and develop a love of learning through our WBLAS Early Childhood programs. All of the District's preschools 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.



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 MAP and MCA assessments. 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.

Academic progress in Math and Reading continues to grow

Grades 1 and 2: Math gains - 1 year, 3 months; Reading gains - 1 year, 2 months

Grades 4-8: 74% showed medium to high growth on Math; 73% showed medium to high growth on Reading

Middle School

Students at Central and Sunrise Park Middle Schools take the reading and math MAP assessment in the winter to check their progress towards the MCA assessment in the spring. 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 each student is challenged.



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 250 course offerings, including 47 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).

2017-18 WBLAS MCA COMPARISON TO STATE AVERAGES			
	State	WBLAS	WBLAS % above state
Reading	60.4%	64.8%	+4.4%
Mathematics	57.7%	64.7%	+7.0%
Science	52.5%	57.9%	+5.4%

Source: Minnesota Department of Education’s “Minnesota Report Card”



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.

HIGH EXPECTATIONS & ENRICHMENT

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 2018, 70% of seniors have taken one or more college-level courses, up from 54% for the class of 2016.

443 out of 633 students in the class of 2018 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 2017-18 school year, our students earned a total of 2,206 college credits through 20 College in the Schools and 5 concurrent enrollment courses taught by WBLAHS teachers, valued at \$923,071 by 2018 University of Minnesota and Century College tuition rates.

\$2.69 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 2017-18 was \$2.69 million at 2018 University of Minnesota and Century College tuition rates.

\$2.69 million

Total value of credits earned by WBLAHS students in college-level courses during 2017-18.

\$2,686,033 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 2017-18 tuition rate of \$492.31 per credit hour and Century College tuition rate of \$181.90 per credit hour. Student credits earned include AP (\$1,225,360), CIS (\$827,573), PSEO (\$474,095), Concurrent Enrollment (\$95,498), and PLTW (\$63,508). 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

Matoska International IB World School, an elementary option for all families since 2010, received re-authorization in January of 2015.

PLTW / \$63,508 / 59 students

Concurrent enrollment / \$95,498 / 211 students

PSEO / \$474,095 / 61 students

CIS / \$827,573 / 325 students

AP / \$1,225,360 / 598 students

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

Early Childhood

- » In 2017-18, we served more than 575 children in our preschool programs and 135 children in our parent and child Early Childhood Family Education program.
- » 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 program for Willow Lane children.
- » Outreach facilitators provided early childhood programming at various community locations to increase exposure to early learning opportunities.
- » For 2018-19, we offer early childhood opportunities at our Early Childhood Center, Tamarack Nature Center, and four of our 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 orchestra program is available for students in grades five through eight and will expand into high school in the fall of 2019.

- » 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.



Middle School

- » Students have the opportunity to take Chinese, French, German or Spanish during each of their middle school years.
- » An abundance of enrichment opportunities are provided after school.
- » 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 47 college-level courses to students in grades 9-12 during the 2017-18 school year. Additional college-level courses that began in 2018-19 include AP Psychology, CIS Exploring the Teaching Profession 2, and Career Pathways courses that career credit is articulated through Century College.
- » The percentage of WBLAHS graduates who have taken at least one college-level class during high school has risen from 54% of the class of 2016 to 70% of the class of 2018. There were 126 AP Scholars in White Bear Lake Area High School in 2018.
- » 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.

