

School District of Onalaska

Annual Report

October 2024



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Our Board



Ann Garrity
President
Term Expires: April 2025



Aaron McDonald
Vice President
Term Expires: April 2027



Shawn McAlister
Treasurer
Term Expires: April 2025



Brian Haefs
Clerk
Term Expires: April 2026



Mark Cassellius
Director
Term Expires: April 2027



Erik Archer
Director
Term Expires: April 2026



Tracy Laufenberg
Director
Term Expires: April 2027

Board of Education

Governance:

The Board of Education, the elected representatives of the School District of Onalaska, governs the school district. The Board consists of seven members elected at large for terms of three years. On July 1, 1982, the district was reorganized under Unified School District Laws of Wisconsin. The basic change provides that the district is fiscally independent, that is, the Board is empowered to levy a school tax for the operation and maintenance of the district.

Agenda:

The meeting agenda is posted outside of each school, at the district office, on the district website, and sent to the media 24 hours prior to the meeting.

Meetings:

Regular meetings are held on the second and fourth Mondays of the month at 6:00 p.m. in the District Office Board Room at 237 2nd Ave S. The public and the news media are invited to attend.

Minutes:

The approved minutes are posted on the district website at www.onalaskaschools.com and the proceedings are also published in [The La Crosse Tribune](#).

Functions of the Board of Education:

The Onalaska Board of Education is the elected Board for the School District of Onalaska. Board policies are established for all phases of operating a PreK-12 school district. One major function of the Board is to establish broad policies for all phases of operating and maintaining a comprehensive PreK-12 educational system. Policies must address the day-to-day operations as well as provide directions for future growth and development. The Board functions within state laws, which usually provide specific powers and rules. In areas not highly specified, the Board has wide discretionary powers. The Board is charged with the responsibility of providing the best possible educational programs for the District's students based upon state and federal requirements, and community, state, and federal support. In order to carry out the day-to-day operations, the Board employs a full range of professional and support personnel. Once the Board has set the policies for the educational programs and direction for the district, it is required to develop, approve and levy the necessary finances to implement the programs.

Message from Board President Ann Garrity

On behalf of the Board of Education, I want to express our sincere appreciation to everyone in our community—parents, guardians, teachers, staff, students, and residents. Your support and dedication to our schools are essential to our success.

Our schools serve as the heart of our community, and as we look ahead, we remain committed to fostering high levels of learning for ALL. Our focus is on creating a safe, inclusive, and enriching environment where every student can thrive.

Both the high school and middle school are currently undergoing significant renovations, and even amid these transformations, we continue to provide quality educational opportunities with increased collaboration in more intimate learning spaces. Our elementary schools continue to work closely together to ensure an equitable educational experience for our youngest learners, laying a strong foundation for their futures.

We are truly fortunate to belong to a community that values education so highly!

Sincerely,

Ann M Garrity



Message from Superintendent Todd Antony

I am pleased to present this Annual Report in an effort to provide an accurate assessment of the current state of the District. This Annual Report provides instructional and financial highlights from 2023-24 and outlines our plan for accomplishing the Board of Education goals as articulated in the district's strategic plan. Continued success is built on strong relationships between everyone involved including our school board, our entire faculty and staff, students, families and the broader community.

We are now two years into our five-year strategic plan. The new structure has provided for greater focus and alignment of resources. This past year, a scorecard, which can be found on the [district's website](#), was developed to track progress toward the five-year objectives. Many components of the scorecard are measuring how Onalaska is doing compared to a set of similar Wisconsin public school districts.

In addition to an outstanding academic program, the District can be proud of the elective offerings, fine arts programming and co-curricular opportunities for our students. Such programming ensures that we are cultivating the many interests and talents of our students and meeting the needs of the whole child. We do not see our work as culminating with high school graduation but as preparing our students for life after graduation as a productive member of our diverse community.

As I move into my sixth year as superintendent, I can affirm that the state of the School District of Onalaska is sound and that our future is bright. We are driven by our mission of working together to ensure high levels of learning for all.

In closing, I encourage you to contact me with any questions or comments you might have regarding this Annual Report or any other aspect of the District.

Thank you for your continued support.

Todd L. Antony



SCHOOL DISTRICT OF ONALASKA

Strategic Plan

2022 - 2027



OUR MISSION

Working together to ensure high levels of learning for all

OUR VISION

A model school district in service of students, staff, and community

Our Pillars & Five-Year Strategic Objectives



Student Engagement, Growth, and Achievement

- » Integrate essential academic and social emotional learning to ensure achievement for all.
- » Amplify student belonging and engagement.



Family and Community Engagement

- » Foster meaningful relationships among families, school, and community to ensure access, representation, and voice.



Staff Recruitment, Development, and Retention

- » Create a diverse school community through intentional recruitment, competitive compensation, mentoring, collaboration, and active engagement in professional development.



Finance, Facilities, and Operations Stewardship

- » Align all resources with district priorities in an equitable and responsible manner.

Core Values

Belonging

Ensuring that all are accepted, embraced, and valued as members of a cohesive community.

Engagement

Fostering a positive, student-centered culture.

Continuous Improvement

Pursuing excellence through goal setting, feedback, reflection, and growth.

Collaboration

Empowering one another to work interdependently to achieve common goals.

Integrity

Acting in an ethical manner with humility, honesty and transparency.



WHO WE ARE

Established on the ancestral lands of the Ho-Chunk People, Onalaska exudes a small town feel with a proximity to larger urban amenities. We are nestled within a community that is incredibly supportive of its public schools. Our students consistently exceed expectations academically and participate in a wide variety of co-curricular offerings.

We pride ourselves on establishing and maintaining strong relationships between our students, staff, families, school board, and the broader community in support of our goals and objectives. Please feel free to reach out if you are interested in touring our facilities or have any questions, comments, celebrations, or concerns.

Thank you,
Todd L Antony, Superintendent

WHAT PEOPLE SAY

"Some very good and great teachers, a lot of opportunities for students, overall a quality education with great preparation for college."

"I speak highly of our district staff, administration, staff/admin. relationship, board, parents, and community as a whole. Onalaska is a great place to be!"

*"School ratings are very good.
Our children are learning so much."*

"Balanced, fair district that strives to provide for all students' needs."

"The staff at all levels have always been the best. Putting students first and their families. The administration has met the many challenges they face serving the various families that live in our community."

"The School District of Onalaska is a small district with a big district feel. The district is a wonderful district to work or enroll a family in."



SCHOOL DISTRICT OF ONALASKA

237 2nd Avenue South Onalaska, WI 54650

Phone: (608) 781-9700 | Fax: (608) 781-9712



@School District of Onalaska

[onalaskaschools.com](https://www.onalaskaschools.com)

Strategic Plan

2022 - 2027

OUR MISSION

Working together to ensure high levels of learning for all.

OUR VISION

A model school district in service of students, staff, and community.



