

2025–26 School and Enrollment Guide

Enroll In: Early Learning | K-12+ | Elementary Magnet Programs | SoWashCo Online



Priority Enrollment Begins:
Monday, Jan. 6-
Friday, Feb. 7, 2025

Enroll Online at
sowashco.org/enroll

SoWashCo
SCHOOLS

AFTON | COTTAGE GROVE | DENMARK | GREY CLOUD ISLAND | NEWPORT | ST. PAUL PARK | WOODBURY

About SoWashCo Schools

South Washington County Schools (SoWashCo Schools) is located southeast of St. Paul. The district includes all or parts of the communities of Afton, Cottage Grove, Newport, St. Paul Park, Woodbury and Denmark and Grey Cloud Island Townships. SoWashCo has 16 elementary schools, four middle schools, three traditional high schools, an alternative high school and an online high school.

Be seen. Be heard. Be bold.

Important Dates

Priority Enrollment and School Information Nights Begin

- Monday, Jan. 6, 2025

High School Evening of Opportunity for students going into grade 9 for 2025-26 school year

- Monday, Jan. 6, 2025

Priority Enrollment ends, Magnet Program Applications due

- Feb. 7, 2025

Kindergarten Welcome Night

- 5-6 p.m., Thursday, April 17, 2025

Family Welcome Nights/Open House

- August and September

K-5 Assessment Days

- Aug. 28, 2025
- Sept. 2, 2025

First day(s) of school

- Sept. 2, 2025 (grades 6 and 9)
- Sept. 3, 2025 (K-5, 7-8, 10-12)

End of trimester dates

- Nov. 25, 2025
- March 5, 2026
- June 4, 2026

Winter break

- Dec. 22, 2025-Jan. 2, 2026

Spring break

- March 9-13, 2026

Last day of school

- June 4, 2026

Full K-12 calendar available on page 39

*Dates and times are subject to change



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Learn About Early Learning, Your Boundary School or Magnet School Options

Schedule a tour at your boundary school online at sowashco.org/enroll. Visitors ages 18 and older touring buildings during school hours will be required to provide a valid ID.

English: If you need an interpreter, please call Nicole Clymer: 651-425-7211
Español: Si necesita un intérprete, llame al Danilo McCarthy: 651-425-7209
中文 (简体): 如果您需要翻译, 请致电 Nicole Clymer: 651-425-7211
Hmoob: yog koj xav tau ib tug neeg txhais lus thov hu Nicole Clymer: 651-425-7211
Tiếng Việt: Nếu bạn cần thông dịch viên, xin gọi Nicole Clymer: 651-425-7211
Soomaaliga: haddii aad u baahan tahay turjumaan fadlan wac Nicole Clymer: 651-425-7211



Preschool Information Sessions

Preschool information sessions will be provided through our Early Learning program for families to learn more about the preschool program in SoWashCo Schools. To register for one of our preschool information sessions, contact our Early Learning program office at 651-425-7160.

School	Date	Times
District Program Center 8400 E Point Douglas Rd S, Cottage Grove	Monday, Jan. 13	6–7 p.m.
	Tuesday, Jan. 28	11 a.m.–12 p.m.
Liberty Ridge Site II 11283 Eagle View Blvd., Woodbury	Thursday, Jan. 23	6–7 p.m.
	Monday, Feb. 3	2–3 p.m.

Preschool priority enrollment begins Jan. 6, 2025 through Feb. 7, 2025. View the preschool catalog at sowashco.org/preschool.

K–5 Elementary Tour Dates and Times

K-5 Elementary Tours • Schedule Online at sowashco.org/enroll			
Date	Time	School	
Tuesdays Jan. 7 Jan. 14 Jan. 21 Jan. 28	8 a.m.	• Crestview Elementary • Newport Elementary	• Royal Oaks Elementary
	9 a.m.	• Armstrong Elementary • Cottage Grove Elementary • Grey Cloud Elementary • Hillside Elementary	• Middleton Elementary • Pine Hill Elementary • Pullman Elementary • Woodbury Elementary
	9:30 a.m.	• Bailey Elementary • Liberty Ridge Elementary • Nuevas Fronteras Spanish Immersion	• Red Rock Elementary • Valley Crossing Elementary

If the day and/or time of the tour does not work with your schedule please contact your boundary school to schedule a date and time to visit.

Magnet Program Information Nights

A short presentation will be made about the magnet programs and school representatives will be available to help answer questions. **Please Note:** Students enrolled in the Spanish Immersion program will continue the program in Woodbury Middle School and Woodbury High School.

School	Date	Time
Nuevas Fronteras Spanish Immersion (NFSI)	Tuesday, Jan. 7	5–6 p.m.
Multiage at Valley Crossing Elementary (VCES)	Tuesday, Jan. 7	5–6:30 p.m.

Middle School Tour Dates and Times

Middle School Tours • Schedule Online at sowashco.org/enroll		
Date	Tour Start Time	School
Thursday, Jan. 9	1 p.m.	• Cottage Grove Middle School
Thursday, Jan. 16	4 p.m.	• Lake Middle School
Thursday, Jan. 23	9 a.m.	• Oltman Middle School
		• Woodbury Middle School

If the day and/or time of the tour does not work with your schedule please contact your boundary school to schedule a date and time to visit.

High School Tour Dates and Times

High School Tours • Schedule Online at sowashco.org/enroll		
Date	Tour Start Time	School
Tuesday, Jan. 14	• 9:30 a.m. • 1:30 p.m.	• East Ridge High School • Park High School
Thursday, Jan. 16	• 9:30 a.m. • 1:30 p.m.	• Woodbury High School
Tuesday, Jan. 14	• 4 p.m.	• South Washington Alternative High School
Thursday, Jan. 16	• 9 a.m.	
Wednesday, Jan. 15	• 4 p.m. (Virtual)	• SoWashCo Online

If the day and/or time of the tour does not work with your schedule please contact your boundary school to schedule a date and time to visit.

High School Evening of Opportunity

All SoWashCo Schools 8th grade students and families are invited to attend an Evening of Opportunity on **Monday, Jan. 6**. Families and students can visit their high school to talk with teachers, get registration assistance and learn more about the school they'll attend in the fall of 2025.

Date	Tour Start Time	School
Monday, Jan. 6	5:30–7:30 p.m.	• East Ridge High School • Park High School • SoWashCo Online • Woodbury High School

How to Enroll in SoWashCo Schools (K-12)

Review

- Determine your boundary school.
- Determine if an elementary magnet program or if a non-traditional high school is right for your child. Learn more on pages 14, 21, 23 and 30.

Gather

Gather your child's:

- Proof of Birth (birth certificate or equivalent)
- Address verifications
- Proof of completion of state-required health and developmental screening
 - More information can be found on pages 10 and 35.

Enroll

- Complete an online enrollment form by Friday, Feb. 7, 2025, for priority enrollment
 - **Applications for elementary magnet programs must be completed by Friday, Feb. 7, 2025.**
 - Application submissions after the deadline will be added to the waiting list
- Online enrollment is available in five languages. If you need additional translation services please contact Nicole Clymer at 651-425-7211.
 - Si necesita más servicios de traducción, póngase en contacto con Danilo McCarthy en el 651-425-7209.

Notification

- Families will be notified of a student's acceptance to a magnet program in February.
- Families with children starting kindergarten in the 2025-26 school year are invited to attend Kindergarten Welcome Night from 5-6 p.m. on Thursday, April 17 at their assigned school.
- Your child's school will provide information for the 2025-26 school year in August.



Who Should Enroll?

A K-12 enrollment application form *is* required if your child will be:

- Entering kindergarten
- New to the district
- Students that do not live in the district, but want to attend SoWashCo Online (grades 9-12).

NOTE: Early childhood screening is required by the State of Minnesota prior to entering preschool or kindergarten. Learn more about our free screening service on page 10.



Enrollment forms are *not* required for:

- Students who are continuing to the next grade level at SoWashCo Schools.
- Students who are currently attending a SoWashCo School and want to attend SoWashCo Online (grades 9-12).

Admission Priorities

Priority is given to students who:

- Live within the area of their boundary school
- Residents living within SoWashCo Schools boundaries
- Children of SoWashCo Schools employees
- Siblings of current open enrolled students attending SoWashCo Schools
 - Sibling priority does not guarantee acceptance into the district

Other Considerations

- Students living outside of SoWashCo Schools boundaries are admitted to district schools if space allows
 - **Families must complete an open enrollment form** which can be found at sowashco.org/enroll.

Waiting Lists

Waiting lists are created for schools and programs that receive more enrollment applications than space available. Families that apply to a magnet program will remain on the waiting list for one school year. If their student is not selected within the year, families can choose to reapply.

Families applying for a magnet program must also enroll in their boundary school.