PREPARATION FOR COLLEGE AND CAREER

21

20

4

10

2017-18,
867 AP EXAMS TAKEN

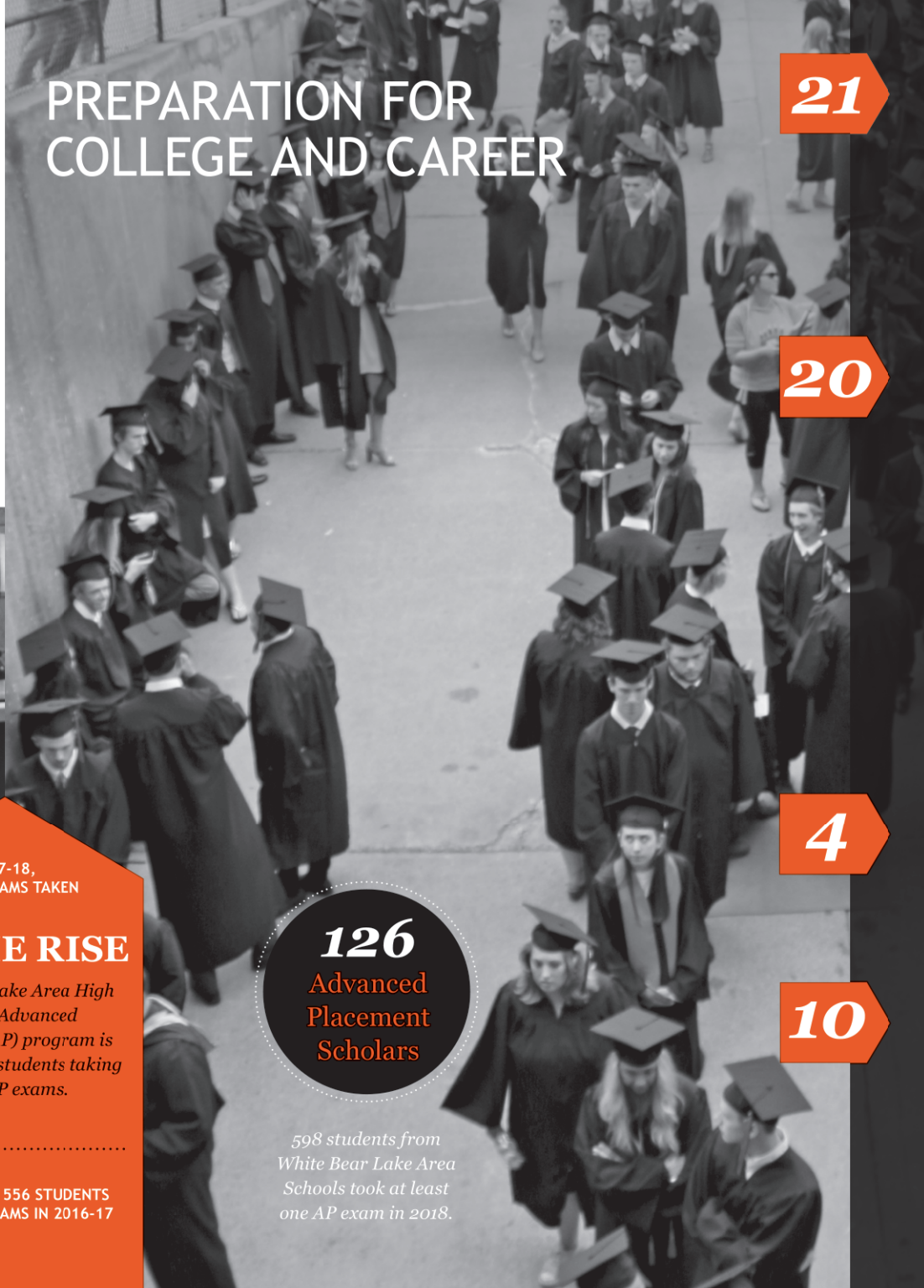
ON THE RISE

White Bear Lake Area High School's Advanced Placement (AP) program is serving more students taking more AP exams.

.....
COMPARED TO 556 STUDENTS
TAKING 778 EXAMS IN 2016-17

126
Advanced
Placement
Scholars

598 students from White Bear Lake Area Schools took at least one AP exam in 2018.



2018-19 Advanced Placement (AP) Classes

» Physics	» Studio Art	» Psychology	» English
» Environmental Science	» Art History	» World History	Literature and Composition
» Chemistry with Biochem	» Music Theory	» European History	» Multi-Variable Calculus / AP Stats
» Biology	» U.S. History	» Macroeconomics	
» Calculus AB	» Computer Science	» Microeconomics	
» Calculus BC	» Principles	» English Language & Composition	
» Statistics	» Geography		

2018-19 College in the Schools (CIS) and Concurrent Enrollment Classes

» Basic and Applied Statistics ESPY 3264	» Advanced Sign Language 1 - CDIS 207
» Writing Studio 1201	» Advanced Sign Language 2 - CDIS 208
» Writing Studio 1301	» Modern Chinese 1011
» College Algebra through Modeling PSTL 1006	» Modern Chinese 1012
» American Democracy in a Changing World 1001	» German 1003
» Authority and Rebellion: American History to 1865, HIST 1307	» German 1004
» Global America: US History Since 1865, HIST 1308	» French 1003
» Introduction to Literature - ENGL 1001W	» French 1004
	» Spanish 1003
	» Spanish 1004
	» Exploring the Teaching Profession I
	» Exploring the Teaching Profession II

2018-19 Project Lead the Way (PLTW) Classes

» Introduction to Engineering Design	<i>Project Lead the Way STEM classes are nationally-certified courses that allow students the opportunity to earn university credits.</i>
» Principles of Engineering	
» Digital Electronics	
» Civil Engineering and Architecture	