2024-25 Annual Goals

Student Engagement, Growth, and Achievement

OBJECTIVE

Integrate essential academic and social emotional learning (SEL) to ensure achievement for all.

2024-25 GOALS

- » STAR Reading will predict that 55% of 3rd through 8th grade students will achieve proficiency (meeting /advanced) on Forward ELA.
- » Decrease by 5% the percentage of K through 2nd grade students who are scoring at the 25thile or below using STAR Early Literacy and STAR Reading (transitioning to aimwebPlus for winter assessment window) as a measure.
- » Maintain at least a 95% passing rate for all 9th through 12th grade students in English courses.
- » 100% students below proficiency in the state identified target group in ELA and Math will individually attain a 65+ SDP or higher using STAR Reading and STAR Math as a measure.
- » STAR Math will predict that 55% of 3rd through 8th grade students will achieve proficiency (meeting /advanced) on Forward Math.
- » Maintain at least a 95% passing rate for all 9th through 12th grade students in Math courses.
- » Full implementation of a multi-tiered system of supports to meet 100% of student SEL needs.
- » 100% of students identified as high risk on the S&EBRS will be matched with supportive resources.

OBJECTIVE

Amplify student belonging and engagement.

2024-25 GOALS

- » Increase the percentage of students with under 10% of absences to 90%.
- » Increase composite score of the Life at School portion of the Student Experience Survey by .15.

Family and Community Engagement

OBJECTIVE

Foster meaningful relationships among families, school, and community to ensure access, representation, and voice.

2024-25 GOALS

- » Increase the Family Engagement Net Promoter Score from 45 to at least 47.
- » Increase the Community Engagement Net Promoter Score from 41 to at least 44.

Staff Recruitment, Development, Retention

OBJECTIVE

Create a diverse school community through intentional recruitment, competitive compensation, mentoring, collaboration, and active engagement in professional development.

2024-25 GOALS

- » Increase composite score of employee satisfaction by .15 from the employee engagement survey.
- » Increase composite score of engagement in professional development by .15 from the employee engagement survey.

Finance, Facilities, and Operations Stewardship

OBJECTIVE

Align all resources with district priorities in an equitable and responsible manner.

2024-25 GOALS

- » Increase the Operations Satisfaction Survey from 3.91 to 4.05
- » Improve Return on Investment (ROI) rating from 8 to 7 for per student operational spending compared to test results. Improve ROI rating from 7 to 6 for per student instructional spending compared to test results.

School District of Onalaska

Strategic Plan Scorecard

2022-2027

Normed Districts

STUDENT ENGAGEMENT, GROWTH, AND ACHIEVEMENT

Integrate essential academic and social emotional learning to ensure achievement for all						
	Baseline	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27 Target
District Report Card Achievement Normed District Ranking	Top 7	Top 9				Top 5
District Report Card Growth Normed District Ranking	Top 12	Top 9				Top 5
Percent of Students College and Career Ready	89.0%	89.0% (baseline)	96.0%			100%
100% of students identified as high risk on the SAEBRS will be matched with supportive resources.						
Amplify student belonging and engagement						
	Baseline	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27 Target
% Students with Under 10% Absences	79.1%	85.0%	88.2%			90.0%
Student Survey (Life at School)	3.79	3.90	3.82			4.50

FAMILY AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Foster meaningful relationships among families, school and community to ensure access, representation and voice						
	Baseline	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27 Target
Family Engagement Survey: I would recommend my child's school to a family who does not currently attend there.		--	45			50+
Community Engagement Survey High Leverage Question: I would recommend the School District of Onalaska		--	41			50+

STAFF RECRUITMENT, DEVELOPMENT, AND RETENTION

Create a diverse school community through intentional recruitment, competitive compensation, mentoring, collaboration, and active engagement in professional development						
	Baseline	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27 Target
Retention Rate	80.0%	84.8%	87.7%			92.0%
Engagement in Professional Development	3.67	--	3.84			4.00
Employee Satisfaction	3.98	--	3.95			4.25
Normed District Compensation Ranking	Top 11.5	Top 11.5				Top 5

FINANCE, FACILITIES, AND OPERATIONS STEWARDSHIP

Align all resources with district priorities in an equitable and responsible manner						
	Baseline	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27 Target
Operations Experience Survey Questions			3.91			4.25
Align our resources to that of the top 5 comparable districts with the best student outcomes for optimal return on investment			8/ Operations Invest ROI 7/ Instruction ROI			Top 5 Schools



Archived 2023-24 Annual Goals

Student Engagement, Growth, and Achievement

OBJECTIVE

Integrate essential academic and social emotional learning (SEL) to ensure achievement for all.

2023-24 GOALS

- » Provide professional development and instructional coaching aligned to best practices in literacy in grades K-12.
- » Provide professional development and instructional coaching aligned to best practices in math in grades 6-12.
- » Implement universal SEL curriculum and select SEL resources in grades PK through 5.
- » Create and implement an action plan which includes goals to improve College and Career Readiness results.

OBJECTIVE

Amplify student belonging and engagement.

2023-24 GOALS

- » Increase the percentage of students with under 10% of absences to 87%.
- » Increase composite score of the Life at School portion of the Student Experience Survey by .15.
- » Buildings create and implement a plan for the utilization of Assessment of Lagging Skills & Unsolved Problems (ALSUP) and Plan B conversations in all buildings.

Family and Community Engagement

OBJECTIVE

Foster meaningful relationships among families, school, and community to ensure access, representation, and voice.

2023-24 GOALS

- » Full implementation of the newly created family engagement survey results.
- » Using baseline data from 2023-24, determine end of 5 year overall target score on the self-assessment Staff Family Engagement Survey and the Family Experience Survey.
- » Develop and Implement Community Engagement Survey to identify areas for greater partnership opportunities with community organizations.

Staff Recruitment, Development, Retention

OBJECTIVE

Create a diverse school community through intentional recruitment, competitive compensation, mentoring, collaboration, and active engagement in professional development.

2023-24 GOALS

- » Increase composite score of employee satisfaction by .15 from the employee engagement survey.
- » Increase composite score of engagement in professional development by .15 from the employee engagement survey.
- » Propose board recommendations on market adjustments for teacher compensation.
- » Create new website platform, launch by December 31, 2023 and establish ongoing maintenance plan of all site pages.

Finance, Facilities, and Operations Stewardship

OBJECTIVE

Align all resources with district priorities in an equitable and responsible manner.

