

Spotlight

Rosemount-Apple Valley-Eagan Public Schools



DISTRICT196
One District. Infinite Possibilities.

Winter 2024 | Volume 66 • Number 2

Academic Excellence

In September, **47 seniors** representing all five District 196 high schools were recognized by the National Merit Program and College Board among the top **10% of students nationally** based on their PSAT/NMSQT scores. (See page 14)



Kindergarten registration opens in January!

If your child will be 5 years old before September 1, it's time to sign up for kindergarten!

We invite you to visit your neighborhood school. **Meet our teachers, tour the school, and ask questions!**

- What makes this school special?
- Are students joyful and learning?
- What support services are available?
- What is the student-to-teacher ratio?
- Do you feel safe, welcome, and included as a partner?

Sign up early! Kindergarten enrollment may be completed anytime in January. Magnet school applications are due Jan 3. A child must be enrolled in District 196 before registering for school-age child care, which fills quickly. Learn more and find your school at: www.district196.org/kindergarten



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District 196 enrollment remains stable, exceeds projections

Enrollment in District 196 schools remains stable this year with **29,049** students, according to the official October enrollment report presented to the School Board on Oct. 7, 2024. There are 88 more students (0.3%) than the October count last year and 244 more than projected in the preliminary budget last June.

The largest class in the district this year is grade 12, with 2,421 students, and the smallest is kindergarten, with 1,735 students. The breakdown by level is:

- **1,945** early childhood special education and center-based special education students
- **11,533** elementary school students (grades K-5), a decrease of 64 students from last year
- **6,390** middle school students (grades 6-8), an increase of 87 students
- **9,181** high school students (grades 9-12), a decrease of 35 students from last year

Enrollment continues to grow in special education and early childhood special education. The enrollment of students receiving center-based special education services grew to 1,354 this year, 90 more

than last year. This increase is significant because these programs require more space per student and have smaller teacher-student ratios than regular education. In early childhood special education, enrollment increased to 591 this year.

Students of color represent approximately 45% of total enrollment in District 196. Fifty-five percent of students are White, 15% Black, 13% Hispanic, 7.5% Asian, 9% are two or more races, 0.4% are American Indian, and 0.1% are Pacific Islander. Students who qualify to receive English Learner services represent approximately 8% of total enrollment in District 196, compared to 9% statewide.

New housing construction and families choosing to move into the district keep District 196 enrollment stable, as declining Minnesota birthrates over the last 15 years challenge other school districts' stability. Rosemount, Apple Valley, and Eagan communities continue to attract families with children seeking excellence in education.

BY THE NUMBERS



Recognized for excellence in financial reporting



District 196 earned the Certificate of Excellence in Financial

Reporting from the Association of School Business Officials International (ASBO) for the district's Annual Comprehensive Financial Report for fiscal year 2023. Annual financial reports and budget documents are available at www.district196.org/finance.

The Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting is ASBO's highest recognition of school district financial operations. The program reviews and critiques district accounting practices and recognizes school districts that meet or exceed the program's high financial reporting and accountability standards.

"Every member of our Finance Department played a part in receiving this recognition," said Superintendent Michael Bolsoni. "We are a large, complex organization – yet each year, our finance team employs systems and controls to ensure we adhere to the highest standards in government accounting, budget allocation, monitoring, and reporting. There's a commitment to integrity in our financial practices."

District 196 has an annual district budget of more than \$600 million and employs more than 4,000 people. District 196 is Minnesota's third-largest school district, opening doors to infinite possibilities for students and our community.

Leading with Purpose: Six Months In

By **Michael Bolsoni**, superintendent

As December arrives, it marks six months since I began my journey as superintendent. I've dedicated time to connecting, listening, and learning. It's been a meaningful start, and I'm reminded every day of our responsibility to **educate, develop, and inspire our students for lifelong success.**

Triple A Excellence

Our commitment to the *Triple-A philosophy*—academics, arts, and athletics—is thriving. This year, we've invested significantly in elementary education, particularly reading, writing, math, and science. I want to extend my gratitude to our elementary teachers, families, and students who have embraced four new curricula this year, fostering a culture of collaborative learning. In classrooms, I see students deeply engaged with a shared joy for learning.

In high schools, students participating in arts, activities, and athletics are building skills, confidence, and lifelong connections. I attended inspiring theater performances this fall and met community members who expressed pride in our talented students.

We also celebrated post-season success in athletics and activities at each of our high schools, including three state championships (see p. 10). Over the last two months, I've signed 950 letters of student recognition for academic, arts, and athletic achievements. Our students are setting a high bar for excellence.



Community Connections

Over the past six months, we've engaged with more than 66 school and community groups, learning about their priorities and shared hopes for our district. It's clear that while our community is proud of our schools, there is still work to be done. Together, we are focusing on improving communication, diversifying our staff, expanding early childhood programs, and ensuring every student has the necessary resources to succeed.

Looking ahead, I'll present a *State of the District Report* in January. I welcome the opportunity to share this report with local groups to strengthen our partnerships and align our goals.

Collaborative Leadership

In collaboration with our School Board, we are focused on specific goals related to four strategic priorities: achievement, equity, well-being, and resources.

With equity at the heart of our work, we are making strides in hiring and retaining a diverse workforce,

expanding language services for families, and strengthening our American Indian Education program.