Concurrent Enrollment and College Articulation Classes

» Photojournalism	» Precision Machining 2
» IT Explorations	» Woodworking and An Introduction to the Construction Industry
» Programming Fundamentals	» Introduction to Construction
» Critical Reading and Thinking	» Blueprint Reading, Carpentry, and Hand Tools
» Introduction to Healthcare Careers	» Early Childhood Education Lab
» Manufacturing and Applied Engineering 2	

2018 ADVANCED PLACEMENT SCHOLARS

53 AP Scholars

Cooper Anderson	Maxwell Evans	Racheal Lassila	Samuel Schwartz
Josephine Ballata	Jennifer Golding	Kirby Masso	Chloe Schwieger
Jeremy Beckler	Kailey Halama	Tyler Mattson	Collin Sibik
Cecelia Bicha	Claire Hank	Rhiannon Mccarty	Lily Simms
Jayna Carpenter	Kyle Hansen	Alan Mccutcheon	Nathan Smith
Gerrit Christenson	Nash Hanson	Margaret Minnick	Julia Thomalla
Megan Crompton	Andrew Her	Kyle Moser	Kennedy Tschida
William Deery	Madison Keefe	Hope Nelson	Joanna Tyler
Lydia Deutsch	Owen Kirkpatrick	John Nguyen	Samantha Waldvogel
Liselle Diaz	Audrey Kirschling	Opeoluwa Olusi	Hannah Wickstrom
Nicholas	Brandon Krekelberg	Joseph Roach	Podhue Xiong
Domrongwattanak	Abigail Kristensen	Michael Rohlinger	Allison Zarling
Qiana Dukek	Benjamin Kroll	Charles Rupprecht	
Matias Erickson	Madeline Lamwers	Anna Sanders	

28 AP Scholars with Honor

Noah Anderson	Sabrina Brown	Scott Kaufman	Karl Stein
Samuel Andres	Garrett Cain	Hailey Koster	Amanda Sullivan
Zachary Beauclaire	Justin Cilley	Olivia Kunshier	Maren Viker
Kaitlyn Berwald	Jacob Dumas	Isaac Maruyama	Isaac Xiong
Kyle Bjostad	Evan Hakamaki	Samuel Racine	
Nicholas Blanding	Ian Hase	Brooklyne Spiess	

45 AP Scholars with Distinction

Valeed Abid	Zachary Duncanson	Elizabeth Lilygren	Kaylie Rusler
Denton Anderson	Logan Fike	Madison Loppnow	Olivia Schwintek
John Anderson	Harrison Fischer	Samuel Maijala	Ian Shepler
Clay Ansley	Meghan Gamradt	Clare Mcmanamon	Scott Shield
Kyler Bahrke	Ryan Hall-Hunt	Chloe Nelson	Tryg Solberg
Connor Barton	Colin Hupert	Kyler Neuendorf	Zachary Thom
Andrea Berlin	Daniel Johnson	Tejas Nivarty	Thomas Turinske
Justin Blank	Theodore Karp	Nicole Peterson	Matthew Weinberger
Nicholas Brier	Kami Kendall	Sydney Peterson	Olivia Wennen
Samuel Brooks-Evans	Eamon Kerrigan-	Caelie Raeburn	Raymond White
Katelyn Cannon	Krodel	Ashley Rensted	
Austin Carroll	Anna Lee	Katherine Rusch	

6 National AP Scholars

Connor Barton	Tejas Nivarty
Justin Blank	Ashley Rensted
Daniel Johnson	Scott Shield

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.

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



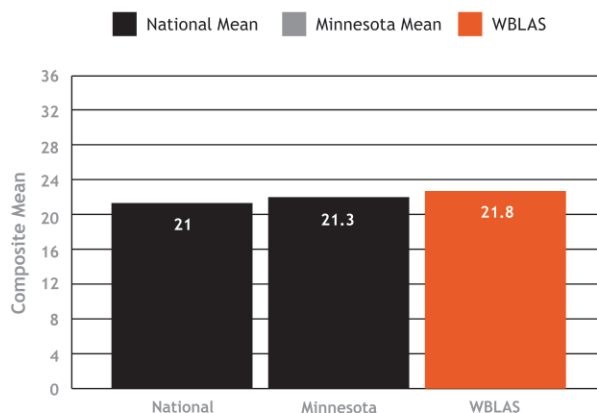
Post-Secondary Enrollment Option (PSEO)

Juniors and seniors at White Bear Lake Area High School have the opportunity to attend Minnesota post-secondary institutions as high school students. Sixty-one students participated in PSEO in the 2017-18 academic year.