Magnet Program Admissions Lottery (for incoming kindergarten students)

- Enrollment for Nuevas Fronteras Spanish Immersion and Valley Crossing Multiage program is determined by a lottery process.
- Families will be notified of the results of the lottery in February.
- Families not selected in the lottery will be placed on a waiting list for the magnet program and enrolled in their boundary school.

The priority enrollment application deadline for magnet programs is Friday, Feb. 7, 2025. Families will be notified of lottery results in February.

Magnet Program Admission for Students Currently in Grades K-4

Families of students currently in grades K-4 that want to apply for one of SoWashCo Schools magnet programs for the 2025-26 school year must fill out an intra-district transfer form. Students will be admitted if space allows and eligibility requirements are met.

Transportation

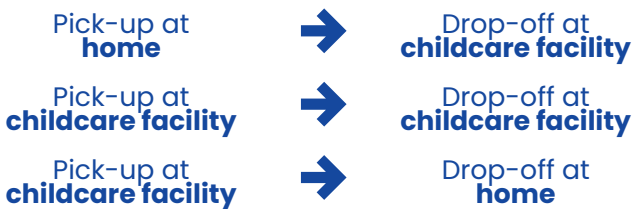
Our goal is to provide safe, reliable and efficient transportation to students who live in our school district. We work to ensure students arrive at school on time and ready to learn. We provide transportation to K-12 students **that meet the transportation guidelines**. General education students that meet these guidelines are required to opt-in for transportation services.

Grade	Transportation Services
K-5	School bus transportation is provided per transportation guidelines to elementary students who live more than 1 mile from their boundary school.
6-8	School bus transportation is provided per transportation guidelines to middle school students who live more than 1.5 miles from their boundary school.
9-12	School bus transportation is provided per transportation guidelines to high school students who live more than 2 miles from their boundary school.
Magnet Program and Gateway Program	School bus transportation is provided per transportation guidelines to students living more than 1 mile from Nuevas Fronteras Spanish Immersion or Valley Crossing Elementary Schools.

*Information is subject to change.
Transportation guidelines can be found at sowashco.org/transportation.

Child Care Transportation

Students who will be in grades K-5 are eligible to be considered for an alternate bus stop for childcare purposes. The licensed childcare provider must be located in the same boundary school attendance area where the child is enrolled. **The pick-up and drop-off locations must be the same location each morning and afternoon.**



Please Note: Transportation boundaries and guidelines are subject to change and can be found on our website at sowashco.org/transportation. Intra-district transfer students (students attending a school other than their boundary school) whose parent/guardian has signed a waiver of transportation are not eligible for transportation services regardless of the distance. Learn more at sowashco.org/transportation.

Before and After School Athletics and Activities

Elementary

Sports and activities are managed through Community Education. Intramurals are for students in grades 2–5 and typically meet twice a week for one hour after school. To find activities for your child to participate in please visit commed.sowashco.org/athletics.

Middle School

Sports and activities are managed through Community Education. Students in grades 6–8 have an opportunity to participate in a variety of seasonal sports and activities. To find activities for your student to participate in please visit commed.sowashco.org/athletics.

Additionally, each Middle School provides opportunities for students to pursue special interests that contribute to their physical, mental and emotional health. For more information about these opportunities, visit your middle school’s website.

High School

SoWashCo Schools provides opportunities for students in grades 9–12 to pursue special interests that contribute to their physical, mental and emotional health. For more information about sports and activities available, visit the athletics and activities page on your high school’s website.

Adapted Athletics

SoWashCo Schools believes every student should have the opportunity to be involved in athletics. The Thunderbolts adapted athletic program is a co-ed team providing opportunities for students in grades 7–12 with various abilities to participate in a team sport and compete against other teams from around the state. Students can participate in:

Soccer (Fall) | Floor Hockey (Winter) | Baseball/Softball (Spring)

Each sport is designed to accommodate all levels of play and ability. To learn more or to sign up, please contact your school’s athletic director.



Middle and High school students must have a current sports physical on record in order to register for any athletic activity. **Sports physicals are valid for three years.**

Forms can be found at sowashco.org/health

Athletic and Activities Contacts

East Ridge High School	Sara Palodichuk Athletic Director	651-425-2348	spalodic@sowashco.org
Park High School	Philip Kuemmel Athletic Director	651-425-3758	pkuemmel@sowashco.org
Woodbury High School	Jodi Loeblein-Lecker Athletic Director	651-425-4421	jloeblei@sowashco.org
Community Education (Elementary and Middle School)	Todd Feustel Youth Athletics Coordinator	651-425-6606	tfeustel@sowashco.org



Before and After School Programs

Kids Club

Kids Club is a fee-based child care program that supports learning and development before and/or after school, on non-school days and during the summer. The program is open to elementary students in grades K-5.



School Year

6:30 a.m.-6 p.m.

- Before and/or after school scheduling.
- Care is available at all elementary schools.
- Full-time (5 days a week) or part-time (1-4 days a week) scheduling before and/or after school.
- Care on non-school days is available at limited locations. Registration is required for non-school days.

Summer

6:30 a.m.-6 p.m.

- Full-day schedules from 2-5 days per week.
- Students must have completed their first year of kindergarten to attend.
- Students can attend until the summer following the completion of grade 5.



Kids Club Online Registration

Summer 2025 Registration Window:

9 a.m., Monday, Feb. 3 through 11:59 p.m. on Monday, Feb. 17, 2025

2025-26 School Year Registration Window for New Participants:

9 a.m. Tuesday, April 22, 2025

*Registration will remain open until all spaces are filled.

Contact Us



sowashco.org/kidsclub



651-425-6639



KidsClub@sowashco.org



Follow us on Facebook and Instagram
[@SoWashCoCE](#)



Early Learning Programs

SoWashCo Schools Early Learning Programs are offered through Community Education. Our Early Learning programs offer engaging, enriching and play-based learning experiences for our earliest learners from birth to age 5.

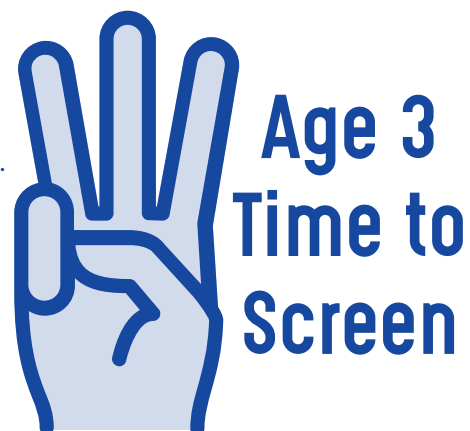
Early Childhood Screening

Early childhood screening is a free and simple check of how your child is growing, developing and learning.

Families are recommended to have their child screened at age 3. Early Childhood Screening is required by the State of Minnesota for any child entering Kindergarten in a public school and in SoWashCo Schools required before enrollment in 4s Preschool (Sunny Scholars) program.

During screening a trained professional will check:

- Thinking, language and communication skills
- Social and emotional development
- Vision and hearing
- Height and weight
- Large and small muscles
- Immunization history



If your child has not yet been screened and is between the ages of 3 and 5, please visit our website to schedule an appointment at sowashco.org/screening.

Early Childhood Family Education

Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) is a unique public school program for all Minnesota families with children between the ages of birth and kindergarten. ECFE provides classes and events for parents and children to attend together. ECFE classes are provided at the District Program Center in Cottage Grove and Liberty Ridge Site II.

To register or learn more about ECFE classes or events, please visit sowashco.org/ecfe.

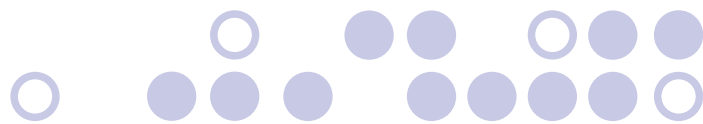


Early Childhood Special Education

Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE) provides programs and services for young children with disabilities from birth to age 5. Services are provided for children from birth to 2 years old in their home setting. Children ages 3 to 5 are provided with services in a preschool setting designed to meet their educational needs. A referral to early intervention services can be made through the ECSE Intake Coordinator for SoWashCo Schools at 651-425-1182. To learn more, visit sowashco.org/ecse.



Early Learning Programs



Preschool

SoWashCo Schools Preschool program provides a high-quality preschool environment with a variety of options for families. Families can enroll at one of our Early Learning centralized locations or at an elementary site. Learn more at sowashco.org/preschool.

3s Preschool (Little Suns)

Little Suns preschool is for children who will be 3-years-old on or before Sept. 1.

4s Preschool (Sunny Scholars)

Sunny Scholars is for children who will be 4-years-old on or before Sept. 1.