Better Data for Better Learning

This year, we introduced new data tools to better understand and address student needs. From attendance tracking to literacy and math assessments, these tools enable us to identify and intervene early, ensuring students stay on track. Real-time data empowers teachers and leaders to provide targeted student support and engage families.

In reflecting on our progress, I am often reminded of the words at Rosemount High School: *Pride in the past, performance in the present, and promise for the future.* These words encapsulate our shared responsibility. We honor our history, but the promise of tomorrow depends on the actions we take today.

Thank you for your continued support and dedication to our students and schools. Together, we are creating a future of infinite possibilities.

Michael Bolsoni

Leah Gardner Elected to District 196 School Board



vacated by Bianca Virnig, who was

Congratulations to Leah Gardner, who was elected to the School Board on Nov. 5 with 39,854 votes (56.42%), filling the term

elected to the Legislature. This term will expire in 2025.

Gardner is the policy director at Hunger Solutions Minnesota and holds a master's degree in public policy from the University of Minnesota's Humphrey School of Public Affairs.

Two vacant seats remain

The School Board is also appointing two new members to fill seats vacated by Art Coulson and Sachin Isaacs who resigned in August and October. Interviews are scheduled for Dec. 16.

Schools honor veterans with heartfelt tributes

At schools around our district, students paid tribute to veterans and learned about their service and sacrifices during Veterans Day events. Students, staff, and community members gathered for moments of reflection, musical performances, and guest speakers. The most meaningful learning experiences came from veterans who shared their experiences.



Eagan High School Senior **Indigo Benner**, Minnesota Army National Guard member, proudly led the pledge of allegiance during the Veterans Day event.



Fifth-grade students demonstrated proper flag care when folding, unfolding, and carrying the flag at the Highland Elementary Veterans Day program.



At the conclusion of the Veterans Day ceremony, Apple Valley High School student **Ava Marie Lopez** shook hands with **Al Yager** and personally thanked him for his service.

Strengthening curriculum in elementary schools

A new focus on the science of reading, new curriculum materials, more efficient diagnostic screeners, and more time for direct instruction in literacy means a lot of new learning.

"With systematic instruction in phonics, decoding, and comprehension, we are confident we can improve reading outcomes for all learners," said **Jeremy Sorensen**, director of elementary education.

For teachers and students, every lesson in reading, writing, math, and science is new this year. All elementary schools are using:

- **Functional Phonics And Morphology**, which are highly rated, evidence-based literacy curricula.
- **EL Open Up** is a knowledge-rich literacy curriculum designed to foster deep comprehension and critical thinking.
- **i-Ready Classroom Mathematics**, which develops critical thinking and problem-solving in grades K-5. With an online component, teachers assess student needs, personalize learning, and track progress.
- **Amplify Science** is a K-8 curriculum that uses hands-on activities, digital tools, and literacy to deepen



students' understanding of science. Each unit asks students to explore a phenomenon as they take on the role of a scientist. For example, 4th graders act as systems engineers responding to blackout problems.

Every child is unique, and students enter classrooms each fall with a wide range of skills. Assessing a classroom of students for reading used to take more than ten hours of instructional time. With 1:1 technology and new

literacy and math screeners, we can pinpoint learning needs in less than an hour, allowing teachers to meet children where they are and move them forward more readily. It's transformational for learning.

In District 196, our vision is to provide experiences that develop the whole student, honor diverse needs and cultures, and engage students in academics, arts, and athletics to prepare them for lifelong success.

District 196 can help you become a teacher!

District 196 is among a select group of Minnesota districts awarded a state grant to support teacher recruitment and development. With the \$1 million in grant funding, the district will help local adults switch careers to become teachers.

Grow Your Own programs aim to develop teachers from within local communities. With an adult pathway, the strategy is designed to overcome persistent teacher shortages and the racial mismatch between teachers and students.

There is a well-documented disparity between the number of teachers of color and students of color. In our district, there are fewer than 10% teachers of color and Indigenous teachers compared to 45% students of color and Indigenous students.

All students, especially students of color, benefit from interactions with teachers and staff of color. Staff are both mirrors that reflect student lives and windows that allow students to see into the lives of others. Students feel empowered to access professional pathways when they see professionals who look like them. Moreover, research is replete with studies on the positive impact of teachers of color on all students.

The Grow Your Own grant supports the District 196 Achievement and Integration Plan, which aims to increase the percentage of teachers of color serving in the district from 5%



All Grow Your Own teacher candidates receive mentorship from a veteran teacher. Eagan High School teacher **Paul Kovach** (center) is mentoring **Anas Yusuf** (left) and **Cecilia Lopez Rubi** (right).

to 8% by 2026 and the percentage of staff of color from 11% to 14% by 2026.

The District 196 Grow Your Own - Adult Pathway Program is a strategy "from the community for the community" to increase and diversify the teacher workforce. With the grant funding, we support adults identifying as Indigenous and/or people of color in completing a teaching degree and obtaining an initial teaching license. This grant provides support over three years for district candidates:

- \$10,000 per year for tuition
- \$1,000 per year for textbooks
- Mentorship and professional development

Five colleges, including Metropolitan State University and the University

of St. Thomas, are partnering with District 196 to provide the coursework toward licensure. To date, we have 23 candidates working with eight highly respected mentors/coaches who are longtime District 196 teachers, six of whom are teachers of color. Some are studying elementary and secondary education, and some specialize in working with students who have special needs.