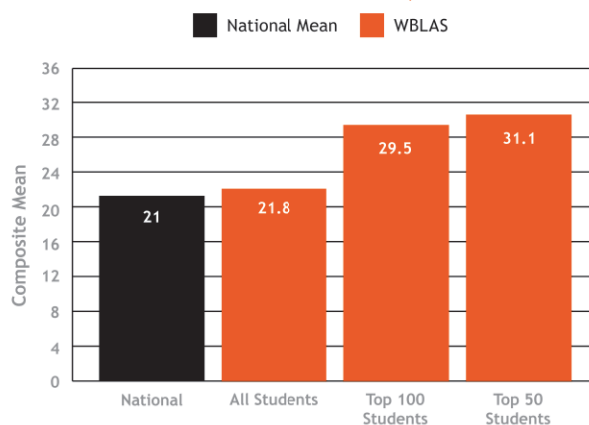
ACT

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 2018 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 0.8 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 2018



ACT COMPOSITE SCORE COMPARISON, CLASS OF 2018



Community Support

- » Community volunteers provide important mentoring, math and reading help and classroom support. Families actively support students through parent-teacher organizations.
- » More than 200 district staff and community members came together last year to participate in the district's Strategic Planning process, allowing us to start the year strong as we begin implementation of a new Strategic Plan, which was unanimously approved by the School Board last spring.

Excellent Teaching and Support

Maggie Clark, 5th grade teacher at Oneka Elementary, was named the 2018 Teacher of the Year and represented White Bear Lake Area Schools in the state Teacher of the Year program.



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 proficiency rates remain 5.4 percentage points above the state rate.
- » **READING** - Factors contributing to a positive 4.4 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 across grade levels is 7.0 percentage points higher than state levels.
- » **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.

English Learner Program

WBLAS English Language teachers align English Learner curriculum and programs with the district's English literacy curricula, state and national standards. The district offers pullout English instruction, collaborative teaching and sheltered content classes (at the secondary level). In 2018, two of our elementary schools were recognized by the Minnesota Department of Education for students' progress towards English Language Proficiency with the schools being among the highest 5 percent of the state overall.

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 2016, 2017 and 2018, 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.



2017-18 AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS



» AP Scholar Program

126 students were honored in the Advanced Placement Scholar program in the categories of AP Scholar, AP Scholar with Honors and AP Scholar with Distinction. Six students were honored as National AP Scholars.

» All-State Soccer Players

Three WBLAHS Girls' Soccer Team members and one WBLAHS Boys' Soccer Team member were named to the All-State Soccer Teams.

» Girls' Cross Country Team

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

» Boys' Cross Country Team

The Boys' Cross Country Team earned a 4AA Section Championship and earned a trip to the State Meet. Some team members were also named All-Conference athletes.

» Middle School Cheerleading Team

The Middle School Cheerleading Team members were named MCCA State Champions in the Middle School Division.

» Junior Varsity Cheerleading Team

The Junior Varsity Cheerleading Team members were named MCCA State Champions in the Junior Varsity Division.

» Varsity Cheerleading team

The Varsity Cheerleading Team members earned first place in the school song and game situation divisions and second place overall in the Varsity Division of the MCCA State Cheer Off.

» Bowling Team

One member of the Boys' Varsity Bowling Team was named as an All-State Bowler, received notice as the top bowler in the conference and was named to the conference Varsity All Honors team. Seven students represented the District at the Junior Varsity State Bowling Competition.

» Swim Team Member

Girls' Swim Team member Melina Hughes qualified for the State Girls' Swim Meet, competing in the State Meet in both the 50-freestyle and 100-butterfly. She qualified in the top 16 in both events and made it to the "B" final.

» Fall Musical cast and crew

WBLAHS Fall Musical "Footloose" cast and crew members received group and individual awards from the Hennepin Theatre Trust Spotlight Award Program, including Outstanding Overall Performance.

» Band/Orchestra

Twenty-one band and orchestra students earned a place in Honor, All-Conference or All-State bands.

» HS Honor, All-State and Conference Choir Students

Twenty-six choir students earned a place in Honor, All-Conference or All-State choir.

» Girls' Alpine Ski

WBLAHS student Maggie Blanding represented the District at the state level in Alpine Ski.

» Boys' Alpine Ski

The Boys' Team represented the District at the state level in Alpine Ski. Nick Blanding and Zach Thom also qualified as individuals.

» Girls' Nordic State Qualifiers

Student Olivia Schwintek represented the District at the state level in Nordic Ski.

» Boys' Nordic State Qualifiers

Students Scott Shield and Tryg Solberg represented the District at the state level in Nordic Ski.

» **Wrestling**

Five Wrestling Team members qualified to compete at the State Wrestling Tournament.

» **Girls' Gymnastics Team Member**

Alexis Hennen represented the District at the Gymnastics State competition.