2023-24 GOALS

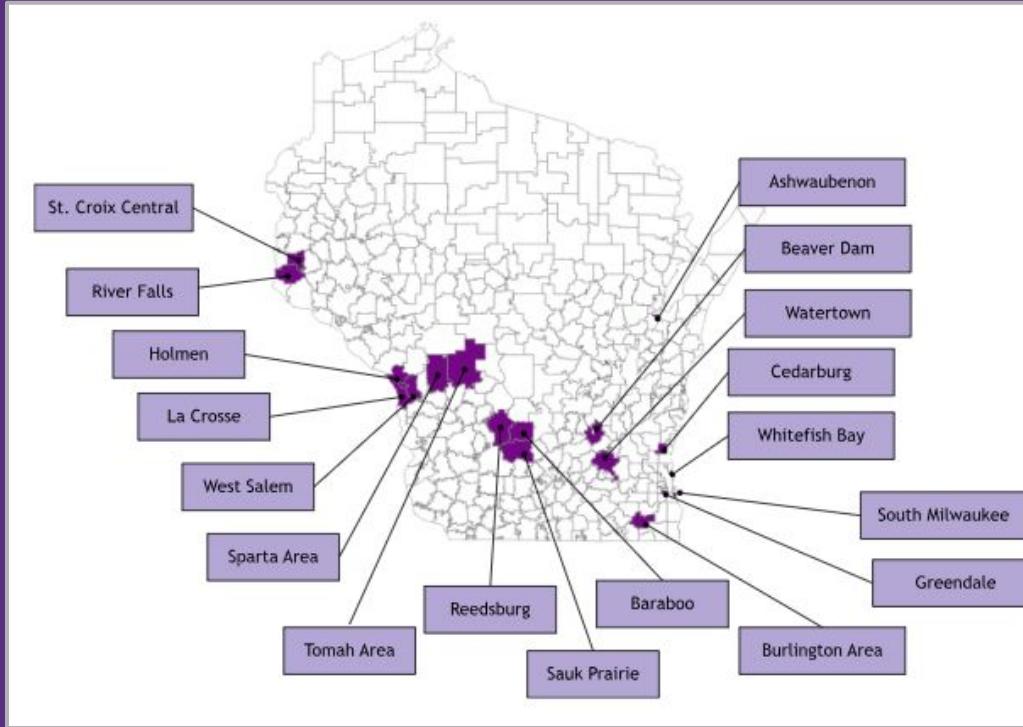
- » Execute all scheduled 2023-24 referendum projects on time and within budget.
- » Ensure that all areas of business operations are aligned to and supporting the district strategic plan.
- » Establish adequate and accurate budgets in order to facilitate intra and interdistrict data analysis for future resource allocation.



Archived 2022-23 Annual Goals

Student Engagement, Growth, and Achievement		Family and Community Engagement	Staff Recruitment, Development, Retention	Finance, Facilities, and Operations Stewardship
OBJECTIVE Integrate essential academic and social emotional learning (SEL) to ensure achievement for all.	OBJECTIVE Amplify student belonging and engagement.	OBJECTIVE Foster meaningful relationships among families, school, and community to ensure access, representation, and voice.	OBJECTIVE Create a diverse school community through intentional recruitment, competitive compensation, mentoring, collaboration, and active engagement in professional development.	OBJECTIVE Align all resources with district priorities in an equitable and responsible manner.
2023 GOALS <ul style="list-style-type: none">» Develop vertically aligned REAL assessments in reading and writing K-12.» Establish a universal understanding of the importance of "target groups" for student growth and develop plans for collaborative teams to address student needs.» Extend math instructional coaching to grades 6-8 and refine assessment practices.» Develop PK-5 essential objectives for SEL.» Determine baseline percentage for College and Career Readiness indicators.	2023 GOALS <ul style="list-style-type: none">» Increase the percentage of students who have under 10% of absences.» Increase composite score of the Life at School portion of the Student Experience Survey.» Refine equity vision statements, collective equity commitments, and final outcomes for the district's equity work; continue collecting targeted equity data (i.e. Least Restrictive Environment, Exclusionary Discipline).	2023 GOALS <ul style="list-style-type: none">» Determine key indicators for an annual self-assessment rubric to measure Family and Community Engagement» Create a Family and Community Survey aligned to Family and Community Engagement rubric» Administer Family and Community Survey to obtain baseline data» Develop goals for improvement once baseline data for Family and Community Survey and Family and Community Engagement rubric have been analyzed	2023 GOALS <ul style="list-style-type: none">» Determine total compensation benchmark of normed schools.» Update the district financial system to align with universal data sharing requirements in order to participate in state compensation analysis.» Develop and implement a districtwide leadership rounding plan that supports all employee groups.» Develop and execute stay interview protocol and action plans as a result of the 21-22 employee perception survey on areas of retention and engagement.» Outline a recruitment campaign plan to develop and execute in the 23-24 school year.	2023 GOALS <ul style="list-style-type: none">» Review status of cash flow borrowing by reviewing bank records.» Review deferred maintenance list to determine adequate annual contribution to Trust.» Create a system where budget requests are aligned with the district strategic plan and include anticipated outcomes.» Incorporate consideration of school-by-school spending aligned to outcomes in the budgeting process.

Normed Districts



Normed Districts Criteria

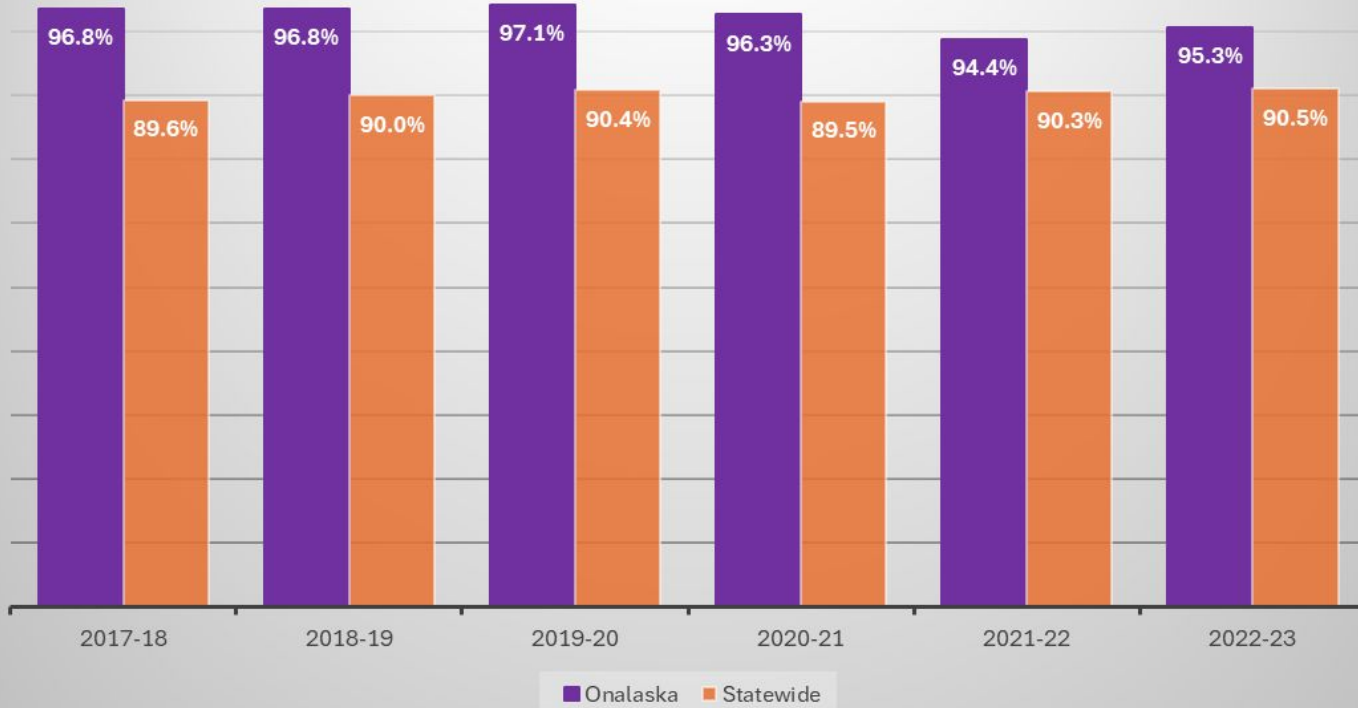
- Enrollment
- Revenue Limit/Enrollment
- % of Students with Disabilities
- % of Students who are Economically Disadvantaged
- % of Multilingual Learners