Multiage Preschool 3s-4s (Solar Sparks)

Solar Sparks is a multiage class consisting of both 3 and 4-year-olds and offers children the opportunity to make connections with students of different age groups and abilities.

Classes are offered at the following locations:

- Armstrong Elementary
- Bailey Elementary
- Cottage Grove Elementary
- Crestview Elementary
- Hillside Elementary
- Newport Elementary
- Pullman Elementary
- Royal Oaks Elementary
- Valley Crossing Elementary
- Woodbury Elementary
- Liberty Ridge Site II Early Learning Center
- District Program Center

***Program sites and availability are subject to change.**

Preschool Age Eligibility

Students enrolled in Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) or preschool are not subject to school or district boundaries.

Children who will be 3 or 4-years-old on or before Sept. 1, 2026 can register for preschool. Please note that due to the program capacity and state funding requirements, we are not able to provide preschool for children who are age 5 or older on or before Sept. 1, 2026.

Preschool Registration Fees and Financial Assistance

A one-time, non-refundable registration fee of \$85 is due at the time of enrollment.

Financial assistance is available for families that meet certain state eligibility requirements. Families may be required to provide proof of income. Those who qualify for assistance will also be required to complete a State Pathways Scholarship application. Limited district scholarships are available.

For more information on how to register or apply for financial assistance visit sowashco.org/preschool.



How to Enroll in Preschool

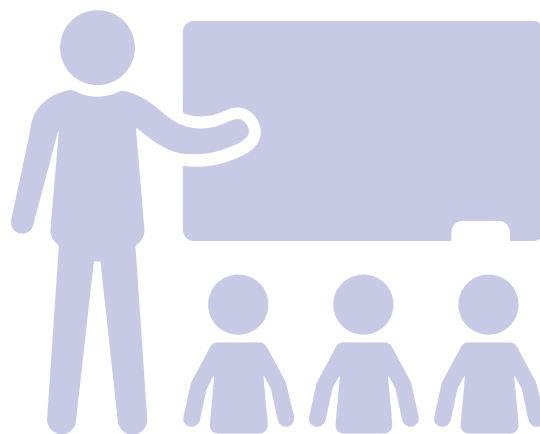
Online preschool registration begins Monday, Jan. 6, 2025 through Friday, Feb. 7, 2025 at sowashco.ce.eleyo.com. Those who fully complete registration by Friday, Feb. 7 will be placed in a lottery for placement based on enrollment choice(s). If space allows, any registrations submitted after Feb. 7 will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

Families that need registration assistance or have questions can contact the Early Learning Office at 651-425-7160.

Special Education

SoWashCo Schools provides a continuum of special education services, ranging from birth to graduation tailored to meet the unique needs of each student. This includes early intervention programming and services, specially designed instruction to more intensive services in separate classrooms or schools for students with significant disabilities. Services may include speech and language therapy, occupational therapy, behavioral support, vision and hearing services, and assistive technology. The goal is to support students in the least restrictive environment, ensuring they can participate in general education to the greatest extent possible while receiving the necessary accommodations and modifications to succeed.

***Program sites and availability is subject to change**



Services for Young Adult Learners

Next Step

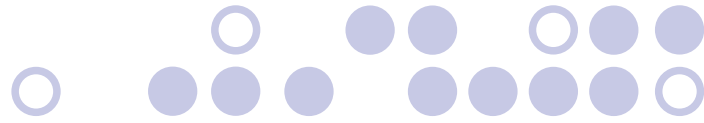
The Next Step Transition Program offered by SoWashCo Schools provides transition services to students ages 18–22 who have a current Individualized Educational Plan and have not yet earned their high school diploma due to continued special education goals. Learn more at nextstep.sowashco.org.

Next Step Pathways

Next Step Pathways serves special education high school students and Next Step students. The vocational assessment lab focuses on building skills in the areas of career development, skills training and lifelong learning activities. Learn more at nextstep.sowashco.org.



Student Support Services



English Learner Program

SoWashCo Schools provides English Learner (EL) services for students whose home language is not English.

- During the enrollment application process, SoWashCo Schools will gather information about a student and family's language background.
- Families that identify a home language other than English will have their child screened to determine if they qualify for English Learner services.

Learn more at sowashco.org/englishlearners

SoWashCo Schools ofrece servicios de aprendizaje de Inglés para todos los estudiantes cuya primera lengua no es el Inglés. Para obtener mayor información, por favor visite: sowashco.org/el-es

SoWashCo Schools cung cấp dịch vụ học tiếng Anh cho sinh viên có ngôn ngữ mẹ đẻ không phải là tiếng Anh. Để biết thêm thông tin, hãy truy cập sowashco.org/el-vi

SoWashCo Schools 为家庭语言不是英语的学生提供英语语言学习者服务。欲了解更多信息, 请参访 sowashco.org/el-zh

SoWashCo Schools muab kev pab los ntawm English Language Learner services rau cov tub ntxhais twg tsis hais lus Askiv hauv vaj hauv tsev. Yog xav paub ntxiv, mus saib sowashco.org/el-hm

Iskuullada SoWashCo waxay bixiyaan adeegyada barashada luuqada Ingiriisiga ardayda aan afkooda hooyo ahayn Ingiriiska. Wixii macluumaad oo dheeraad ah, booqo sowashco.org/el-so

Cultural Liaisons

Cultural Liaisons are embedded at each middle and high school, and can be accessed for elementary students as needed. Liaisons are connection supports, and can specialize in fostering relationships between:

- Staff to students
- Families to the school
- Students to their peers
- School to the community

Learn more at sowashco.org/services/DEI

Counseling Services

SoWashCo Schools counselors work with students, families, teachers and administrators to support students with their academic concerns, goals, career and college planning and social-emotional development. Counselors and school psychologists work with students individually, or at times, in groups and in the classroom.

Elementary School

Most SoWashCo elementary schools have a psychologist on staff to assist students in need of services. Additionally, cultural liaisons can be available for elementary students and families upon request.

Middle and High Schools

Students and families may contact school counselors for assistance with:

- Academic planning and support
- Family support
- Mental health support
- Friends and peers
- Home and family
- Housing and resources
- Substance abuse
- Schedule and registration questions

Technology

Each student receives their own assigned device (Chromebook or iPad) to use during the school year. Devices and other digital tools provide learners with the opportunities to create, think critically, solve problems, communicate and collaborate.



Talent Development and Advanced Academics

Talent Development and Advanced Academic services are offered at all SoWashCo Schools through cluster classrooms for elementary and middle school students and advanced course options for high school students.

Elementary school families with students identified with needing the highest level of advanced academic services can choose to have their child participate in the Gateway Program at Valley Crossing Elementary School.

Advanced Learner Identification Process

SoWashCo Schools universally screens and identifies students annually for talent development services, using multiple pieces of data, in order to address their unique needs with greater depth and complexity.

- All students in grade 2 are universally screened for services.
- Multiple achievement data points, including the Measures of Academic Progress (MAP) assessment, are reviewed annually along with teacher input to determine students that may need further screening.
- Students in grades 3-7 who were not previously identified but are demonstrating outstanding abilities may be screened for talent development services.
- Students in grades 3-7 may also be referred by a parent or guardian.

Grade 3-8 Enrichment and Extension Services in a Cluster Classroom

- Advanced learners with similar strengths are placed together in a classroom, with a teacher who has received additional training in meeting the needs of advanced learners.
- This classroom includes a broad range of student achievement levels and offers enrichment and extension activities that are targeted to each student's strengths.
- Students with similar advanced characteristics are able to learn with peers at a similar academic level.

Learn more at sowashco.org/academics/talent-development

Grade 3-5 Gateway Program

- Located at Valley Crossing Elementary School.
- Students are serviced in an all-advanced learner-peer environment. This program is often well-suited for students who have the potential to thrive in a different learning environment than their current boundary school.
- Teachers use curriculum with increased depth, complexity and pacing.
- Students are immersed in an intellectually challenging community that encourages academic risk-taking.

Learn more at vces.sowashco.org/academics/gateway-program

High School

Each high school offers choice-based programs of study that allow for students to access challenging coursework such as:

- Advanced Placement (AP) courses
- International Baccalaureate Program (IB) at Park High School
- Project Lead the Way at East Ridge and Woodbury high schools
- College in Schools (CIS) at Park, East Ridge and Woodbury high schools
- Post Secondary Enrollment Options (PSEO) at Park, East Ridge and Woodbury high schools

AVID

AVID (Advancement Via Individual Determination) is taught schoolwide in SoWashCo Schools beginning in grade 3 through grade 12. SoWashCo teachers work with students as they prepare for the future by teaching students strategies, skills, and behaviors needed for academic success.

AVID in Elementary School

Students in grade 3–5 are introduced to AVID through daily lessons by establishing foundational habits such as organization tools, student advocacy, and focused note taking along with concepts like teamwork and inquiry.