» **MS Geography Bee Student**

Sunrise Park Middle School student Megan Van Ostrand was eligible to compete in the 2018 Minnesota National Geographic State Bee.

» **Scholastic Art Award Winners**

Twenty-eight WBLAS middle school and high school students received Scholastic Art Awards, including ten Gold Key awards. One student also earned an Honorable Mention at Youth Art Month in the Middle School Division.

» **Minnesota D.A.R.E. Statewide Poster Contest winner**

Oneka Elementary fifth grader Savannah Marling was among the top 20 students who submitted a poster into the Minnesota D.A.R.E. Statewide Poster Contest.

» **MNSOTA Middle Level Honor Orchestra Student**

Sunrise Park Middle School student Destyne Miller represented the District at the MNSOTA Middle Level Honor Orchestra.

» **MBDA 6-8 All-State Honor Band Student**

District student Julia Covert represented the District in the Minnesota Band Director's Association (MBDA) 6-8 All-State Honor Band.

» **MS Honor Choir Students**

Three students represented the District at the Minnesota Middle School Honor Choir.

» **History Day Students**

Sixty-six District students represented the District in the Minnesota History Day program. State runner-up Tricia Dennis and state champion Kajsa Hellmark earned the honor of traveling to Washington, D.C. for the National History Day competition.

» **MEGA Moody Math Contest**

Five White Bear Lake Area High School students represented the District in the MathWorks Mega Math Challenge.

» **Girls' Golf**

The Girls' Golf Team participated in the State Girls' Golf Tournament. Member Isabella Hage was an individual state tournament qualifier and named an All-Conference athlete.

» **Boys' Golf**

Joe Frattalone and Jake Paulson represented the District at the State Boys' Golf Tournament.

» **Trap and Skeet Shooting**

Five district students represented White Bear Lake Area Schools in the Trap and Skeet Shooting competition.

» **Girls' Track Team**

The Girls' Track Team represented the District at the State Track and Field competition.

» **Boys' Track Team**

The Boys' Track Team represented the District at the State Track and Field competition.

» **Archery**

The White Bear Lake Area Schools Archery Team represented the District at the state archery competition. Five team members also competed at the national archery competition.



INNOVATIONS IN TECHNOLOGY

Technology Integration

- » Access to quality technology is a key component to White Bear's learning experience. 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.
- » Innovation Coaches model a mindset of innovation as they work with staff and students to integrate technology use and innovate teaching and learning. This support ensures that we maximize District resources while sharing our best ideas across grade levels, departments and buildings. Our students have 1:1 Chromebooks in grades 3-12 and 2:1 devices in K-2. This toolset, along with the skillset to use it wisely, is helping to build a mindset of innovation across the District.



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 to staff and students across the District. A new phone system also improved our communication and efficiency 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. Students in grades 6-12 now have 1:1 access to Chromebooks in school and at home. 3rd-5th grade students have 1:1 Chromebook access at school while K-2 classrooms are 2:1. Tablets are also available at the elementary level.

Integrated Systems

- » Google's suite of productivity tools pairs well with Skyward, Schoology, Seesaw and our other systems. WBLAS staff and students incorporate these and other tools into our daily practices, 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.

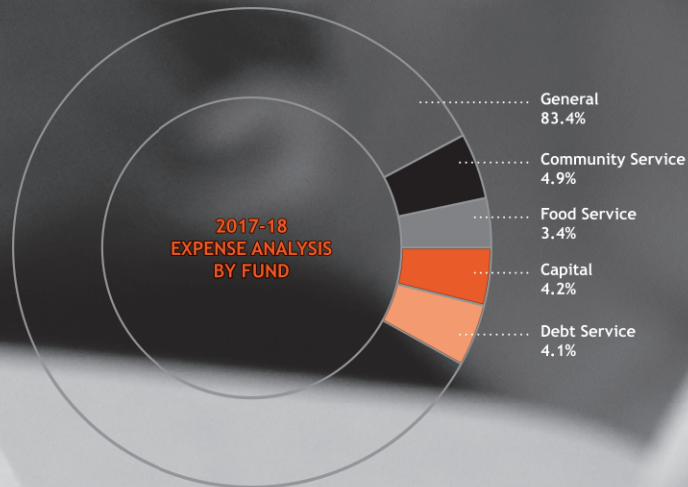
- » **PARENT ALERT SYSTEM** - The District uses the SchoolMessenger parent alert system. The system allows for voicemail, email and text message alerts to be sent out instantaneously.
- » **COMMUNITY E-NEWSLETTER** - The Community e-Newsletter, sent out twice a month to families and community members, covers School Board proceedings, student and staff achievements as well as school and Community Education offerings.
- » **STAY SOCIAL** - Currently, more than 5,000 people follow the district on Facebook, Twitter or YouTube. Daily 624 Facts are shared out through Facebook and Twitter.
- » **WWW.ISD624.ORG** - The district recently kicked off a website redesign process that will be facilitated throughout the 2018-19 academic year.
- » **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.
- » **BEAR'S BULLETIN** - The district includes a community-focused bulletin in seasonal Community Services and Recreation catalogs that are mailed to all district residents. The piece covers District and school news, accomplishments, 624 Facts and notice of upcoming events.
- » **SCHOOL BOARD COMMUNICATION** - The Communications Office makes School Board meeting video/audio files available to the public after each School Board meeting that are closed captioned in English.