District 196 Grow Your Own - Adult Pathway Program is facilitated by the Equity and Inclusion Department. If you or someone you know is interested in the District 196 Grow Your Own - Adult Pathway Program, visit www.district196.org/GYO or contact Yen Huynh-Vue, 651-423-7941 or yen.huynhvue@district196.org.

Join Our Team: nourishing the future

With Minnesota's free breakfast and lunch program boosting participation, we're looking for positive individuals to join our Nutrition Services team. With a starting hourly wage of \$19.45, this is an opportunity for meaningful work and to make a positive impact in students' lives every day.

Hear from Our Team Members:

Dee Smith, Nutrition Service Associate

Why did you choose a career in Nutrition Services?

I was a stay-at-home parent and wanted to contribute financially while still being there for my kids before and after school.

What do you enjoy about working in Nutrition Services?

I love working in an elementary school; I get to know the students and help make their day better.

What would you say to someone considering a career in Nutrition Services?

Give it a try!



Join us in making a difference—nourishing the future, one student at a time!



APPLY TODAY!

District 196 updates elementary attendance areas for fall 2025

Six elementary schools will have shifts in their attendance areas next school year. The changes are needed to relieve overcrowding, balance enrollments and prepare for the district's 20th elementary school open in fall 2025.

The new elementary school attendance area

The new elementary school, located at the intersection of Akron Ave and Bonaire Path in Rosemount, will draw more than 600 students from the existing attendance areas of Red Pine Elementary and Rosemount Elementary Schools.

Rosemount Elementary area to the new school

The northeast portion of the existing Rosemount Elementary attendance area will be designated for the new school.

Northern boundary: the existing Rosemount Elementary/ Red Pine boundary (railroad). Western boundary: northeast of Connemara Trail to Akron Ave., then south on Akron to County Road 42 to Blaine Avenue E. (Note: Households on Blaine, South of County Road 42 stay at Rosemount Elementary.) Approximately 400 students will be coming from this area.

Red Pine Elementary area to the new school

The southeast portion of the existing Red Pine Elementary attendance area will be designated for the new school.

The northern boundary: the municipal (city) boundary of Rosemount and Inver Grove Heights. Western boundary: Autumn Path south to the intersection of Connemara Trail,

turning south down Connemara Trail to the existing Red Pine boundary (railroad). Eastern boundary: The new school boundary extends to the eastern and southern boundaries of District 196.

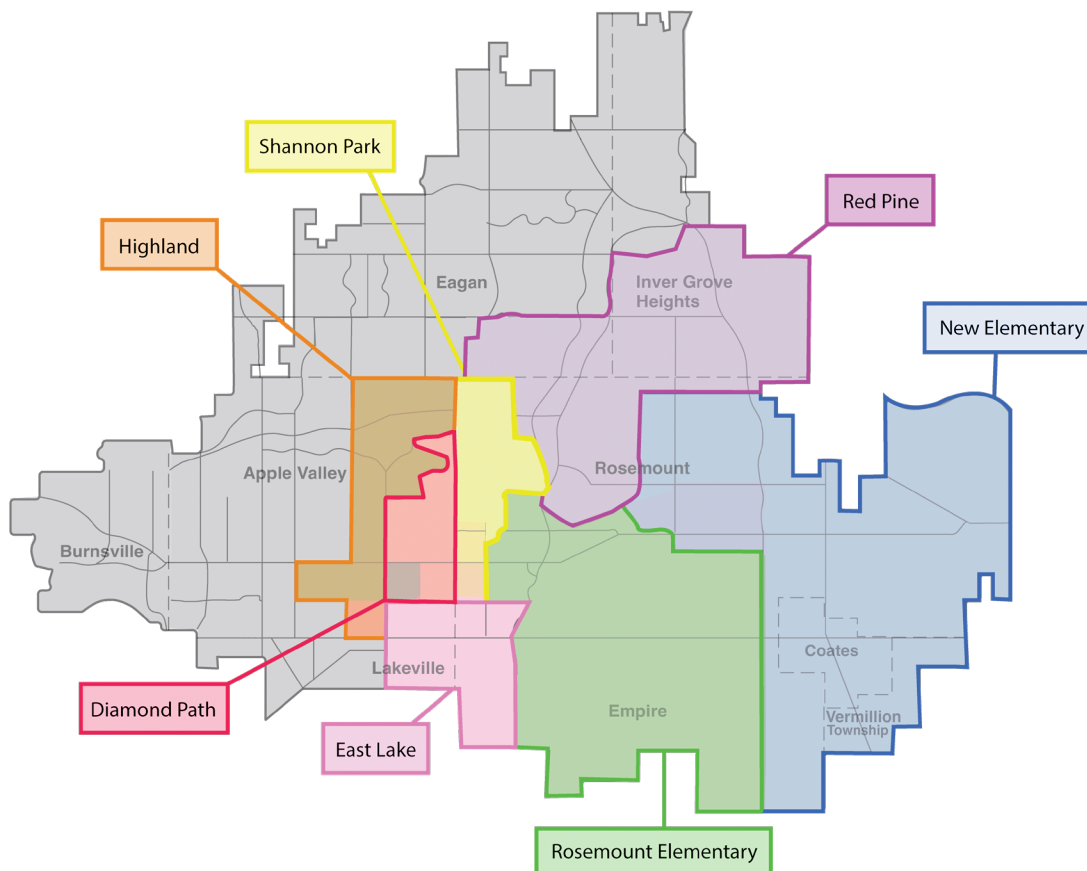
Alleviating overcrowding at East Lake Elementary

Due to rapid population growth in the southern area of the district, there is an imbalance of students across schools. The Board approved a plan to balance enrollments among the following schools: East Lake Elementary, Shannon Park Elementary, Highland Elementary, and Diamond Path Elementary, moving all schools towards our optimal enrollment of 600-800 students.