AVID in Middle and High School

AVID continues schoolwide in middle and high school introducing students to college and career opportunities and building on the skills students learned in elementary school. In grades 7–12, students may choose to enroll in an AVID Elective class. Students in the AVID Elective class are supported through weekly tutorials facilitated by college students and college-experienced tutors and also have opportunities to visit colleges and universities. The class helps students see future opportunities, gain confidence in pursuing them, and develop independence and decision-making skills.

Learn more at sowashco.org/academics/avid



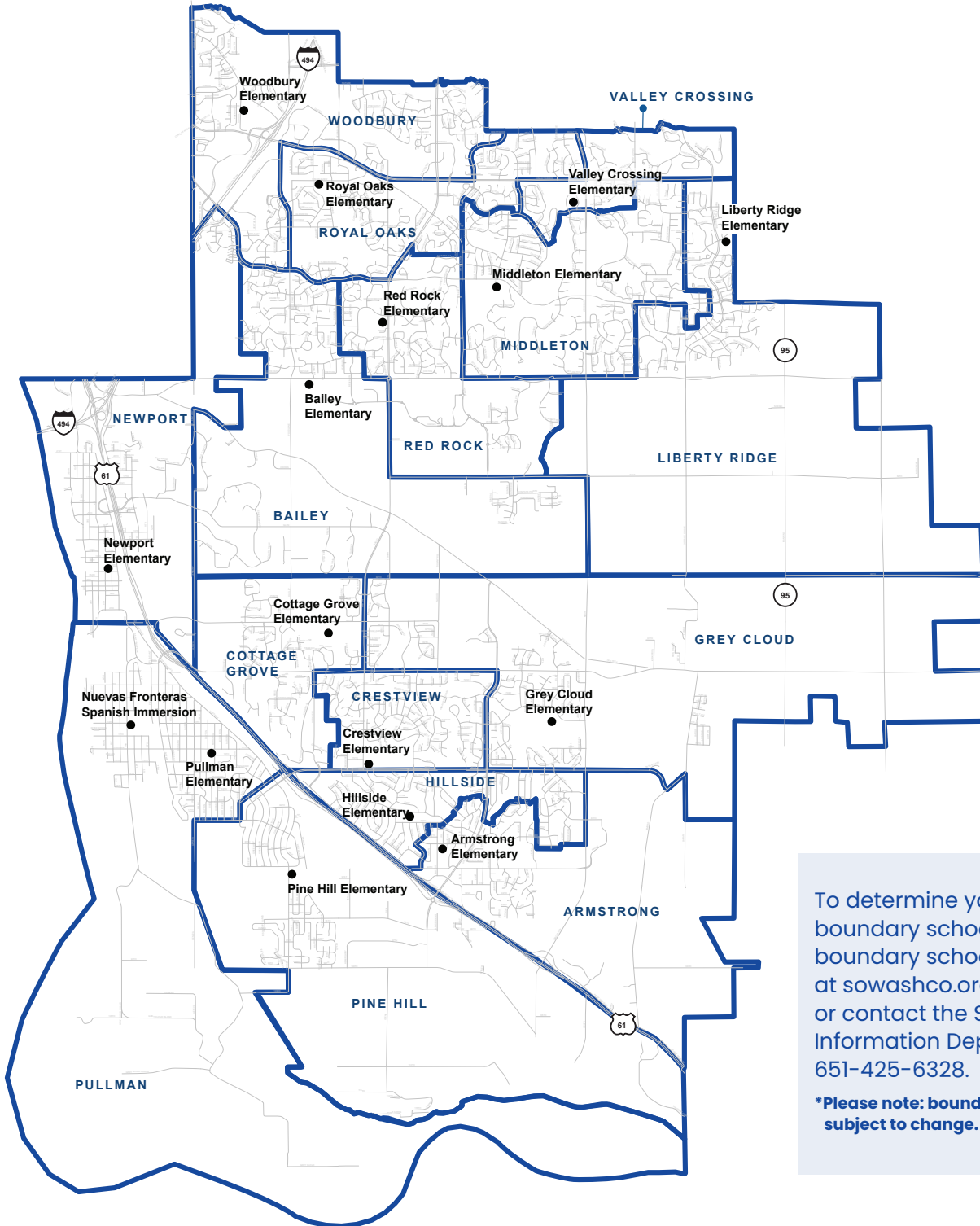
Elementary Schools



SoWashCo Schools has 16 elementary schools serving students in preschool through grade 5. During their first years in school, students will meet new friends, learn routines, develop problem-solving skills and build a foundation for success in future learning.

Get involved with your child's PTA/PTO!

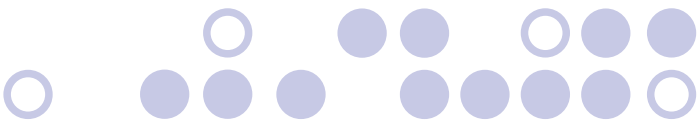
Visit the "Get Involved" tab on your school's website to learn how to support the PTA/PTO.



To determine your student's boundary school, use our boundary school calculator at sowashco.org/enroll or contact the Student Information Department at 651-425-6328.

***Please note: boundaries are subject to change.**

Elementary Schools



Armstrong Elementary School (Preschool-5)
8855 Inwood Ave. S. Cottage Grove, MN 55016 | aes.sowashco.org | 651-425-4100

- Armstrong Elementary School (AES) has a dedicated staff focused on academic excellence and community development.
- AES fosters connections through monthly character traits, weekly student shout-outs, and a weekly newsletter celebrating student achievements.
- AES organizes school-wide cultural events and greets students with multilingual posters to celebrate its diverse community.
- AES conducts an annual community culture survey to guide planning and includes cultural traditions in classroom and school events.
- Teachers provide targeted support for individual student needs through specialized services and implement AVID strategies throughout the school.

Preschool	Start Time / End Time	Kids Club
•	8:40 a.m.-3:10 p.m.	•

Bailey Elementary School (Preschool-5)
4125 Woodlane Dr. Woodbury, MN 55129 | bes.sowashco.org | 651-425-4800

- Bailey Elementary School (BES) fosters an inclusive and supportive environment where all students feel valued, celebrated and empowered to thrive.
- BES emphasizes the Bobcat Way—Safe, Kind, and Grow—promoting meaningful relationships rooted in trust, care and mutual respect.
- BES integrates innovative teaching methods, including arts and STEM initiatives, to encourage creativity, critical thinking and collaboration.
- Robust support systems, such as targeted interventions, special education services and the English Learner (EL) program, ensure personalized learning for every student.
- Engaging programs like STEM Night, Battle of the Books, and Student Choir provide students opportunities to explore interests and develop essential future-ready skills.

Preschool	Start Time / End Time	Kids Club
•	9:20 a.m.-3:50 p.m.	•



Elementary Schools



Cottage Grove Elementary School (Preschool-5)

7447 65th Street S. Cottage Grove, MN 55016 | cges.sowashco.org | 651-425-5800

- Cottage Grove Elementary School (CGES) promotes integrity by teaching students to act with honesty, respect, and accountability, building a trustworthy and supportive environment. Collaboration among staff, students, and families fosters a positive, inclusive school culture supported by an active Parent Teacher Organization (PTO).
- CGES encourages student voice and connection-building through its Student Council, Student Ambassadors and monthly character-building themes.
- CGES is committed to equity by providing diverse learning support, including special education, an inclusive playground, and English Learner (EL) programs.
- CGES strives to ensure every student feels valued, respected and has the resources needed to thrive academically and socially.

Preschool	Start Time / End Time	Kids Club
•	8:40 a.m.-3:10 p.m.	•

Crestview Elementary School (Preschool-5)

7830 80th Street S. Cottage Grove, MN 55016 | ces.sowashco.org | 651-425-3800

- Crestview Elementary School (CES) celebrates the diverse cultures and backgrounds of its students and families, creating a welcoming and inclusive environment where all voices are valued and supported.
- Students have leadership opportunities through programs like mentorships with Park High School, AVID pen pals, student ambassadors and classroom jobs that foster responsibility, integrity, and a strong sense of community.
- CES provides unique learning experiences through partnerships with Shepard Farm and activities in the school forest, such as snowshoeing, planting butterfly gardens and engaging in science-based exploration.
- CES prioritizes equity by offering resources like a clothing closet, school supply programs, and family engagement events to ensure that all students and families have the support they need to succeed.
- Through initiatives like Conscious Discipline, professional growth plans, and monthly celebrations of core values, CES fosters a culture of excellence centered on respect, responsibility, safety and kindness.