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





Source: Consolidated Financial Statement MDE

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 18 consecutive years

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

FINANCE

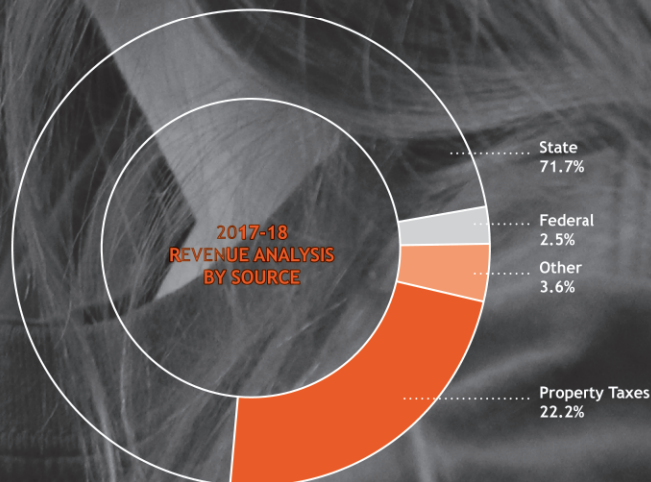
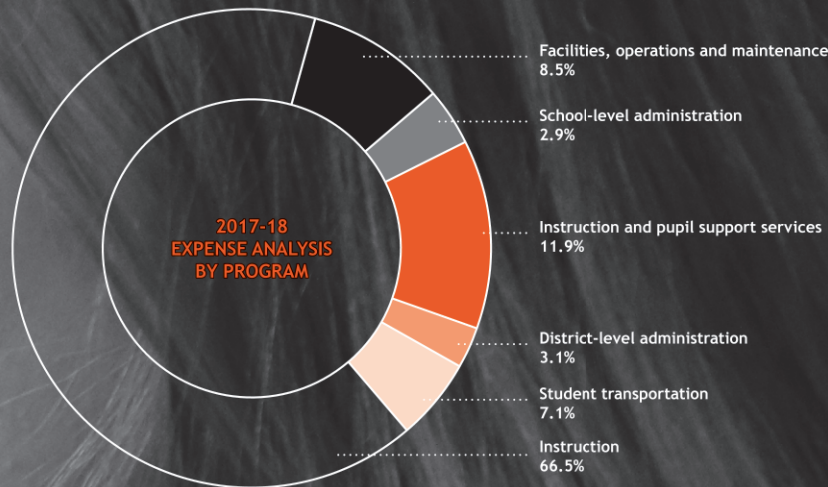
Financial management

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 18 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.



2018-19 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, 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

STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS 2018-19	
Free/Reduced Price Lunch	27.7%
English Language Learner	3.7%
Special Education	15.9%
American Indian/Alaska Native	0.5%
Asian	6.6%
Black/African American	5.8%
Hispanic/Latino	7.2%
Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander	0.2%
Two or more races	6.3%
White	73.5%

Source: Minnesota Department of Education

STUDENT ENROLLMENT 2018-19	
Pre-K <i>Pre-K includes all District programs including preschool, early childhood, and Bear Fundamentals at all District locations.</i>	899
Elementary (Grades K-5)	4,119
Middle School (Grades 6-8)	1,965
High School (Grades 9-12)	2,472
Transition Plus (Special Ed - ages 18-24)	37
DISTRICT TOTAL K-T+	8,593
DISTRICT TOTAL BIRTH-T+	9,492

Source: Minnesota Department of Education and District data

DISTRICT 624 STAFF PROFILE 2018	
Teachers with fewer than 3 years experience	10.2%
Teachers with 3-10 years experience	26.8%
Teachers with more than 10 years experience	63.2%



School Board Members

Superintendent Wayne Kazmierczak, Chair Don Mullin, Jessica Ellison, Marge Newmaster, Deb Beloyed, Treasurer Scott Wilson, Clerk Ellen Fahey, Vice-Chair Kim Chapman. Not pictured: 2017-18 Student Liaisons Ashley Rensted and Makena Pratt, and 2018-19 Student Liaisons Makena Pratt and Madison Carroll.



