

# BEAR'S UPDATE Summer (2022)



# **FREE Senior Activity Pass**

Senior community members (age 65+) who live in the District are invited to participate in the Senior Activities Pass program and enjoy complimentary admission to school activities.

Find the application on the District's website, isd624.org, or call the Superintendent's Office at 651-407-7563 to request one via mail.



## **Building Our Future Facilities Process**

The facilities projects that were approved by the community in 2019 are underway, with construction happening at buildings throughout the district.

Those who wish to do so can follow along on the district's facilities process at isd624.org/ BuildingOurFuture.

See details and updates on individual projects, as well as presentations about the overall process.



# Superintendent's Message

There is much to be celebrated as the 2021-22 academic year comes to a close. We've put our best foot forward in student learning, and we've continued building our future through ongoing construction projects.

Continued on reverse.

#### **Translations:**

Para Español por favor llame al 651-407-7625 Xav tau ntawv Hmoob hu rau 651-407-7623

ISD624.ORG

#### Graduations

Members of the Class of 2022 were recently cheered on throughout the district by families, friends and staff members as they received their diplomas. Congratulations, graduates!







# Applauding retirees

Families and staff members recently gathered to honor district employees who retired in 2022 with a Retirement "Luncheon on the Lawn." The School Board thanked retirees for a total of more than 480 years spent contributing to the White Bear community.



White Bear Lake Area Schools 4855 Bloom Avenue White Bear Lake, MN 55110 651-407-7500



White Bear Lake Area Schools

# BEAR'S UPDATE

Summer (2022)





#### Find us at Marketfest!

Our school principals, district administrators and School Board members have enjoyed the chance to have conversations with community members again this summer at our district Marketfest booth.

Stop by Thursdays through July 28 in Downtown White Bear Lake to pick up a free pencil and Bear Paw tattoo.

We look forward to seeing you!



#### Superintendent's Message cont.



compares very favorably to other area high schools: Irondale (97.5%), Mahtomedi (97.2%), Centennial (95.9%) and Mounds View (95.6%).

Measurement looks different at each level, but success is being found at every age group. Glimpses of the creative learning happening in our classrooms include elementary students visited by capybaras, middle school students sharing culture through affinity groups and high school manufacturing students creating fire pits, laser engraving their own designs and welding the seams. Students at all levels represented the district at state, national and international competitions this year, participating in athletics, academics and varied activities.

The progress on the district's Comprehensive Facilities Plan, made possible by the community's support of the 2019 Bond Referendum, has been exciting to follow this year. The list of completed projects continues to grow, currently including the South Campus Phase I Addition (Gym), Transportation Facility, ALC Security Renovation and elementary additions at Lincoln, Matoska, Vadnais Heights and Willow Lane.

Groundbreakings have taken place at Birch Lake, Lakeaires and Otter Lake Elementaries and for the South Campus Phase II Addition (Classrooms and Office). In Hugo, we've watched the new North Star Elementary being built from the ground up, with the project being on schedule to open for students this fall.

Extensive progress has been made at the unified high school site, currently WBLAHS - North Campus, with the most notable building changes thus far being the shell of the fieldhouse and the 3-story classroom addition. The athletic field and track in the new stadium are expected to be completed before school begins this fall. In January of 2023, North Campus students and staff will

transition into the new classroom addition so construction work can take place in the existing building and development can happen on the east side of the site. The work will continue on the site through the fall of 2024, when the building will house grades 9-12 for the first time since 1983.

We invite you to continue to follow along with us on this process. The Building Our Future web page (isd624.org/BuildingOurFuture) contains press releases and videos. Current project photos and video footage can be found linked to the construction crew button available on the individual project pages.

Moving forward, we are excited to engage in a Strategic Emergence process that began this summer with a committee made up of staff, family and community members. Information about this important work will be shared as we begin the 2022-23 school year.

We know students' success is bolstered by support they receive from others, both directly and indirectly. Thank you for your part in helping our students learn and grow.

Sincerely.

Dr. Wayne Kazmierczak, Superintendent



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.