Preschool	Start Time / End Time	Kids Club
•	7:55 a.m.-2:25 p.m.	•

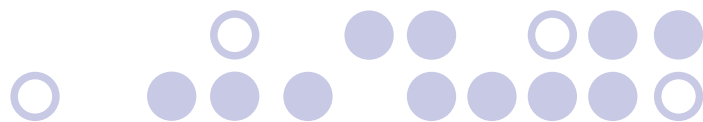
Grey Cloud Elementary School (K-5)

9525 Indian Blvd. S. Cottage Grove, MN 55016 | gces.sowashco.org | 651-425-4200

- Grey Cloud Elementary School (GCES) creates a warm, supportive environment for students, staff, and families, emphasizing strong relationships and consistent routines.
- Building connections is prioritized through daily greetings, morning meetings, and consistent rituals that foster a sense of school family and unity among students and staff members.
- Student leadership is encouraged through Student Council, Student Ambassadors team, and various after-school clubs and activities, including choir.
- The school focuses on integrity by intentionally teaching expectations and using visual supports and consistent language to guide student success.
- Equity is promoted through inclusive traditions and celebrations, family consideration, and AVID strategies that support diverse learning needs and encourage student organization and engagement.

Preschool	Start Time / End Time	Kids Club
Not Available	8:40 a.m.-3:10 p.m.	•

Elementary Schools



Hillside Elementary School (Preschool–5)

8177 Hillside Trail S. Cottage Grove, MN 55016 | hes.sowashco.org | 651-425-4000

- Hillside Elementary School (HES) focuses on fostering lifelong learners by building a collaborative, supportive community centered on social, emotional and academic growth.
- Strong connections are prioritized through the HAWKS Behavior System, buddy classrooms, family nights and inclusive events, creating a safe and welcoming environment for all.
- Core values—helpfulness, positive attitude, hard work, kindness and safety are emphasized to cultivate a supportive and respectful school culture.
- Integrity is promoted through shared decision-making led by the Building Leadership Team, with Student Ambassadors actively participating to ensure student voice shapes school activities.
- HES is dedicated to equity and inclusivity, offering comprehensive special education and multilingual supports to create a diverse, vibrant community where every student and family feels valued.

Preschool	Start Time / End Time	Kids Club
•	8:40 a.m.–3:10 p.m.	•

Liberty Ridge Elementary School (Preschool–5)

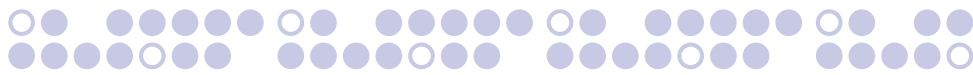
11395 Eagle View Blvd. Woodbury, MN 55129 | lres.sowashco.org | 651-425-5900

- Liberty Ridge Elementary (LRES) focuses on creating a strong, inclusive foundation built on dedicated staff, high academic expectations, and a supportive community, with families playing an essential role in student success.
- LRES builds connections through buddy classrooms, all-school family meetings, and the Striker Squad orientation program to ensure every student feels welcomed and valued as part of the school family.
- Equity is prioritized through Conscious Discipline, empowering students with meaningful classroom roles, fostering empathy and creating a safe, inclusive environment where all students feel seen and heard.
- Structured Professional Learning Communities help identify and address individual student academic needs, providing both additional practice and enrichment as needed.
- Educational innovation is encouraged with in-house field trips, extracurricular programs like science fairs and choir, and creative use of personal devices in STEM and other projects.

Preschool	Start Time / End Time	Kids Club
•	9:20 a.m.–3:50 p.m.	•



Elementary Schools



Middleton Elementary School (K-5)

9105 Lake Rd. Woodbury, MN 55125 | mes.sowashco.org | 651-425-4900

- Middleton Elementary School (MES) fosters a welcoming, inclusive environment where students, families, and staff collaborate to ensure academic, social, and emotional growth.
- Guided by the Mustang Pride “Be Attitudes” of “Be Safe, Be Responsible, and Be Kind,” the school emphasizes meaningful connections and personal growth.
- The active Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) strengthens community ties through events that engage families and staff.
- Student leadership groups like Student Council and Student Ambassadors promote integrity and empower students to contribute to a positive school culture.
- The English Learner (EL) program supports academic and linguistic success through collaboration between specialists and classroom teachers.

Preschool	Start Time / End Time	Kids Club
Not Available	8:40 a.m.-3:10 p.m.	•

Newport Elementary School (Preschool-5)

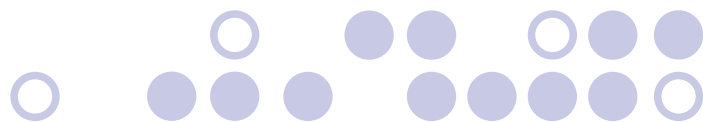
651 6th Ave. Newport, MN 55055 | nes.sowashco.org | 651-425-4300

- Newport Elementary School (NES) fosters a close-knit, family-like environment where every student and teacher knows each other, creating a strong sense of community and respect.
- Smaller class sizes promote meaningful relationships, with committed teachers providing consistent, supportive learning experiences.
- Integrity is emphasized through student leadership through the Student Council and Student Ambassadors, who help make decisions and improve the school environment.
- Equity is prioritized with multicultural training for staff, Title 1 support for K-2 students, and an effective academic intervention system to assist students who need extra help.
- NES hosts monthly school-wide meetings that celebrate achievements and foster positive character development.

Preschool	Start Time / End Time	Kids Club
•	7:55 a.m.-2:25 p.m.	•



Elementary Schools



Nuevas Fronteras Spanish Immersion (K-5)

1020 Third Street St. Paul Park, MN 55071 | nfsi.sowashco.org | 651-425-3100

- Nuevas Fronteras Spanish Immersion (NFSI) is committed to providing an equitable, multilingual, and multicultural education that prepares students to excel globally through high academic standards and best practices in language acquisition, biliteracy and cultural competence.
- The school emphasizes empathy, kindness and respect to create an inclusive and supportive environment where every student feels valued and celebrated.
- NFSI ensures equity by tailoring instructional approaches to meet the diverse needs of students, providing the resources and support necessary for each individual to reach their full potential.
- Innovative teaching methods at NFSI foster creativity, critical thinking, and collaboration, enabling students to connect complex linguistic and cultural concepts with real-world applications.
- Strong community engagement at NFSI promotes collaboration with families and stakeholders, reinforcing a shared commitment to student success and inclusivity.

Spanish Immersion Pathway: Nuevas Fronteras > Woodbury Middle > Woodbury High School

Preschool	Start Time / End Time	Kids Club
Not Available	9:20 a.m.-3:50 p.m.	•

Pine Hill Elementary School (K-5)

9015 Hadley Ave. S. Cottage Grove, MN 55016 | phes.sowashco.org | 651-425-3900

- Pine Hill Elementary School (PHES) fosters student success by creating a safe, inclusive environment that focuses on strong connections and problem-solving skills.
- The school promotes a sense of belonging by encouraging collaboration among students, staff and families, ensuring that everyone feels supported.
- Equity is embraced through special education support and programs including All-Pro Dad and Belonging, which meet diverse emotional and educational needs.
- PHES provides a range of academic and social-emotional support through differentiated instruction, targeted interventions and personalized learning plans.
- Social-emotional programs focus on building resilience, fostering relationships and developing coping strategies to ensure students thrive both academically and emotionally.

Preschool	Start Time / End Time	Kids Club
Not Available	8:40 a.m.-3:10 p.m.	•



Elementary Schools

Pullman Elementary School (Preschool-5)

1260 Selby Ave. St. Paul Park, MN 55071 | pes.sowashco.org | 651-425-3600

- Pullman Elementary School (PES) fosters a strong sense of community by building meaningful connections with students, families and the local neighborhood.
- PES hosts family engagement events, supports Student Ambassadors, and organizes monthly cross-grade, team-building activities to create a welcoming and collaborative school culture.
- Integrity is emphasized through student-led initiatives such as the Panda News, which promotes core values, and staff collaboration to address students' academic and social-emotional needs.
- PES celebrates equity by honoring diverse cultures and traditions, involving families in PTA meetings, and integrating multicultural resources into classrooms.
- The English Learner (EL) program works closely with teachers, providing resources and newsletters to promote cultural awareness and inclusivity for all students.

Preschool	Start Time / End Time	Kids Club
•	8:40 a.m.-3:10 p.m.	•

Red Rock Elementary School (K-5)

3311 Commonwealth Ave. Woodbury, MN 55125 | rres.sowashco.org | 651-425-5600

- Red Rock Elementary School (RRES) focuses on both academic achievement and the social-emotional well-being of students, recognizing the importance of emotional and behavioral skills in achieving success.
- Students are greeted by name each morning, fostering a culture of connection and safety, with daily activities that build strong relationships within classrooms.
- Every classroom has a "Buddy Class" where older and younger students connect monthly through learning and play activities.
- RRES monitors student literacy development three times a year, providing intervention for struggling readers and promoting a love of reading.
- RRES offers a daily WIN (What I Need) time for students in grades 2-5, providing targeted math support and enrichment to ensure all students receive the instruction they need for success.