WE BELIEVE:

Strategic Plan

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:

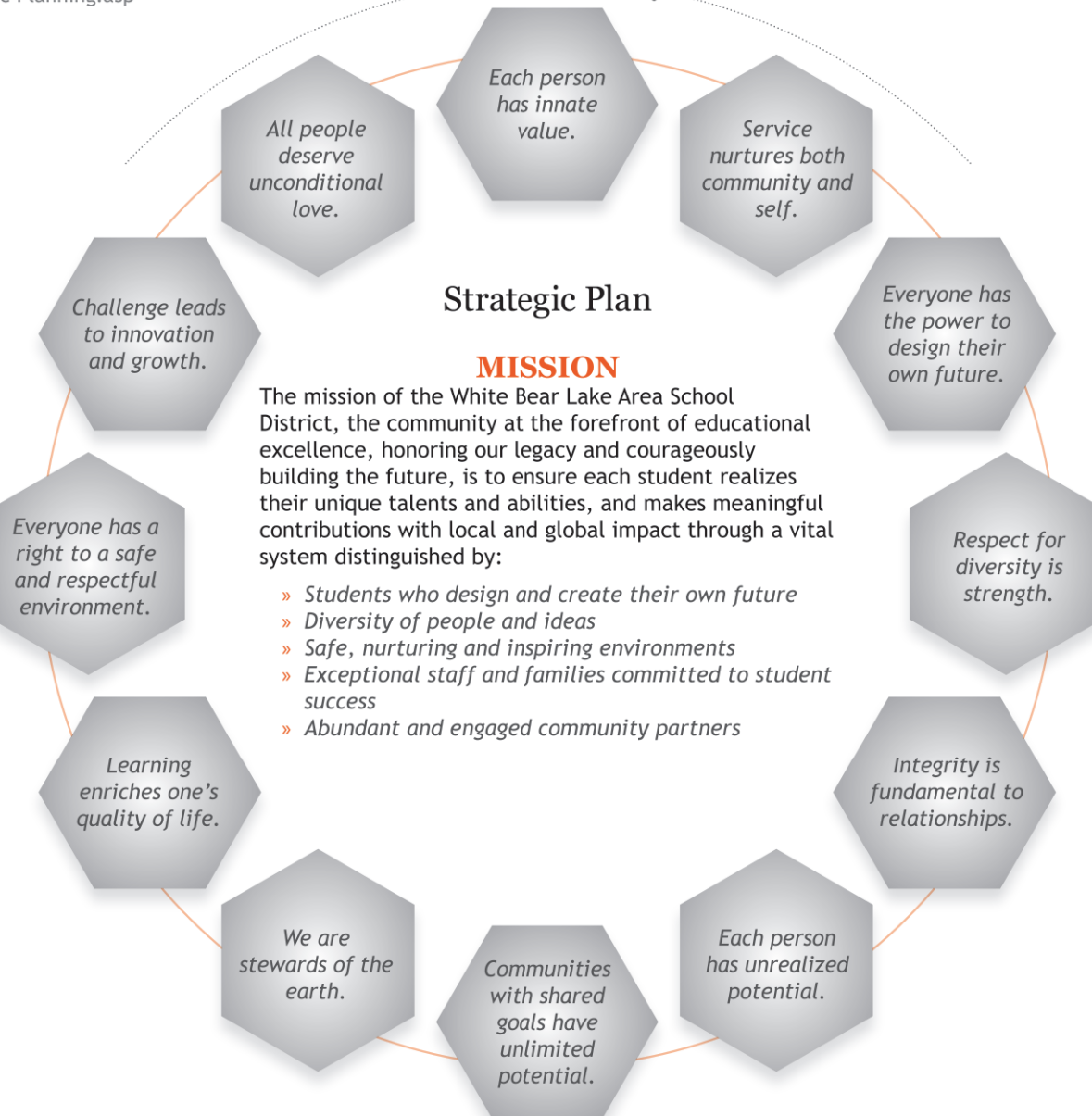
- embrace all cultures with humility and respect.
- ensure learning environments enhance students' educational experience.
- engage families as partners in the education of their children.
- ensure the social and emotional growth of our students.

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 INITIATIVES

Strategic Planning

Last year, more than 200 district staff and community members came together to participate in the district's Strategic Planning process. This engagement allowed us to start the 2018-19 school year strong as we began implementation of a new Strategic Plan, unanimously approved by the School Board last spring.