The district has notified all families impacted by the attendance area adjustments. Current 3rd and 4th-grade students may complete their education at their current elementary school if desired, with transportation provided for two years. Transportation within adjusted areas will sunset at the end of the 2026-2027 school year. Families may complete an intradistrict transfer application before Dec. 15 if they wish to attend a school outside their attendance area.



Scan QR code for more information or to look up an address and attendance area.



Mike Chamberlain, physical education teacher at Diamond Path Elementary School, has been selected as the Minnesota Society of Health and Physical Educators' Elementary Physical Education Teacher of the Year award recipient.



Carla Christiansen, physical education teacher at Apple Valley High School, has been selected as the Minnesota Society of Health and Physical Educators' Secondary Physical Education Teacher of the Year award recipient.

Mia Battistone, family and consumer sciences teacher at Eastview High School, has been selected as the 2025 Teacher of the Year by the Minnesota Association of Family and Consumer Sciences.



Erin Paulson, art teacher at Glacier Hills Elementary School of Arts and Science was selected as the 2024-25 Art Educator of the Year by the Art Educators of Minnesota.

Southview Elementary School was selected as a Minnesota School of Excellence by the Minnesota Elementary School Principals' Association. Southview is one of only six schools in the state to receive this designation for 2024.



Eagan High School was named a 2024 Special Olympics Unified Champion School, one of only four high schools in Minnesota to earn this designation. It was recognized for meeting 10 national standards of excellence, including its inclusive school climate.



Ryburn will be principal at the new elementary school

A familiar leader will open the 20th elementary school in District 196. **Chad Ryburn**, principal at Highland



Elementary for the last 22 years, has accepted the opportunity to lead the new school, which will open in Rosemount next fall.

"I have absolutely loved my years at Highland and deeply appreciate the community we've built together," Ryburn said. "This new role is an exciting opportunity for me to help build a school community from the ground up, and I am honored to take on this unique challenge."

Ryburn brings more than 30 years of experience as an elementary educator. He started his career in San Antonio, Texas, before moving to Rosemount Elementary as a 5th-grade teacher in 1994. He taught 3rd and 4th grade at Northview Elementary and was an instructional assistant (assistant administrator) at Northview before becoming principal at Highland in 2002. With his leadership, Highland Elementary was named a National Blue Ribbon School in 2020.

Ryburn earned a bachelor's degree in education with a Spanish minor from the University of Northern Iowa, a master's degree in curriculum and instruction from the University of St. Mary's, and an education specialist degree in administration from the University of St. Thomas. He earned National Board Certification in 1999 and 2009 and the District 196 Outstanding Service Award in 2023.

The new elementary school, currently under construction in Rosemount, is a replica of the East Lake Elementary School floor plan and will draw 600-700 students from the Rosemount and Red Pine Elementary attendance areas. In the coming weeks, the district will begin a community input process for naming the new school (visit district196.org to participate). Hiring for the school will start in January 2025.

WE'RE HIRING!

Nutrition Service Associates, Custodians, Bus Drivers, Paraprofessionals and more!



APPLY TODAY!



Honoring Indigenous Peoples' Day

On Indigenous Peoples Day, District 196 students read books by Indigenous authors to learn about Indigenous cultures, histories, and contributions. Pictured is **Nicole Lonetree Brovold**, Chair of the District 196 Native American Parent Advisory Committee, who visited elementary classrooms to share powerful stories, deepening students' understanding and appreciation of Indigenous communities.

Magnet school applications open for 2025-26 enrollment

District 196 is now accepting applications for the 2025-26 magnet school lotteries. Families interested in applying should note the following deadlines:

- **Jan. 3** for elementary magnet schools,
- **Dec. 13** for Valley Middle School of STEM,
- **Dec. 20** for the School of Environmental Studies (for incoming juniors and seniors).

For more information and to apply, visit www.district196.org/academics/magnet-schools.



Preparing for High-Demand Careers

Metalworking, automotive, and construction trades are in high demand. District 196 high school students have an opportunity to explore these career and technical education (CTE) courses as electives in their high school schedules. In January, high school students will begin registering for classes. CTE courses offer students hands-on learning in high-demand fields while building practical skills, teamwork, and creativity.



Exploring ways to become an eco-leader

Animal care is one of many hands-on courses at the School of Environmental Studies, which prepares students to be eco-champions. Discover a place where passion meets the planet and prepare for careers at the Minnesota Zoo, the Department of Natural Resources, or with other public policy advocates. Learn more at www.ses.district196.org/join.



Celebrating Farm to School Month

In October, Thomas Lake Elementary welcomed **Farmer Aaron** from Brand Farms in Farmington. Brand Farms provides over 10,000 apples to District 196 weekly while they are in-season. Students enjoyed Zestar apples and apple crisp parfaits while learning firsthand how food travels from farm to table.



Welcoming International Music

Eastview High School welcomed the German swing band Friedrich Rau for a full-day workshop and concert. Through music, students delved into the German language, history, and culture. The students also collaborated on writing song lyrics and music, concluding with a concert.