Preschool	Start Time / End Time	Kids Club
Not Available	9:20 a.m.-3:50 p.m.	•

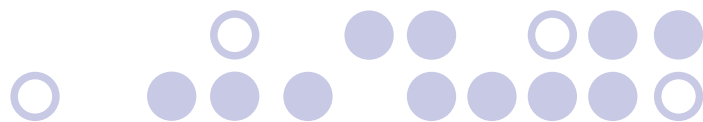
Royal Oaks Elementary School (Preschool-5)

7335 Steepleview Rd. Woodbury, MN 55125 | roes.sowashco.org | 651-425-4700

- Royal Oaks Elementary School (ROES) fosters a welcoming community by greeting students daily and building strong relationships with families and the broader school community.
- Students stay connected through leadership roles including student council, safety patrol and student ambassadors, along with buddy classrooms that promote inclusivity across grades.
- ROES hosts engaging events such as the Fun Run, Fall Festival and Turkey Bingo to strengthen family and community connections.
- As a nationally-certified AVID school for more than 11 years, ROES emphasizes equity by teaching organization, study skills and self-advocacy while celebrating the diversity of its students and families.
- Excellence and innovation are supported through personalized learning, hands-on coding activities, and resources such as the Zen Den and motor room to encourage mindfulness and self-regulation.

Preschool	Start Time / End Time	Kids Club
•	7:55 a.m.-2:25 p.m.	•

Elementary Schools



Valley Crossing Elementary School (Preschool-5)

9900 Park Crossing, Woodbury, MN 55125 | vces.sowashco.org | 651-425-7500

- Valley Crossing Elementary School (VCES) prioritizes social-emotional learning through Responsive Classroom practices, such as Morning Meetings and Closing Circles, to foster belonging and build strong relationships within the school community.
- The school's K-5 neighborhood structure and multiage classrooms create close-knit communities, promoting personalized learning, mentorship and collaboration among students.
- Students have opportunities to develop leadership skills through programs like Student Council and participate in enriching activities such as the Peace Garden Club, Battle of the Books and Valley News Network.
- VCES emphasizes equity and inclusion by using culturally responsive teaching practices and creating a welcoming environment that values and celebrates the diverse identities and strengths of its students and families.
- Specialized programs, including the Multiage Magnet Program and Gateway gifted services, provide individualized learning experiences to support students' academic, social and emotional growth.

Preschool	Start Time / End Time	Kids Club
•	9:15 a.m.-3:45 p.m.	•

Woodbury Elementary School (Preschool-5)

1251 School Dr. Woodbury, MN 55125 | wes.sowashco.org | 651-425-4600

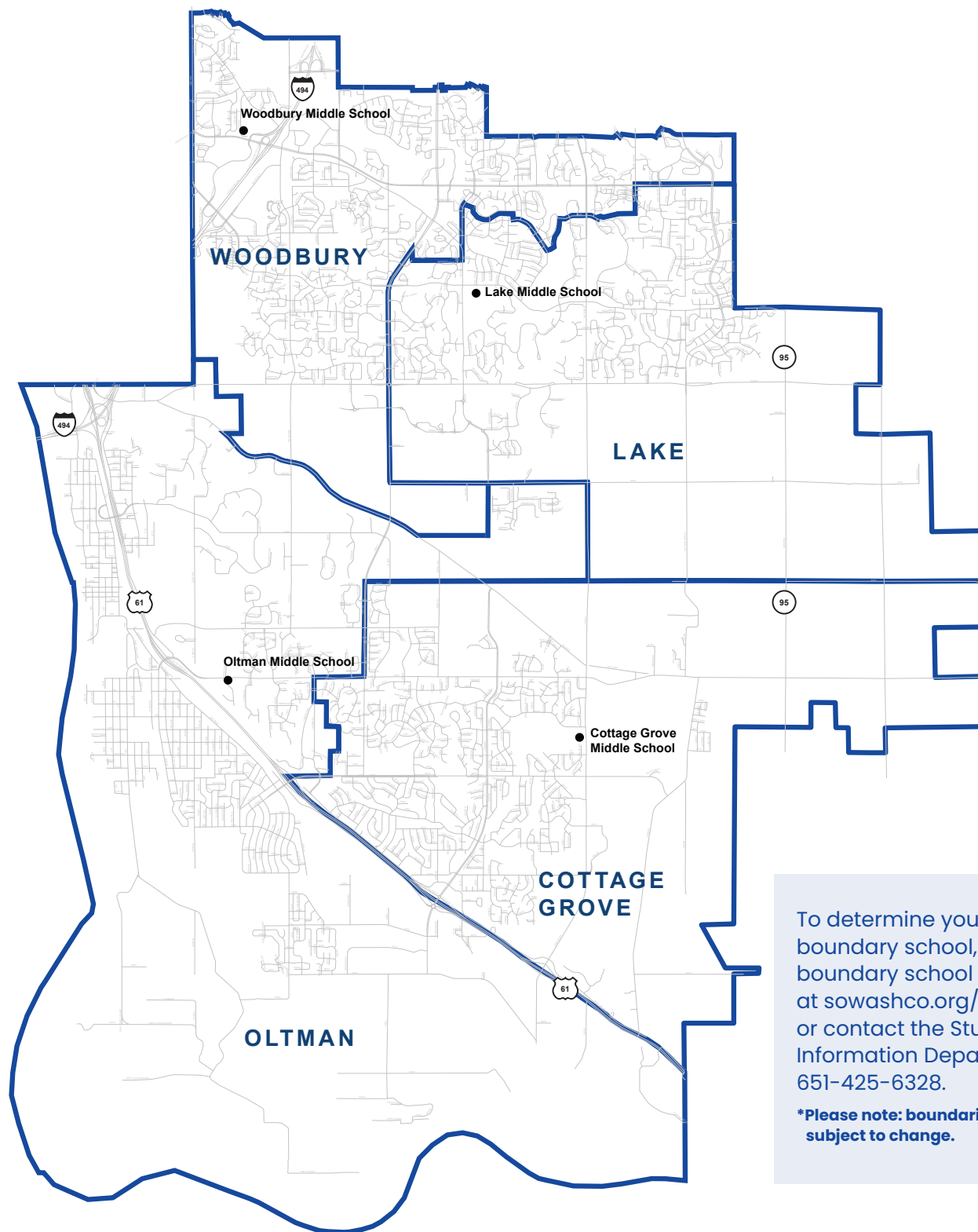
- Woodbury Elementary School (WES) provides students with hands-on learning opportunities including learning how-to-code applications and robots.
- Updated facilities include a maker space for students to practice artistic creativity and problem-solving during the school day.
- Students can socialize through school programs including choir, math masters, Student Council and Student Ambassadors.
- There is a welcoming Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) that provides support for the school community. Visit wes.sowashco.org/get-involved.

Preschool	Start Time / End Time	Kids Club
•	8:40 a.m.-3:10 p.m.	•



Middle Schools

SoWashCo Schools has four middle schools serving students in grades 6-8. Middle School students will build on the educational foundations of elementary school to help prepare them for high school and beyond. Students will learn independence, time management, problem-solving, critical thinking and decision-making skills.



To determine your student's boundary school, use our boundary school calculator at sowashco.org/enroll or contact the Student Information Department at 651-425-6328.

***Please note: boundaries are subject to change.**

Middle Schools

Cottage Grove Middle School (6–8)

9775 Indian Blvd. S. Cottage Grove, MN 55016 | cgms.sowashco.org | 651-425-6800

- Cottage Grove Middle School (CGMS) fosters an inclusive community through Cougar PRIDE values—Positive, Responsible, Inclusive, Determined and Empathetic—creating a supportive environment where all feel valued.
- Students benefit from personalized support through Special Education, English Learner (EL) services, Talent Development and intervention plans tailored to their needs.
- Advisory periods focus on building community, teaching AVID strategies, and developing social-emotional skills for student growth.
- Recognized as an AVID National Demonstration School, CGMS integrates AVID, Conscious Discipline and MTSS to promote academic, social and emotional success.
- Excellence and achievements are celebrated through initiatives like Student of Excellence, Staff of Excellence and Student of the Month programs.