Our Schools

School		Address	Principal(s)
Onalaska High School		700 Wilson Street Onalaska, WI 54650	Jared Schaffner Charlie Ihle Jason Thiry
Onalaska Middle School		707 8th Ave North Onalaska, WI 54650	Ben Burns Jana Yashinsky
Eagle Bluff Elementary		200 Eagle Bluff Court Onalaska, WI 54650	Todd Saner
Irving Pertzsch Elementary		524 Main Street Onalaska, WI 54650	Abby Davis
Northern Hills Elementary		910 East Ave North Onalaska, WI 54650	Lalisha Olson

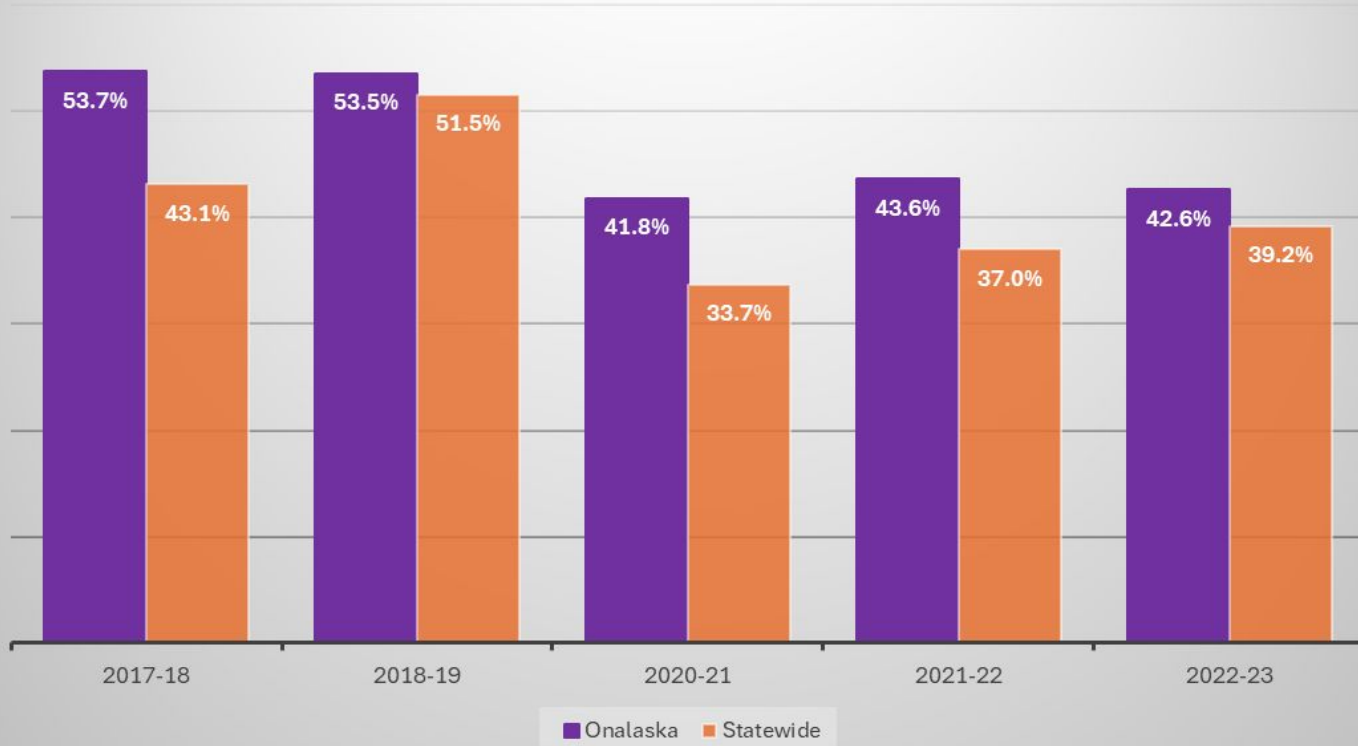
High School Completion Rates

(source: WISEdash Public)