Identifying Vision for Vision Screening

District 196 school nurses partnered with the Eagan Lions Club this fall to provide free vision screenings for 7th and 10th-grade students. In less than 10 seconds, a student can be screened for near-sightedness, far-sightedness, astigmatism, and pupil size deviations. Through this partnership, 4,203 middle and high school students were screened, and 24% were referred for further testing. We are grateful for our partners with the Eagan Lions Club. District 196 nurses will partner with Allina Health to screen elementary students later this year.

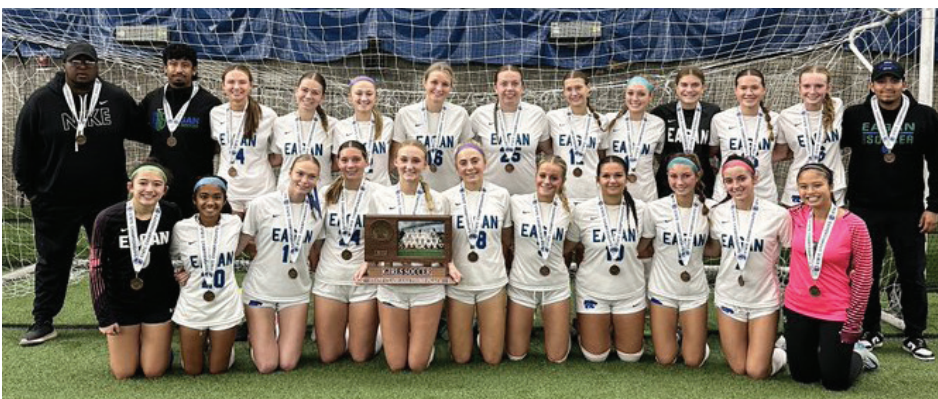
Eagan boys soccer wins state championship in overtime

Eagan Wildcats boys soccer celebrated its state championship after an overtime victory against Maple Grove. "I was reminding these guys, you've got something to prove," Eagan coach **Josue Boutouli** told reporters after the championship game.



Dakota Hawks capture CI state soccer championship

The Dakota Hawks, a district-wide adapted athletics team, captured the CI state soccer championship with three consecutive 3-0 shutout victories, showcasing exceptional defensive teamwork. In the finals, the Hawks defeated their longtime rivals, the Blazing Cats of Lakeville, who had beaten them in the past three championships.



The Eagan High School girls soccer team

The Eagan High School Girls Soccer Team wrapped up their season with pride, earning a third-place finish in the State AAA Tournament. Their impressive performance in the consolation final highlighted the hard work, determination, and teamwork that defined their season.

Rosemount High School marching band wins big

Rosemount High School was named the Youth in Music Championships 2024 Grand Champion, Class AAAA Champion, and MN State AAAA Champion this season. They also received outstanding color guard, percussion, winds, and visual performance awards.



Eagan junior claims third state medal

Eagan junior **Cassandra Li** claimed third place in singles at the Class AA girls Minnesota State High School League tennis tournament. This is the third consecutive year she earned a medal at state.

Eastview Marching Band achieves best finish in years

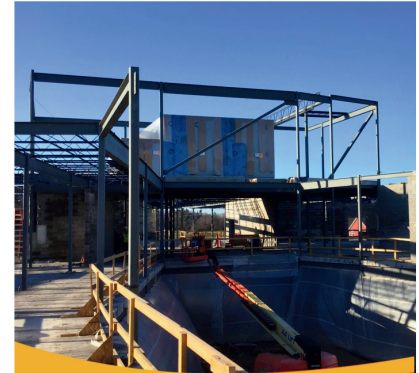
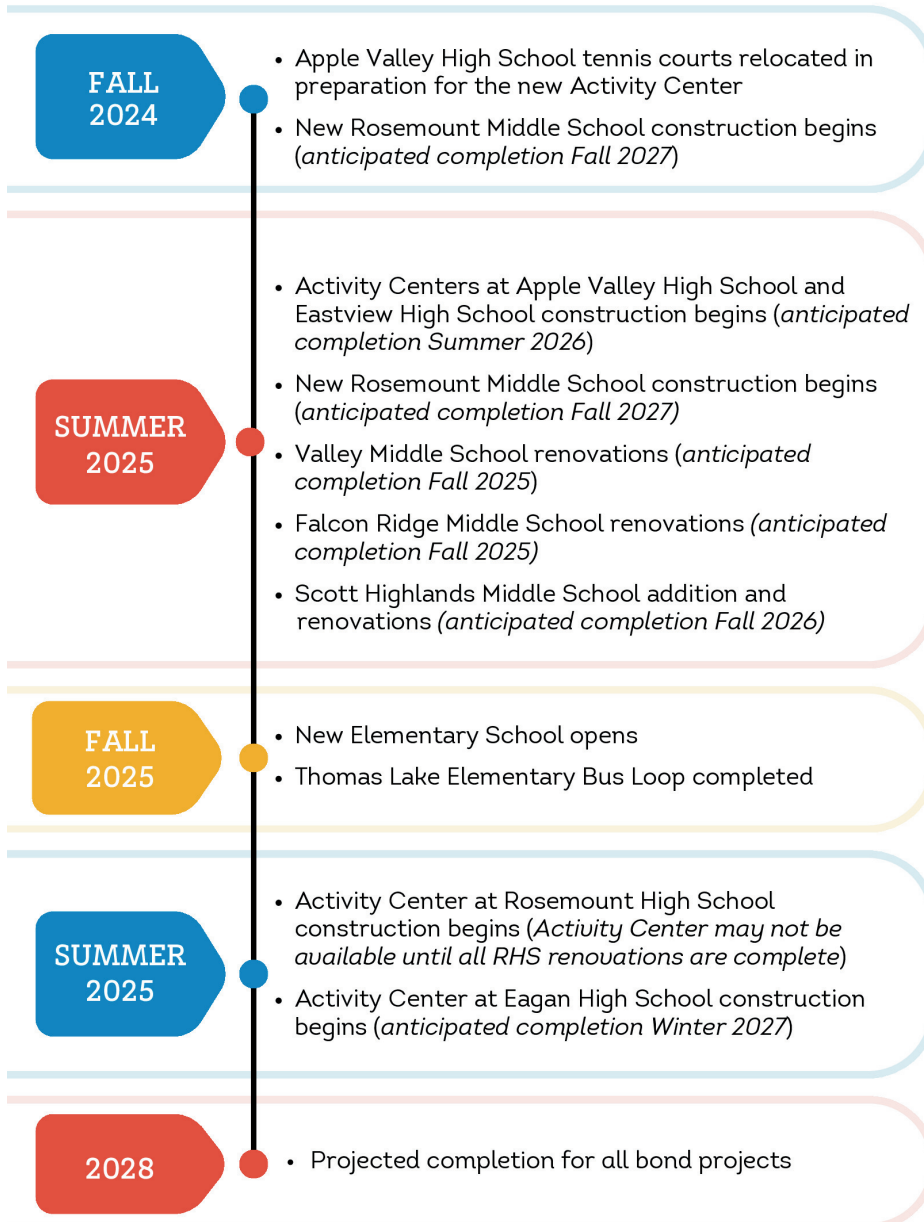
The Eastview High School Marching Band (pictured below) finished the season with their best performance at the Youth in Music Regional Competition since 2005, earning second place in Minnesota State AAAA.