Start Time / End Time	Indigenous/World Languages
7:50 a.m.–2:26 p.m.	Spanish (Grade 8 Only)

Lake Middle School (6–8)

3133 Pioneer Dr. Woodbury, MN 55125 | lms.sowashco.org | 651-425-6400

- Lake Middle School (LMS) fosters a sense of belonging through its Homebase program, Social and Emotional Learning (SEL) activities and diverse clubs, helping students build relationships and develop leadership, communication and collaboration skills.
- LMS is committed to excellence, as demonstrated by its recognition as a National Blue Ribbon School, which highlights its high standards, success in closing achievement gaps, and celebration of student achievements in leadership, academics, kindness and personal growth.
- LMS ensures equity and inclusion through programs including English Learner (EL) services, Talent Development and Special Education, providing tailored support and opportunities for all students to thrive in a diverse environment.
- Families, staff and students actively collaborate in decision-making through initiatives such as the Student Ambassadors program, WEB (Where Everyone Belongs) and partnerships with the Parent Teacher Association (PTA).
- Rigorous and innovative education at LMS challenges students to excel academically while fostering creativity, risk-taking and preparation for future success.

Start Time / End Time	Indigenous/World Languages
7:50 a.m.–2:26 p.m.	Spanish (Grade 8 Only)



Middle Schools

Oltman Middle School (6-8)

6625 Goodview Ave. S. Cottage Grove, MN 55016 | oms.sowashco.org | 651-425-3500

- Oltman Middle School (OMS) is dedicated to preparing students for future success through a rigorous, engaging curriculum and a supportive, inclusive environment where students feel valued and empowered.
- OMS fosters meaningful relationships through its Advisory program, which enhances academic readiness, social-emotional growth, and student-teacher connections while promoting kindness, inclusion and acceptance.
- Students explore their interests and develop leadership skills through diverse clubs, activities and programs like Student Council, WEB mentoring for 6th graders, and Student Ambassadors, ensuring every voice is heard.
- As an AVID National Demonstration School, OMS emphasizes high academic standards with research-based best practices, differentiated support and real-world connections to foster creativity, critical thinking and academic growth.
- OMS fosters equity and inclusion by offering tailored support through programs like Special Education, English Learner (EL) services, and Talent Development, ensuring all students thrive.
- OMS celebrates excellence in academics and character through PBIS programs, Raider Rallies and a commitment to equity, ensuring a welcoming and respectful environment for all students and families.
- OMS fosters equity and inclusion by offering tailored support through programs like Special Education, English Learner (EL) services, and Talent Development, ensuring all students thrive.

Start Time / End Time	Indigenous/World Languages
7:50 a.m.-2:26 p.m.	Spanish (Grade 8 Only)

Woodbury Middle School (6-8)

1425 School Dr. Woodbury, MN 55125 | wms.sowashco.org | 651-425-4500

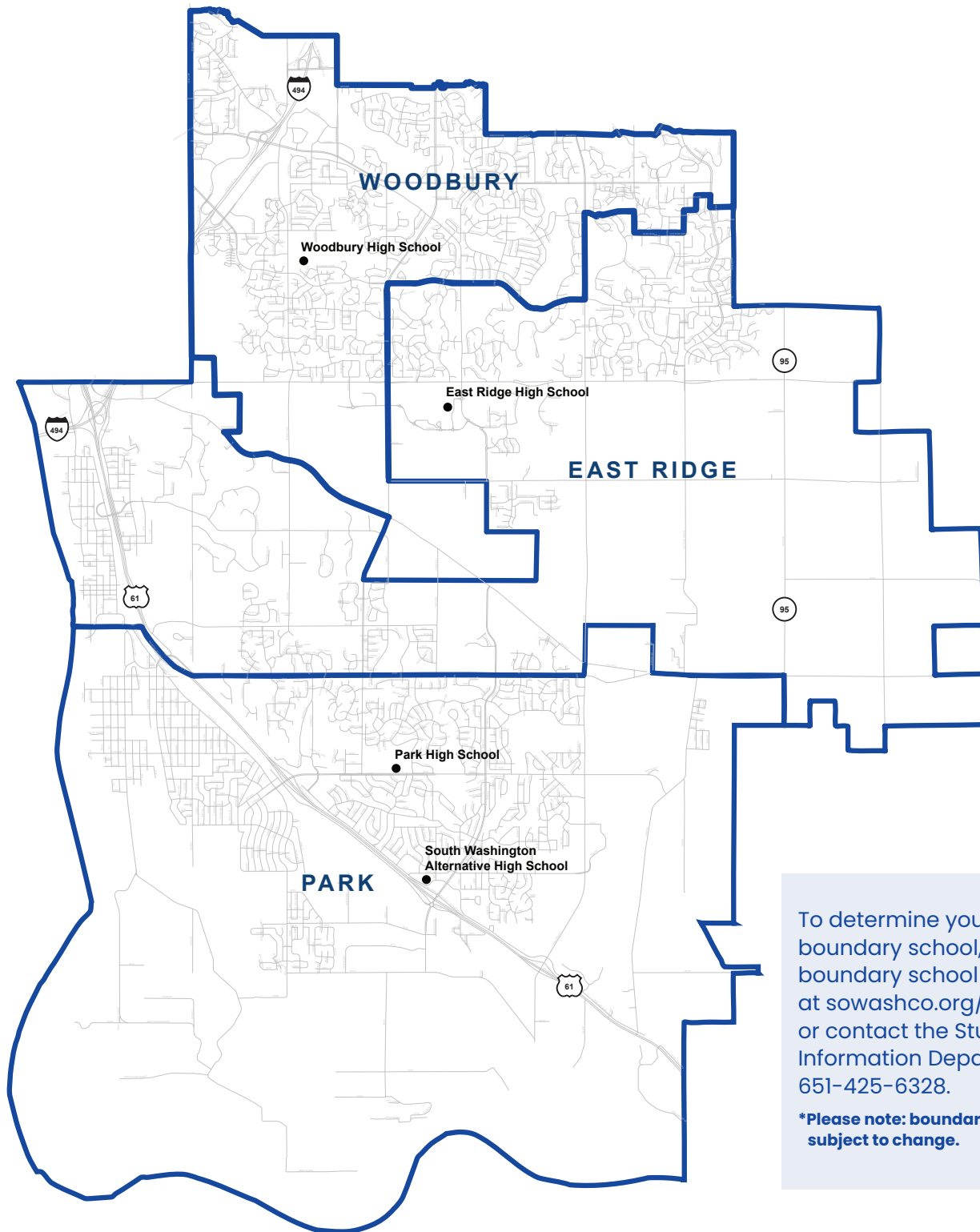
- Woodbury Middle School (WMS) is known for its diverse student body and commitment to academic excellence, character development and creating a positive, inclusive environment where all students feel valued.
- WMS offers a wide range of clubs and activities, including theater, Student Council, service learning projects, and more, allowing students to explore their interests and build connections.
- WMS promotes equity through its robust support programs, including English Learner (EL) services, Talent Development, special education, and affinity groups such as the Black Student Union and Gender, Sexuality, and Alliance (GSA).
- WMS is recognized for its commitment to academic excellence, being designated as an AVID National Demonstration School and earning recognition as a Minnesota School of Character.
- WMS provides cutting-edge educational opportunities, including a state-of-the-art STEM lab and the Spanish Immersion pathway, preparing students for success in high school and beyond.

Start Time / End Time	Indigenous/World Languages
7:50 a.m.-2:26 p.m.	Spanish Immersion Pathway



High School

SoWashCo Schools has three comprehensive high schools, an online high school and an alternative high school serving students in grades 9-12. Each school offers a variety of unique opportunities, classes and programs for students. High school students will continue to gain skills that will help them prepare and succeed in their lives after high school.



To determine your student's boundary school, use our boundary school calculator at sowashco.org/enroll or contact the Student Information Department at 651-425-6328.

***Please note: boundaries are subject to change.**

High Schools

East Ridge High School (9–12)

4200 Pioneer Dr. Woodbury, MN 55129 | erhs.sowashco.org | 651-425-2300

- East Ridge High School (ERHS) offers a comprehensive high school experience in an inclusive, welcoming environment, focusing on academic success and student growth.
- ERHS offers more than 90 clubs and activities including robotics, speech, debate, athletics, and student organizations, which provide students with a variety of ways to get involved, with 80% of students participating in at least one.
- ERHS promotes student leadership through groups such as the Student Cabinet, Student Leadership Coalition, and affinity clubs, ensuring student voices are integral in decision-making.
- ERHS prioritizes equity with unified coursework for special education and general education students and supports cultural responsiveness through its leadership model and inclusion center.
- ERHS excels academically, offering advanced coursework including Advanced Placement (AP), Project Lead the Way, College in the Schools and maintains a strong focus on collaboration and excellence through its "ONEEASTRIDGE" motto.