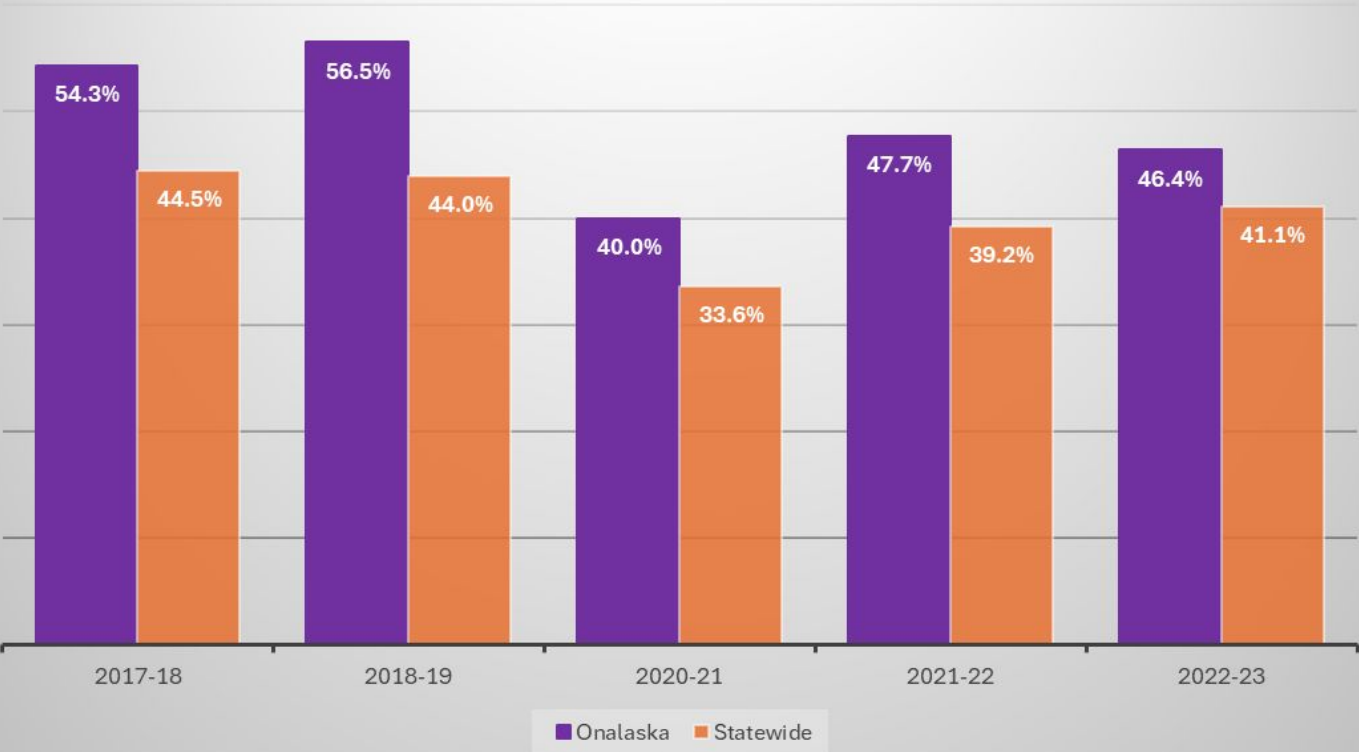
Proficient on ELA WI Forward

(source: WISEdash Public)



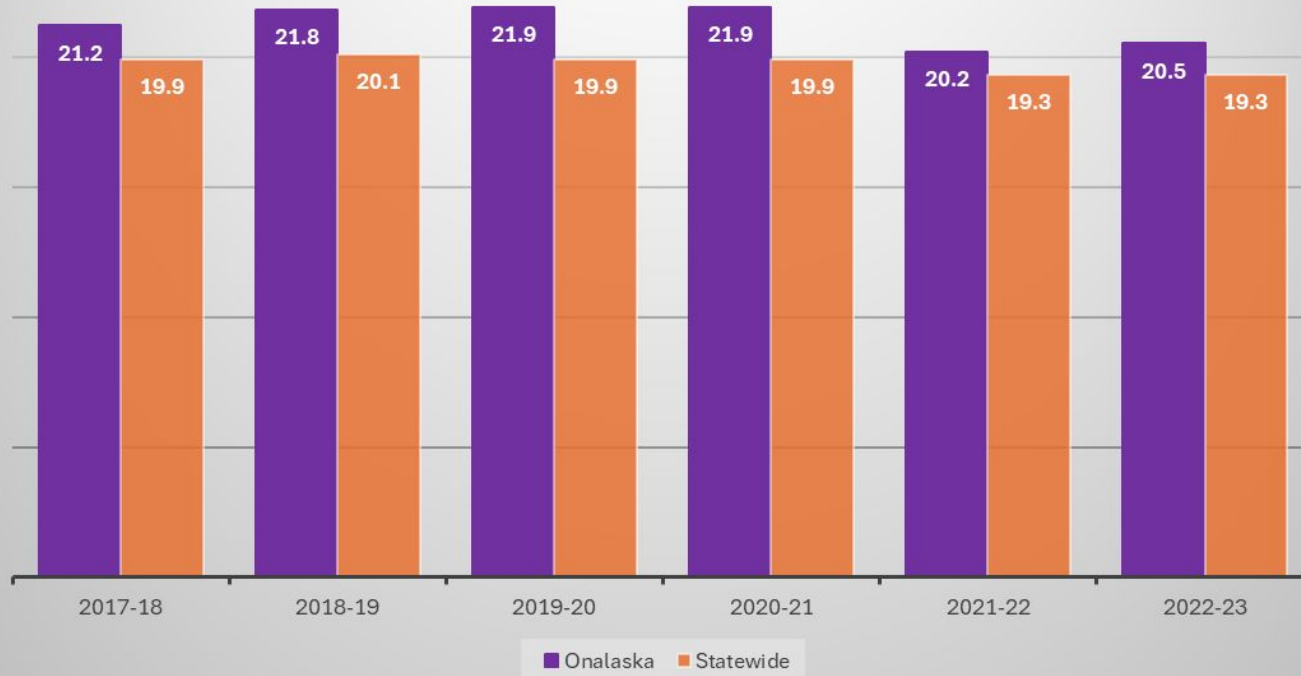
Proficient on Mathematics WI Forward

(source: WISEdash Public)



Composite ACT

(source: WISEdash Public)



2024-25 Preliminary Budget from Janet Rosseter

In the School District of Onalaska, we take pride in aligning our financial resources with the strategic priorities and the operational needs of our district. Staff have worked hard to develop and operationalize a strategic plan aligned with a scorecard that has annual goals containing specific action plans to achieve those goals. Budget allocations align to these goals.

In Wisconsin, public schools have a July 1 through June 30 fiscal year. Yet current year funding is not known until late October when each district adopts their original budget - that's three months into the fiscal year. Because of this timing misalignment, districts must take a multi year approach to budget management. From development to final analysis, each budget is a two year process that begins each December (for the following July 1 fiscal year start) and finishes in December of the following year (six months after fiscal year end) with an independent auditor's report to the Board and community.

The Revenue limit is the main driver of individual school funding. The basic and simplified school funding formula is:

$$\text{Revenue Limit minus State Equalization Aid} = \text{Local Taxes}$$

In essence, the Revenue Limit controls the amount of funding available to offer programs and services for our students. There are three main factors that determine the District's Revenue Limit: enrollment (converted to membership), the per student state allowed yearly funding increase, and the District's prior year revenue base. In practical terms, by controlling revenue, expenses are controlled. Both the Revenue Limit and State Equalization Aid are controlled at the state level. Local taxes are the mathematical "remainder" of the equation. And like any math equation, as any one factor goes up or down there is a direct and inverse impact on the other side of the equation (local taxes).

2024-25 Preliminary Budget from Janet Rosseter (cont.)

Districts can supplement their Revenue Limit to either maintain or offer additional programs and services by passing an Operational Referendum. Onalaska does have an Operational Revenue Limit override in effect through the 2027-28 fiscal year.

The next few pages show enrollment history, staff composition, and financial information that includes the District's Operating Funds. These funds account for general school operations. At the time of this printing, 2023-24 financial information has not been finalized. Additionally, even though the District is well into the 2024-25 fiscal year, there are a number of budget factors that are yet to be finalized to arrive at the 2024-25 Original Budget. These will be finalized in late October at which time the Original Budget will be adopted. The budget is a living document and as such it is refined and updated throughout the year. Budget revisions are Board approved on a quarterly basis. Once approved they are posted on the Finance and Business Services webpage.