Building Our Future: construction update

In May 2023, District 196 voters approved the Building Our Future bond referendum to relieve overcrowding, enhance safety and security, and create consistently high-quality learning environments across the district. It is exciting to watch construction progress over a four-year period. Thank you, voters, for investing in our schools and our community.

Timeline for projects:



More than 475 pieces of precast steel have been set in place for the new elementary school. To put that into perspective, that's enough precast to stretch over four football fields end-to-end!



Walls are up on classrooms at the new elementary school. Who's classroom will this be?

The above projects are in the planning or construction phase. Other projects are in the design and planning phases. To watch progress, visit www.district196.org/about/bondprogress

Elementary School #20

The new school design uses the same floor plan as East Lake Elementary School, saving time and design costs. Located at Akron Ave and Bonaire Path in Rosemount, construction is progressing on time and on budget. Anticipated completion summer 2025.

Dakota Ridge School

Construction is underway for six additional classrooms and a multi-purpose gym addition. On time and on budget, this project is scheduled for completion in fall 2025.

Rosemount Middle School

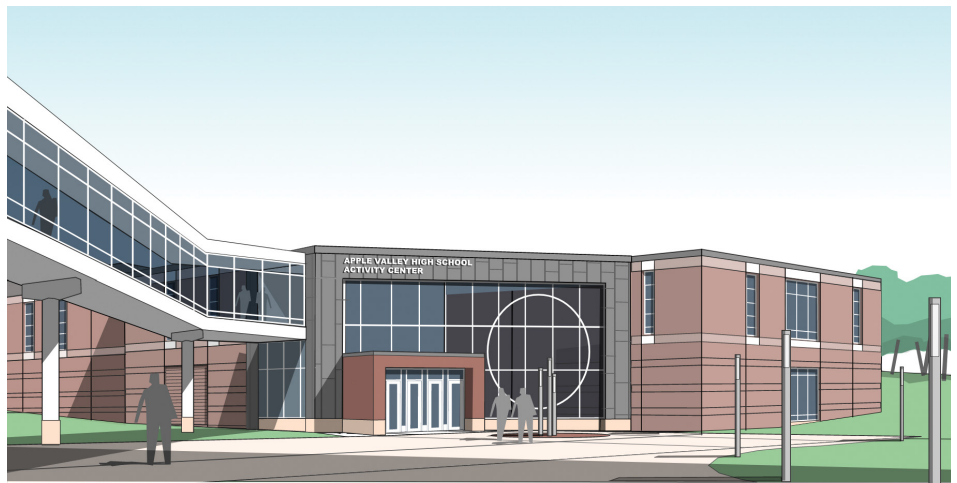
Following a prolonged search, District 196 purchased property from the University of Minnesota at Boulder Trail and Biscayne Avenue in fall 2024. The new middle school will replace the current Rosemount Middle School, the oldest building in the district, dating back to 1918. Construction will start this winter. The anticipated completion date is fall 2027.

