

2022

ISD 279 - OSSEO AREA SCHOOLS

Osseo Area Schools is the fifth-largest school district in Minnesota, serving all or parts of Brooklyn Center, Brooklyn Park, Corcoran, Dayton, Maple Grove, Osseo, Plymouth, and Rogers.

Who we are (Nov 1, 2021 data)

Total resident population	150,674
Geographic area	66 square miles
Pre-K through 12 th grade enrollment	20,478
Students of color	59%
English Learners	10%
Students receiving special education services	14%

Highly educated teachers

Hold a master’s degree or higher	
Osseo	69%
Minnesota	56%

Supporting high levels of achievement for all students

(most recent data available)

AP Scholars	215
National Merit Semifinalists and Commended (announced Fall 2021)	1
International Baccalaureate Diploma recipients 2021	4
ACT average composite score (Class of 2021)	19.6

Graduation rates (2020 results)

- 84.4% of students graduated within four years.
- 90.4% of students graduated within seven years.

Career and technical education programs offer career-connected knowledge, skills and competencies that help students succeed in life after high school. Workplace-ready certifications are available in automotive technology, culinary arts, health care, and information technology.

Protecting our community’s investment in facilities

- 31 facilities, including 17 elementary, 4 middle, 3 comprehensive senior high schools
- 3.6 million sq. ft. of buildings on 703 acres of property
- 7,000+ doors, 70 boilers, 5.3 million sq. ft. of pavement
- Oldest school building – 1952 (Osseo Senior High)
- Newest school building – 2002 (Woodland Elementary)

Ensuring High Levels of Equitable Student Achievement and Promoting Safety through Stable and Predictable Funding

Osseo Area Schools is committed to eliminating racial disparities in academic achievement and other aspects of school life in order to unleash the brilliance of each of our scholars. The following priorities have been identified to secure the necessary funds to achieve this critical goal.

Stable and Predictable Funding

- Link the basic formula and local optional revenue to inflation to provide a stable and consistent funding stream, so Osseo Area Schools can ensure long-range planning to achieve the district's strategic priorities.
- Provide funding to support the mental health needs of students and staff.
- Use School Year 2019-20 free/reduced meal application data when determining compensatory revenue for School Year 2022-23 and allow additional methods to determine eligibility for free/reduced lunch.
- Reform special education financing by increasing funding to 100% of the state's statutory obligation.
 - *For Osseo Area Schools, the special education funding shortfall is \$25.4 million. Source: MDE FY2020 Spec. Ed. Cross Subsidies Final Report.*
- Increase funding to better meet the needs of English Learners, the student group with the largest achievement gap in Osseo Area Schools.
 - *Funding from the previous legislative session only covered \$10 Million over a four-year period.*
 - *For Osseo Area Schools, the English Learner funding shortfall is \$8.6 million. Source: MDE, FY2021.*

Safe and Supportive Learning Environments

- Expand the allowable uses of long-term facility maintenance funding to include the modification of buildings to enhance safety and security.
- Increasing Safe Schools revenue to provide necessary mental health supports for students and staff.

Support Achievement Gap Closure through Recruitment and Retention of a Diverse Workforce

- Continue to expand programs and incentives to attract, develop and retain teachers of color.
- Remove barriers and provide incentives to address the shortage of substitute teachers, school bus drivers, paraprofessionals, and other staff.

Reduce Mandates

- Oppose any new unfunded mandates, and allow Osseo Area Schools to:
 - Post minutes and budget information on the district website rather than be published in a newspaper.
 - Revise current open meeting law to allow for the use of online interactive digital meetings.
 - Maintain local control of curriculum decisions and implementation.

These platform items align with those of several statewide education organizations, including the Association of Metropolitan School Districts, Minnesota School Boards Association, Minnesota Association of School Administrators, and the Minnesota Association of School Business Officials.