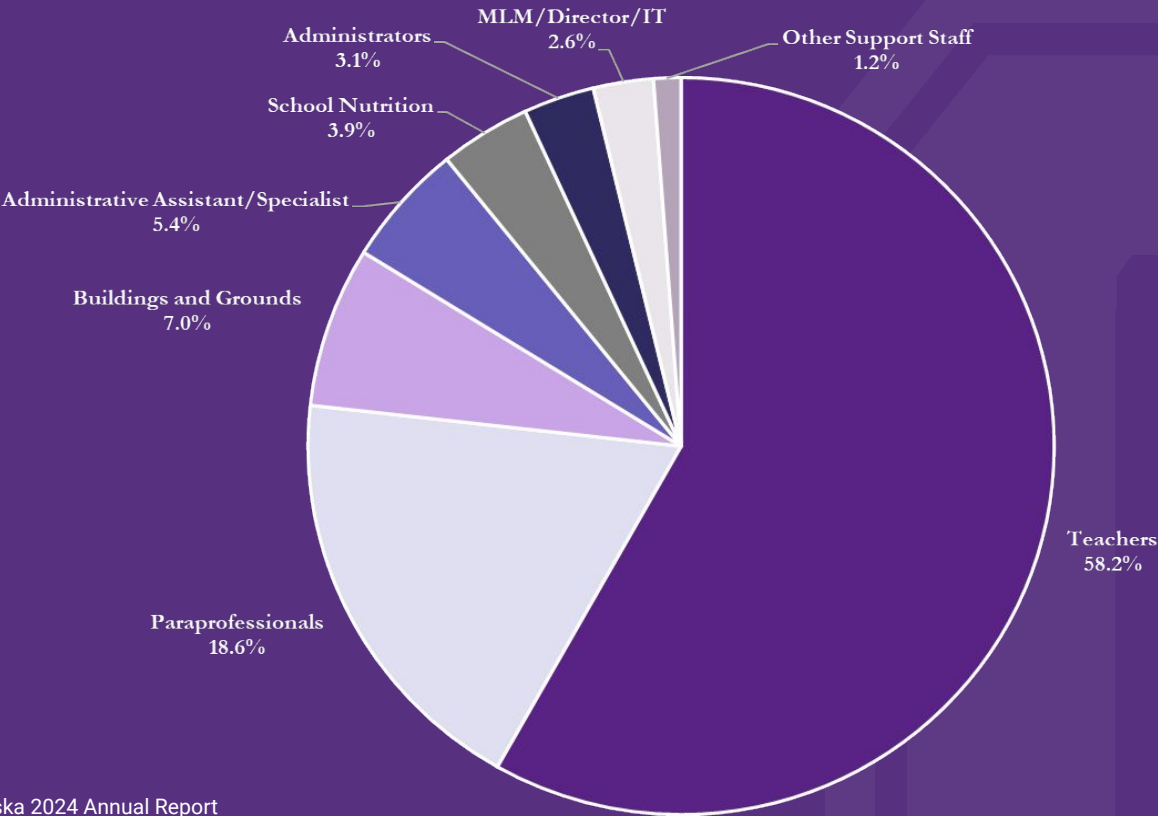


For further budget information, please visit www.onalaskaschools.com or contact me at 608-781-9700.

Janet Rosseter, Director of Finance & Business Services

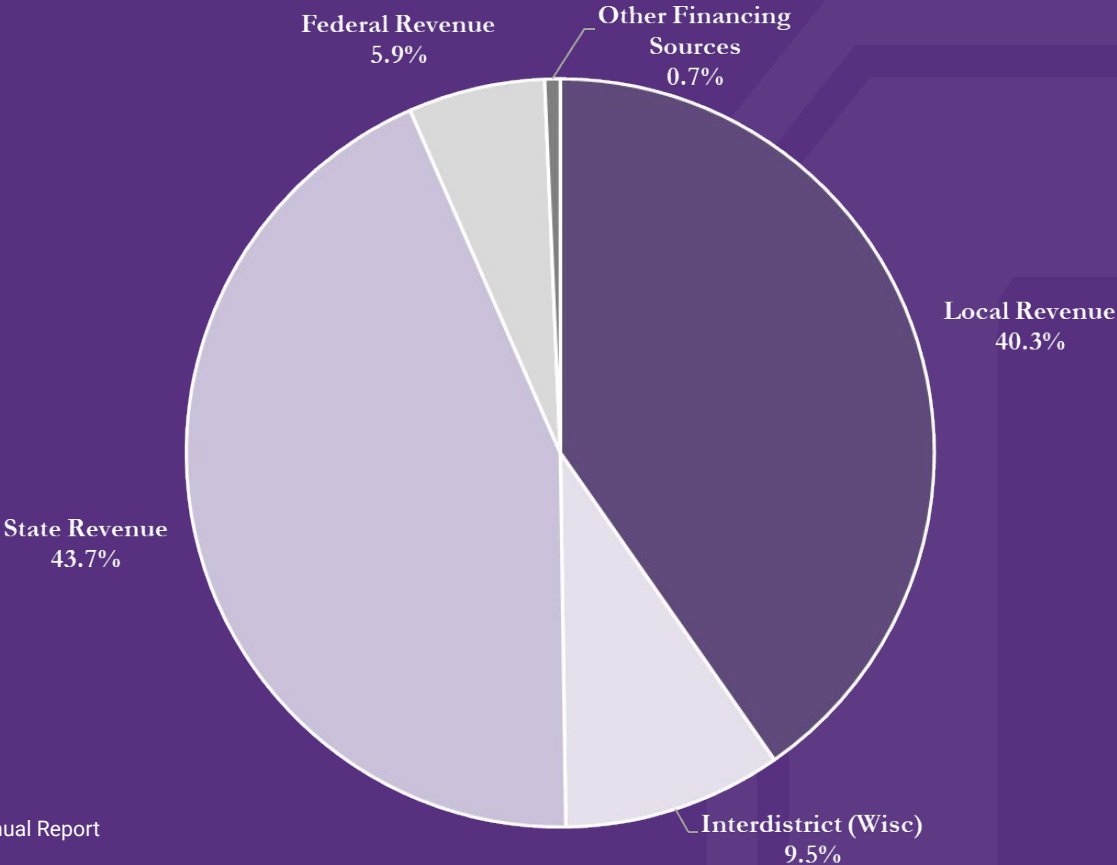
Enrollment Class Sizes - September Count								
Grade	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25
EC	11	12	10	5	7	13	14	14
4K	241	242	225	208	222	204	194	162
K	204	198	232	186	195	199	197	178
1	221	196	205	215	189	193	193	193
2	221	219	192	189	214	193	199	197
3	222	216	219	185	184	218	195	212
4	205	218	226	220	190	184	208	203
5	230	206	223	224	223	194	186	211
6	245	221	222	226	229	220	209	201
7	224	244	227	215	219	234	215	208
8	236	227	243	228	225	222	235	209
9	242	232	237	243	227	225	215	239
10	240	243	227	232	234	220	223	215
11	215	240	245	220	243	247	231	232
12	221	213	237	248	233	232	251	232
Total	3178	3127	3170	3044	3034	2998	2965	2906
Largest Class Size		Smallest Class Size						