Activity Centers

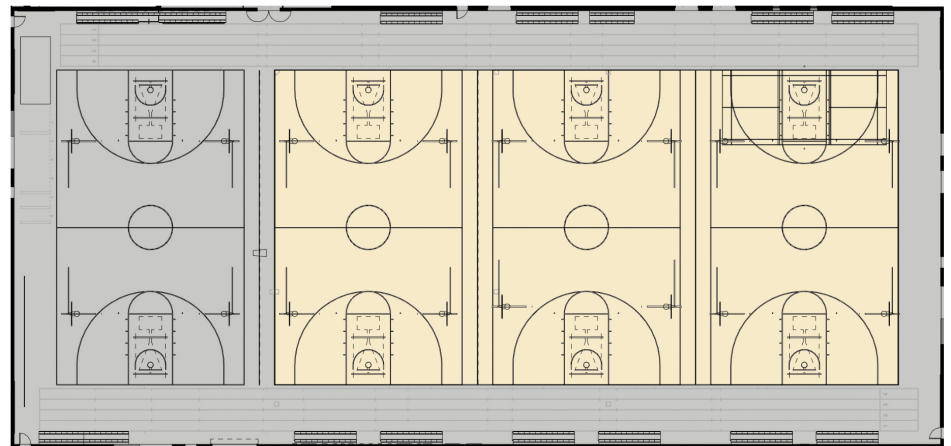
With a commitment to consistent facilities and learning experiences across all schools, the Activity Centers Committee has reached consensus on a standard design and equipment for each of the four activity centers approved on Question 2 of the May 2023 bond referendum. Each site will have:

- 2-level design with lobby, restrooms, and Community Ed offices on both levels
- 4 courts (with pickleball lines and striping)
- 6 hoops per court (custodial included)
- Curtain dividers between courts
- Scoreboards at each court; touch screen controls
- Volleyball/Badminton standards
- End-of-court pull-out bleachers
- Upper-level walking track
- Lower-level straightaway running lanes
- Flexible multipurpose space
- Weightroom
- Storage in corners of courts
- 1200 SF of storage below the mechanicals
- Sound system
- Daylight/windows
- Storm shelter (required)
- Storage for concessions

Quality schools are at the heart of thriving communities. This referendum was proposed to address aging facilities, enhance safety and security, and create more space for growth, ensuring high-quality learning environments for generations to come.



ISD 196 APPLE VALLEY HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITY CENTER ADDITION



District 196 seniors honored for academic achievements

This fall, 47 seniors in District 196 were recognized by the National Merit Corporation and College Board.

National Merit Semifinalists

Eleven students from District 196 are semifinalists in the National Merit Scholarship Program, representing the top 1% of students nationwide based on their PSAT/NMSQT scores. These students have the opportunity to advance as finalists and compete for nearly \$26 million in scholarships awarded by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation, businesses, and colleges.

The 11 National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists are:

- **Louisa Brandt, Alex Huang,** and **Elizabeth Kerr** of Eagan High School;
- **Ashton Abram, Sannidh Bachigari, Max Huberty, Claire Rutherford, Kartik Saravanapandi, Nirav Singhal,** and **May Tang** of Eastview High School, and
- **Daniel Begnaud** of Rosemount High School.

National Merit Commended Students

Twenty-two seniors earned National Merit commendations, recognizing their performance in the top 5% of students nationwide on the PSAT/NMSQT. This honor highlights their strong academic potential and dedication. The 22 National Merit commended students are: **Piper Trudeau** of Apple Valley High School; **Eva Abe, Adhitya Balasubramanian, Sean Christianson, Mason Deitering, Harley Gray, Neo Manavalan, Carson Radant, Param Thakkar, Mia Werden** of Eagan High School; **Emily Brewster, Chloe Larson, Virinchi Nandamuru, Tarakesh Rameshkumar, Sumana Sadineni, Nicholas Zylstra** of Eastview High School; **Eshan Ahmed, Keira Favre, Sophie Gunyan, Isabella Huss, Matthew Leholm** of Rosemount High School; and **Naomi Hudson** of the School of Environmental Science.

College Board Recognition

Fifteen students received special recognition from the College Board's African American, Hispanic, and First



The Apple Valley High School Mock Trial team made history as the first Minnesota team to win the Empire Stardust National Championship and Empire Chicago World Championship, competing against U.S., Canada, Ireland, England, and South Korea teams.

District 196 students earned \$3.1 million in U of M credits

District 196 high school students who challenged themselves by taking College in the Schools courses during the 2023-24 school year earned 3,966 college credits valued at more than \$3.1 million, according to a report released by the University of Minnesota's College in the Schools program.

In addition to saving future tuition dollars, research is clear that when students challenge themselves by taking college-level courses in high school, they are more likely to graduate high school and complete a college degree. According to the report, 97% of former students surveyed would

recommend College in Schools to high school students; 95% rated their overall experience as good or excellent, and 84% felt better prepared academically for college due to participating in College in Schools.

Ninety-four percent of all District 196 College in School registrations resulted in a grade qualifying to earn college credit. Based on U of M tuition costs, the 3,966 student-earned credits are valued at \$3,094,402. The school district paid the university \$187,340 (\$145 per course) for the courses and received \$67,920 in state aid to help cover the cost of this benefit for families.

811 students earned Advanced Placement Scholar honors

In 2024, **811 students** in District 196 earned AP Scholar honors for their performance on multiple Advanced Placement (AP) exams taken during high school.

District 196 offers **24 different AP courses**, all audited and approved by the College Board. By completing AP courses and exams, students can earn

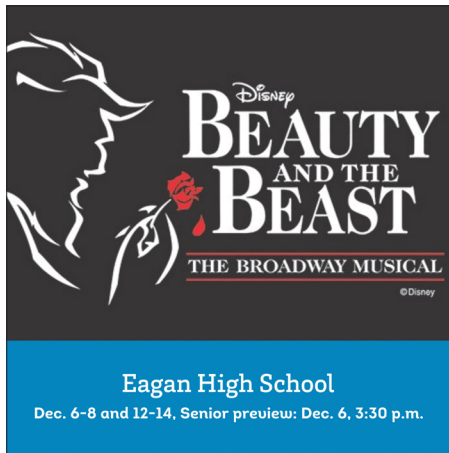
college credit based on their scores and the university policies.

