

Welcome to 2021-22!



Dear Families,

We look forward to welcoming each of our students and families back to the 2021-22 school year!

Whether your child is joining us for traditional in-person school or as a student in our K-12 Distance Learning Academy, our efforts this school year will focus on keeping our students learning and growing. In order to keep our in-person students in our buildings, we will follow a Mitigation Plan that uses two indicators of county-level transmission levels to determine strategies to be implemented in our buildings and on district transportation. The plan aligns with Minnesota Department of Health (MDH) and Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) guidance. Plans will continue to be updated as the situation evolves.

The district will keep families updated throughout the year via emails, voicemails and e-newsletters. Please watch for these updates to be coming and familiarize yourself with the information, and please ensure emails coming from communications@isd624.org do not get marked as spam in your inbox. The most complete and up-to-date information regarding our mitigation efforts can also be found at the district's website, specifically at isd624.org/Covid-19.

Attending to the social-emotional well-being of our students continues to be a top priority this year as well. The district's Support Hub, available on our website directly at isd624.org/Support-Hub, serves as a place for families to access information such as crisis services, basic needs, mental health and well-being, physical health, racial justice, social emotional learning and more. Information about a Free Bear Care Mental Wellness Support Line and a Free Bear Care Health & Wellness Clinic can also be found on the Support Hub.

Thank you for your partnership and support as we work together to keep our students in our buildings for in-person learning this school year. Go Bears!

Sincerely,
Dr. Wayne Kazmierczak, Superintendent

isd624.org

651-407-7500



[/isd624](https://isd624.org)

It's a 624 Fact

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
- A culture that respects diverse people and ideas
- Safe, nurturing and inspiring experiences
- Exceptional staff and families committed to student success
- Abundant and engaged community partners

Equity Commitment

To nurture the whole student, we disrupt systemic inequities by recognizing, honoring, and embracing all cultures with humility and respect.

4-Way Decision Making Protocol

1. How does this help to provide opportunities to students who have been marginalized within the system in the past?
2. How does this help to ensure equitable access for all?
3. How does this help to eliminate barriers based on race/ethnicity, gender, disability, age, or other protected groups?
4. How does this ensure that the same rigorous standards for academic performance exist for all students?

Stewardship

The District has received the **excellence in financial reporting awards** from both the Association of School Business Officials and Government Finance Officers Association for **20 consecutive years**.

Facilities Updates

Find updates about the district's Facilities Process at isd624.org/about/building-our-future.

Mark Your Calendar

- | | |
|-------|---|
| 9/8 | 1st Day of School for Gr 1-12+ |
| 9/9 | 1st Day of School for Gr K |
| 9/13 | 1st Day of school for Early Childhood Programs |
| 10/15 | Deadline for Directory Info & Military Release opt-outs |

2021-22 Coffee with Dr. K events:

- 11/16, 7:30-8:30 a.m.
 - 2/10, 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
 - 5/10, 4-5 p.m.
- Caribou Coffee, Hwy. 61, White Bear Lake

IMPORTANT DISTRICT NOTICES

Student Directory Information

Student directory information is considered “public” under state and federal laws. Unless parents give specific instructions to the contrary, schools must release directory information to anyone who requests it.

Public directory information includes, but is not limited to: the student’s name, photograph, major field of study, dates of attendance, grade level, enrollment status (i.e., full-time or part-time), participation in officially recognized activities and sports, weight and height of members of athletic teams, degrees, honors and awards received, and the most recent educational agency or institution attended.

If you do not wish for this information to be given out about your child, send written notification including: name of the student and/or parent, if applicable; home address; school presently attended by student; parent’s legal relationship to student, if applicable; and specific categories of directory information to be made not public without the parent’s or eligible student’s prior written consent, which shall only be applicable for that school year. Notification should be sent to: Restrict Directory Data, White Bear Lake Area Schools, 4855 Bloom Ave., White Bear Lake, MN 55110, no later than Friday, October 25, 2021.

Release of 11th/12th Grade Data to Military Recruiters

Federal law requires high schools to provide military recruiting officers access to public directory data (above) and the names, addresses and home telephone numbers of all 11th and 12th grade students. Parents have a right to refuse release of this data by sending written notification to: Refuse Release to Military Recruiters, White Bear Lake Area Schools, 4855 Bloom Ave., White Bear Lake, MN 55110, no later than Friday, October 15, 2021.

Stay connected!

Community e-Newsletter “Join Our Email List” on the Community e-Newsletter page of the District website (under the About tab) to receive the twice-a-month electronic publication. A video edition is sent out twice a month as well.

Stay Social Join White Bear Lake Area Schools’ social media circles - Facebook, Twitter and YouTube. Find links on the District’s website.

Community Channel Watch us on Cable Channel 20 in the local viewing area with District information and updates. School Board meetings are broadcast after regular business meetings on Wednesday at 2 p.m., 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. and Thursday at 10 a.m.

Free breakfast/lunch for all students

Thanks to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Nutrition Services is able to extend free meals to all students through the 2021-22 school year. No application is required to receive this meal benefit. However, families may qualify for additional benefits, if they complete an Application for Educational Benefits online (at QR code at right) or in paper form (enclosed in this mailing).



District Policies

Complete School Board policies at isd624.org/about/district-policies



White Bear Lake Area Schools
www.isd624.org * 651-407-7500



/isd624

It is the expectation of the White Bear Lake Area School District that families, students and staff will self-screen at home before coming to school.

Anyone experiencing ANY of these symptoms should NOT attend school:

New onset cough or shortness of breath by themselves

OR at least 2 of the following:

- Fever (100°F or higher) or Chills
- Headache
- Muscle Pain
- Sore Throat
- Fatigue
- Congestion
- Loss of Sense of Smell or Taste
- Gastrointestinal Symptoms (diarrhea, vomiting, or nausea)



White Bear Lake Area Schools

WAYS TO MITIGATE ILLNESS

Physically distance from others



Wash your hands often



Wear a face covering



Cover your cough & sneezes



Go (**Stay Healthy**) Bears!

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WEAR YOUR FACE COVERING CORRECTLY