Staff Composition By Group



Operating Funds Revenue (F10 & F27)

2024-25 Budget



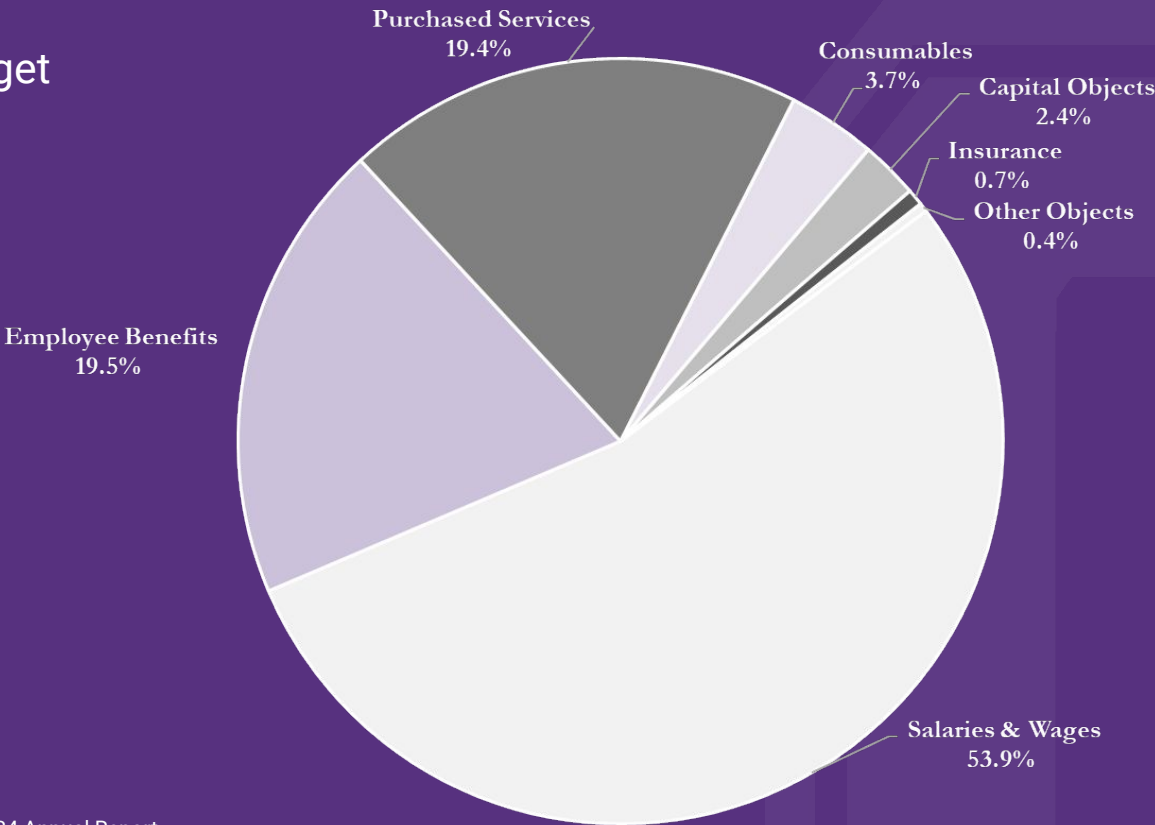
Operating Funds Revenue (F10 & F27)

Revenue Source	2022-23	2023-24		2024-25
	Audited	Budget	Unaudited	Budget
Operating Transfers In	3,833,869	4,360,615	4,207,144	4,838,814
Local Revenue	16,138,252	19,308,251	19,322,859	20,235,301
Interdistrict (Wisc)	4,315,826	4,574,000	4,535,472	4,559,500
State Revenue	21,072,061	20,644,161	20,929,793	20,630,814
Federal Revenue	3,240,723	2,946,665	2,830,805	1,359,151
Other Financing Sources	242,744	308,300	321,663	200,000
Operating Revenue	48,843,474	52,141,992	52,147,737	51,823,580

Presentation in whole dollars may create minor rounding errors

Operating Expense Funds by Object (F10 & F27)

2024-25 Budget



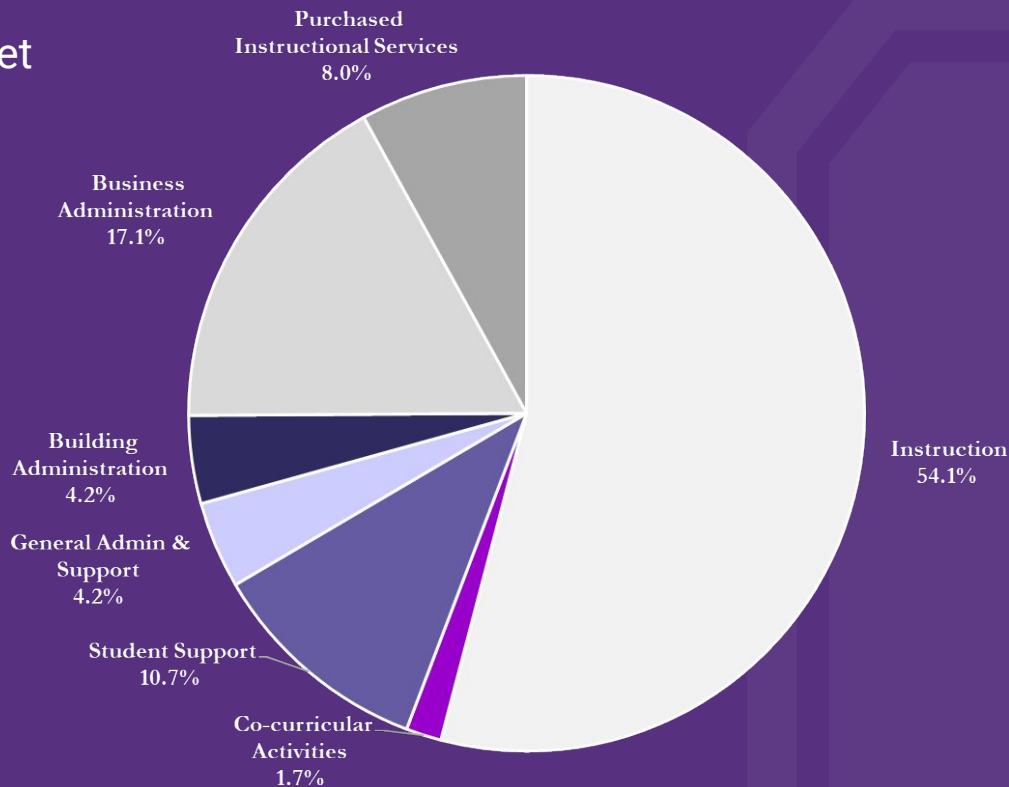
The What: Operating Funds Expense By Object (F10 & F27)