During 2018-19, our individual school communities continue their own strategic conversations. Each school will examine their current reality and create a roadmap for a future - one that has never existed before - through engagement and thoughtful dialogue. Staff, families and community members are welcomed into the discussion, as these voices are vital to the important conversations that will be taking place during this process.

Those who are interested in participating in the school-based Strategic Planning process are invited to reach out directly to building principals.

Facilities Planning

Our projected enrollment growth and our visionary Strategic Plan underscore the need for a comprehensive facilities review and planning process that was kicked off in the fall of 2018 and will continue throughout the year. The district worked last summer with a demographer to project our enrollment trends and with a design and engineering firm to collect data about our facilities. Next steps include community involvement, with engagement efforts taking place in order to collect input from the community at large.

A Facility Planning Committee, comprised of a trio of teams, is focused on the areas of learning spaces, community spaces, and physical conditions. The committee will meet through January, when a Needs Findings report is presented to the School Board. Master Plan development will take place in February and March, with community-wide engagement and feedback taking place in April and May of 2019.

Additional information about the Facilities Planning process can be found at www.isd624.org/about/Facilities-Planning.asp or [here](#).



Safety and Security

Additional safety and security measures are being implemented district-wide in the 2018-19 academic year. The District hired a Safety and Emergency Supervisor to work throughout the District on safety initiatives. The new supervisor is responsible for coordinating the District's emergency preparedness program, leading emergency and safety planning and strategy, and conducting emergency-related training sessions and drills. This position is also responsible for maintaining effective relationships with first responders and local law enforcement.

Beginning this fall, all middle school and high school students also have access to a new electronic form, the Student Well-Being Tip Line, to report concerns regarding a student's well-being: mental health, chemical use, social isolation, bullying, harassment, etc.





Engagement

Important District-wide engagement initiatives continue in the 2018-19 academic year.

- » **SENIOR ACTIVITIES PASS** - More than 400 senior community members (age 65+) who live in the District participate in the Senior Activities Pass program and enjoy complimentary admission to school activities. Those senior community members who wish to participate in this free program can find the application on the District's website, www.isd624.org, or call the Superintendent's Office at 651-407-7563 to request one be mailed to you.
- » **COFFEE WITH DR. K** - Community members are invited to stop by throughout the 2018-19 academic year for an informal chat with Superintendent Kazmierczak over a cup of coffee or tea at the Downtown White Bear Lake Caribou Coffee. Upcoming dates and times for the coffee chats are available on the district website, www.isd624.org.
- » **ADVISORY COMMITTEES** - A variety of advisory committees continue to engage students, families and community members. Middle school and high school students participate in Superintendent Student Advisory Committees, meeting with district leaders quarterly to discuss important district topics and provide input. Parent leaders gather throughout the year for Parent Leaders Network, networking with other parents throughout the district and engaging with district leaders. The Senior Advisory Council connects area seniors with district leadership. Program-specific parent advisory councils, such as Special Education Parent Advisory Council, Title Programs Parent Advisory and Indian Education Parent Advisory, also meet regularly and provide valuable insight and leadership.
- » **THE BIG SLEUTH** - In the fall of 2018, the district launched an innovative way for staff members to submit ideas to improve the district. The year-long staff engagement process includes idea submission and voting opportunities made available to all staff members. Selected ideas will be designed in the spring of 2019 in preparation for implementation. A student version of the idea collection process is planned to take place in the future, as well.

» 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.

» 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 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.

» 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.



ISD624.ORG

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

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ATENCIÓN: Si usted necesita hablar con una persona que hable Español, por favor, llame al (651) 407-7625.

*****ECRWSS**
POSTAL CUSTOMER

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
49
home
languages

- Afaan Oromo/
Oromo/Oromiffa
- Afrikaans
- Amharic
- Anauk
- Arabic
- Bengali
- Burmese
- Cambodian
- Cebuano
- Chinese, Mandarin
- English, Creolized
- Fanti
- Finnish
- French
- Gujarati
- Harari
- Hiligaynon/Illo
- Hindi
- Hmong
- Igbo
- Italian
- Japanese
- Kannada
- Karen
- Kiswahili, Swahili
- Latvian
- Lithuanian
- Luganda Ganda
- Mandar
- Marathi
- Nepali
- Pilipino, Tagal
- Portuguese
- Punjabi
- Romanian
- Russian
- Sign Language/ASL
- Somali
- Spanish
- Tamil
- Telugu
- Thai
- Tigrinya
- Turkman
- Twi
- Ukrainian
- Urdu
- Vietnamese
- Yoruba

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



Published by the White Bear Lake Area Schools Office of Communications.
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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.