See the complete list of AP Scholars.



Generation recognition programs. To be eligible, students must have a GPA of 3.5 or higher, rank in the top 10% on the PSAT, and/or achieve high scores on AP exams taken during their freshman and sophomore years. The following 15 students earned recognition: **Laeton Olaleye, Herawie Kebede, Aevyn Nguyen,**

Maggie Xu, Alana Zych of Eastview High School; **Adam Ali, Emmanuel Gersam, Ebenezer Girmachew, Sophie Gunyan, Bethelehem Kebede, Sarah Labarere, Sebastian Marchese, Brianna Metzger, Lily Nowlin, Naomi Teklemariam** of Rosemount High School.



District 196 Students Shine on Stage

This fall, District 196 students showcased impressive performance of Sister Act, Clue, The Curious Savage, and The Fishing Play.



Photo credit: Allen Photo Works



Photo credit: Monica Lopez - Molo Photography



Photo credit: Genesis Giray



Photo credit: Nick Schroeffer

Concerts and Shows Coming Soon!

Apple Valley High School

- Winter band concert, Dec. 9, 7 p.m.
- Winter choir concert, Dec. 16, 7 p.m.
- Jazz ensemble concert, Jan. 8, 7 p.m.
- One Act Play, Jan. 24, 7 p.m.

Eagan High School

- Holiday concert and fundraiser, Dec. 16, 6 p.m. and 7 p.m.
- Pyramid Jazz concert, Dec. 17, 7 p.m.
- Winter concert, Jan. 27, 7 p.m.
- Carnival concert, Jan. 28 5:30 p.m., concert at 7 p.m.

Eastview High School

- Winter choir concert, Dec. 16, 6 p.m. and 8 p.m.
- Winter dance show, Jan. 12, 7 p.m.
- Winter band concert, Jan. 14, 6 p.m. and 8 p.m.
- Jazz showcase, Jan. 27, 7 p.m.

Rosemount High School

- Winter Choral Concerts, Dec. 18, 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
- Jazz Concert, Jan. 1, 7 p.m.
- Winter Bands Concerts, Jan. 8, 6 p.m. and 8 p.m.
- One-Act Plays, Jan. 31, 7 p.m. and Feb. 1, 7 p.m.



DISTRICT196
One District. Infinite Possibilities.

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Rosemount-Apple Valley-Eagan Public Schools
3455 153rd Street West
Rosemount, MN 55068

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*****ECRWSEDDM*****

Postal Patron

Time Value Material
Please Deliver Promptly

Community Education



Become Certified to be a Lifeguard and More!

Lifeguarding plus Waterpark (15+)

Become certified in American Red Cross lifeguarding for pools and waterparks.
Thu-Sat | Dec. 26-28 | 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
3 sessions | \$315 | BHMS

Water Safety Instructor (15+)

Learn how to teach students swimming and water safety skills as a certified American Red Cross swim instructor. Participants 15 years of age by the end of class are welcome.
Thu-Sat | Dec. 26-28 | 9:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
3 sessions | \$315 | BHMS

Water Safety Aid (13+)

Learn how to help students develop swimming and water safety skills as a swim instructor aide. CPR and First Aid training are included. Successful completion will qualify you to apply for employment at the age of 14.
Thu-Sat & Mon | Dec. 26-28, 30 | 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
4 sessions | \$215 | BHMS

Adult Basic Education | ABE

Do you want to be a United States citizen? Learn about and prepare for the United States citizenship interview while improving your English skills.

English for Citizenship

Tue & Thu | Jan 9-Feb 4 | 12:30-2:00 p.m. | Free* | Live Online
Tue & Thu | Apr 8-May 1 | 12:30-2:00 p.m. | Free* | CVLC
*\$20 Annual Materials Fee

Early Childhood Family Education | ECFE

ECFE recognizes that parents are their child's first and most important teachers. We offer hands-on learning experiences that will nourish a lifetime of teachable moments. Classes include parent-child interaction time, parent education and children's activity time.

Empowering Generational Greatness (EGG) (parents with children ages 3-prekindergarten)

This new class, exclusive to eight sites in Minnesota, is designed to help young children develop executive function and self-regulation skills during the most vital stage of brain development. You will learn ways to relax bodies, quiet minds, embrace big feelings, interact with others and work toward successful learning. Join us this winter as we work together to build your child's focus, resilience and emotional regulation through language, storytelling and mindfulness activities.



Tue | Jan 7-Mar 18 | 1:00-3:15 p.m. | Sliding Fee Scale
skip Feb 18 | 306-118 | DVLC

Visit ce.district196org/ecfe to register for winter classes.

Winter/Spring Enrichment & Aquatic Programs Online Catalog Opens December 10

Plan a winter and spring of fun and learning. Your printed catalog will arrive in your mailbox the first week of January. Browse and register using our online catalog starting 6:00 a.m. on Tue., Dec. 10!



DISTRICT 196
COMMUNITY EDUCATION
One District. Infinite Possibilities.

Visit ce.district196.org or call 651-423-7920