Object	2022-23	2023-24		2024-25
	Audited	Budget	Unaudited	Budget
Salaries & Wages	23,779,923	25,649,908	24,554,808	26,285,655
Employee Benefits	8,736,842	9,241,394	8,892,580	9,306,916
Purchased Services	8,350,487	8,944,086	8,835,301	9,102,524
Consumables	1,579,819	2,046,157	1,700,030	1,691,168
Capital Objects	1,010,163	1,034,958	1,111,583	663,395
Insurance	287,935	302,030	316,886	371,900
Operating Transfers Out	3,890,323	4,722,615	4,569,120	5,000,794
Other Objects	240,408	200,845	168,613	200,439
Expense by Object	47,875,899	52,141,993	50,148,921	52,622,791

Presentation in whole dollars may create minor rounding errors

Operating Funds Expense by Function (F10 & F27)

2024-25 Budget

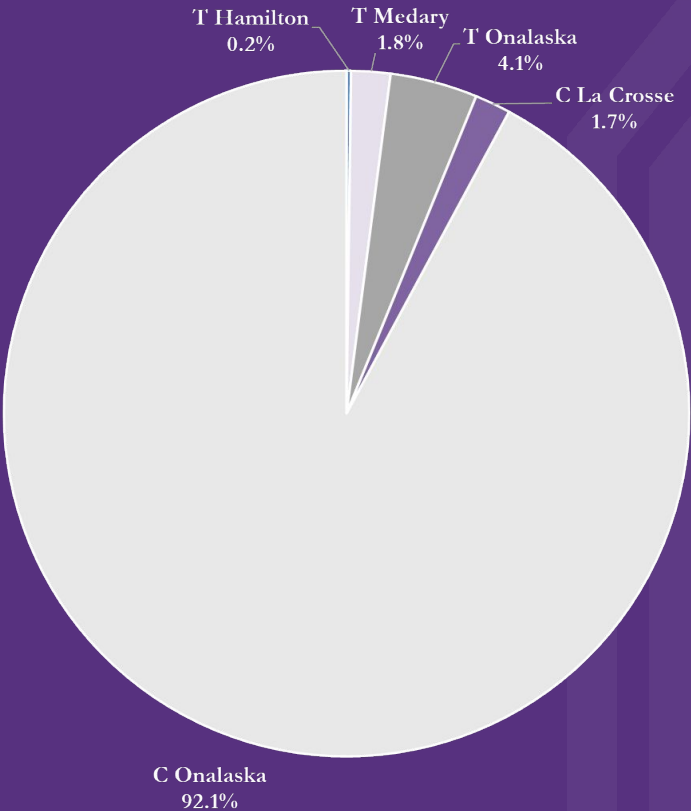


The What For: Operating Funds Expense By Function (F10 & F27)

Function	2022-23	2023-24		2024-25
	Audited	Budget	Unaudited	Budget
Instruction	23,711,694	25,777,795	24,650,947	26,199,046
Co-curricular Activities	790,463	949,039	774,381	699,653
Student Support	4,971,973	5,129,205	4,899,377	5,130,622
General Admin & Support	2,027,684	2,277,948	1,896,206	2,061,534
Building Administration	1,841,191	1,967,157	1,918,596	2,019,641
Business Administration	7,396,507	7,845,652	7,791,709	7,589,001
Purchased Instructional Services	3,246,064	3,472,582	3,648,585	3,922,500
Interfund Transfer	3,890,323	4,722,615	4,569,120	5,000,794
Expense by Function	47,875,899	52,141,993	50,148,921	52,622,791

Presentation in whole dollars may create minor rounding errors

Municipality Proportionate Share of Value



District Construction Updates

Two sizable renovation projects were made possible thanks to a community supported \$75 million referendum passed in November 2022. Approximately \$50 million was designated for Onalaska Middle School while the remaining \$25 million was allocated for renovations at Onalaska High School. Both projects are still in-progress with total completion expected in late summer and early fall 2025.

Onalaska Middle School

Completed (at the time of this report):

- 6th and 7th grade pods addition
- Outdoor artificial turf area
- New roadway for pick up and drop off
- New district copy center

In progress (at the time of this report):

- 8th grade pod addition
- Co-curricular addition including art, tech ed, and music
- Building main entrance and administrative offices
- New gymnasium and library
- Boys & Girls Club of Greater La Crosse partnered space

Onalaska High School

Completed (at the time of this report):

- Math and science classrooms
- South parking lot

In progress (at the time of this report):

- Tech ed expansion and renovation
- Music expansion and dance area renovations
- New fieldhouse bleachers
- Additional storage for P.E. and athletics
- Updated flooring throughout lower level
- Bathroom and locker room updates

2024 Moments of #OnaPride

OHS Relay Team Takes Nationals

The high school varsity track & field relay team of Blake Burnstad, Kasey Barth, Drew Symons, and Manny Putz won the distance medley relay at the Nike Outdoor Nationals in Eugene, Oregon in June 2024.

The relay involves legs of 1200, 400, 800, and 1600 meters. On top of winning, the team also set a facility record of 9:56:83.



Eagle Bluff Teacher Recognized

Janice Solie, teacher at Eagle Bluff Elementary, received Junior Achievement's 2023-2024 Teacher of the Year in the Coulee Region. She was officially recognized by the district's Board of Education in May 2024.

Junior Achievement is a national nonprofit dedicated to teaching financial literacy and work readiness to young people.



Another Successful Musical for Irving Pertzsch

5th grade music students at Irving Pertzsch Elementary finished their school year with the annual tradition of performing their own school-original musical: "The Sky Island Mystery."

The annual performance is overseen by Irving Pertzsch Music Teacher Nancy Stoll.

New Administrator Starts at OMS

Dr. Ben Burns was welcomed as the new principal of Onalaska Middle School in July 2024. Prior to OMS, he was a high school administrator in Colorado for two years. He also has experience as an elementary principal within the School District of La Crosse.

Dr. Burns holds a PhD in Educational Leadership from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.



Northern Hills Choir Sings at Fundraiser

The 4th and 5th grade choir at Northern Hills Elementary sang at the Family & Children's Center of La Crosse's Bridges to Better Tomorrows annual fundraising event.

The group sang two unreleased songs written by Dan Kouba specifically for the event. Kouba was also in attendance to perform with the students.



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