Start Time / End Time	Indigenous / World Languages	
8:30 a.m.–3:06 p.m.	• German	• Spanish

Park High School (9–12)

8040 80th Street S. Cottage Grove, MN 55016 | phs.sowashco.org | 651-425-3700

- Park High School (PHS) has been serving South Washington County for more than 100 years and is home to a culturally-rich community of 2,000 students who learn and grow together through diverse opportunities that enhance collaboration, communication and critical thinking.
- PHS offers more than 50 clubs, activities, and sports, including affinity groups, Link Crew, National Honor Society, and varsity athletics, providing students with opportunities to connect, lead and pursue their passions.
- As an International Baccalaureate (IB) World School, PHS provides rigorous academic programs alongside Advanced Placement (AP) and Concurrent Enrollment courses, preparing students for college and beyond.
- PHS prioritizes inclusion and student support through its Community Inclusion Center, staffed by cultural liaisons and Promise Fellows who create a safe, welcoming environment and advocate for students and families.
- PHS offers unique elective opportunities, including unified classes that bring general education and special education students together, and trade and industry programs with access to high-tech tools like 3D printers, laser cutters and inventor spaces supported by 3M grants.

Start Time / End Time	Indigenous / World Languages	
8:30 a.m.–3:06 p.m.	• French and IB French • Spanish and IB Spanish	• American Sign Language (ASL)



High Schools

Woodbury High School (9-12)

2665 Woodlane Dr. Woodbury, MN 55125 | whs.sowashco.org | 651-425-4400

- Woodbury High School (WHS) offers the continuation of the Spanish Immersion pathway from Woodbury Middle School
- WHS offers the Junior Reserves Officer Training Corps (JROTC) courses.
- WHS is proud to offer College in Schools (CIS), Advanced Placement (AP) courses, Concurrent Enrollment courses for college credits and Project Lead the Way (PLTW) Engineering.
- Students can register for an auto shop course and work on real vehicles.
- 3M tutors are available for students in math and science courses before school.
- WHS offers more than 50 clubs and more than 50 varsity sports and activities including a nationally recognized speech team, mock trial, musical ensembles, marching band, theatre, Black Student Union, Asian American Club, Hispanic/Latino Club, Muslim Student Association, Gay Straight Alliance and more.

Start Time / End Time	Indigenous / World Languages	
8:30 a.m.-3:06 p.m.	• Spanish	• American Sign Language (ASL)



Non-Traditional High Schools

SoWashCo Schools is proud to offer SoWashCo Online and South Washington Alternative High School for students in grades 9–12. The schools offer a non-traditional learning environment to fit students’ needs while still preparing them to become college and career-ready.

SoWashCo Online (9–12)

online.sowashco.org | 651-425-7303

- SoWashCo Online provides a flexible, innovative and supportive learning environment tailored to meet individual student needs and aspirations.
- The school offers over 80 courses across core subjects and Career and Technical Education, including Advanced Placement (AP) and honors-level classes, many of which are NCAA-accredited.
- Students can participate in extracurricular activities, such as the SoWashCo Student Council and an E-Sports team through a partnership with WHS.
- The curriculum follows the Quality Matters National Standards for Quality Online Courses, ensuring high-quality instruction.
- SoWashCo Online staff continuously seek student feedback to refine courses, enhance engagement and create a connected, thriving learning community.

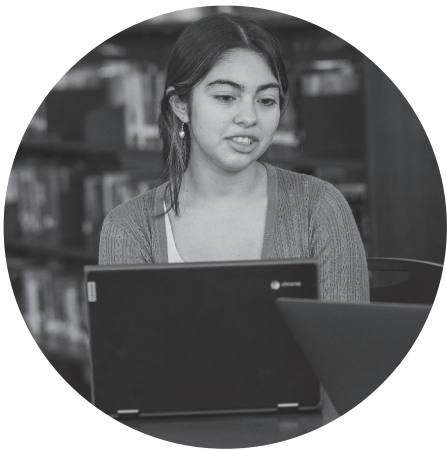
Start Time / End Time	Indigenous / World Languages	
Varies	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• French• German	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Spanish

South Washington Alternative High School (10–12)

8400 E. Point Douglas Rd. S. Cottage Grove, MN 55016 | swahs.sowashco.org | 651-425-7000

- South Washington Alternative High School (SWAHS) serves students in grades 10–12, offering a personalized learning environment with small class sizes and focused teacher support.
- Students are assigned a teacher advisor who helps set academic and personal goals, monitors progress, and supports post-graduation planning.
- SWAHS provides extracurricular opportunities including Clubs and Activities Day, field trips for college and career preparation and work-based learning programs.
- SWAHS is an AVID-certified school, offering an AVID seminar course for all students and access to career and technical education through Northeast Metro 916.
- SWAHS operates a day program with a six-week term schedule, offering credit recovery, Summer School and after-school programs to support academic progress.

Start Time / End Time	Indigenous / World Languages
8:45 a.m.–2:25 p.m.	None



Great Rivers Adult Education Consortium

The Great Rivers Adult Education Consortium provides adult education, professional development, diploma completion and English language courses to adults ages 17+. Programming is available for residents of Minnesota at no cost. Learn more and apply at commed.sowashco.org/greatrivers.

Basic Education and Professional Development

- Essential computer skills
- Internet and email basics
- Essential software skills – including Microsoft Word, Excel, PowerPoint and Google Docs
- Using technology in daily life – social media, information literacy, career search skills, supporting K-12 distance learning and your digital footprint
- Customer service internship
- Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS) Associate Certificate Training
- Official Certiport MOS Test Center

Diploma Completion

Earn your high school equivalency diploma (GED or HiSET) or K-12 diploma.

- K-12 diploma completion
- GED or HiSET test preparation
- Official Pearson Vue GED Test Center
- Official PSI HiSET Test Center

English Language

Learn to speak, read and write in English. Beginning, intermediate and advanced classes are available.

Additional support courses:

- Conversation
- Pronunciation
- English in the workplace
- Practical life skills
- Basic computer skills
- Career exploration
- U.S. citizen test prep

Locations:

District Program Center

8400 East Point Douglas Rd. S., Cottage Grove, MN 55016

Valley Creek Mall

1750 Weir Dr, Woodbury, MN 55125

Tilden Community Center

310 River St, Hastings, MN 55033

Register online at commed.sowashco.org/greatrivers



No English?

Please text or email, in your own language, for information about our FREE programs.

Envíe un mensaje de texto o correo electrónico, en su propio idioma, para solicitar información sobre nuestros programas GRATUITOS.

651-270-3266 | greatrivers@sowashco.org

SoWashCo School Board

School board business meetings are streamed on SoWashCo Schools YouTube page at youtube.com/@ISD833.

School Board Members

- Ryan Clarke
- Melinda Dols
- Patricia Driscoll
- Simi Patnaik
- Katie Schwartz
- Eric Tessmer
- Sharon Van Leer



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Enrollment Questions and Answers

Student Information Services

What is Student Information's Role?

SoWashCo Schools Student Information Services works to assist students and families in finding their boundary schools, enrollment, homeschooling option, intra-district transfers, open enrollment, Infinite Campus support, student records and demographics.

What is an Intra-District Transfer?

Intra-district transfers (IDT) are for students in grades K-12 living within the boundaries of SoWashCo Schools but wish to attend a school other than their boundary school or wish to transfer from a private or charter school.

What is the Application Process for an IDT?

Families can apply for intra-district transfer annually. The application process begins Oct. 15. Applications submitted after the deadline are added to existing waitlists. More information can be found at sowashco.org/enroll.

What is the Application Process for Open enrollment?

Families can apply to open enroll their child(ren) in some SoWashCo Schools by completing the open enrollment application, found at sowashco.org/enroll. Due to capacity constraints, some schools and grade levels are closed to open enrollment.

Can my child finish the school year if our family is moving outside of SoWashCo Schools boundaries?

Students moving outside of SoWashCo Schools attendance boundaries during the school year may apply for open enrollment to finish the school year at their current school; however, the student may be assigned to a different school the following year. SoWashCo Schools retains the right to assign non-resident students to other schools when these transitions occur, based on capacity and program.

For further assistance please contact the Student Information Department at 651-425-6218.



Health Services



SoWashCo Schools Health Services help eliminate and minimize health-related barriers to learning. Health services staff provide care for students with:

- Illness
- Injuries
- Chronic health conditions
- Perform medical treatments and procedures
- Medication administration
- Immunization review and compliance monitoring
- Implementations of health accommodations
- Creation and implementation of individualized health plans and emergency care plans
- Care coordination with parents and health care providers
- Prevention and control of communicable diseases
- Vision and hearing screening
- Staff education and training

Reporting an Absence

Families should report their student's absence each day they will be absent from school. Families can report their student's absence through Campus Parent Portal.

Once logged into your account:

- Use the "Absence Request" tool to submit a request to the attendance office before your student is going to be absent.
 - Please include a comment of the symptoms your student is experiencing.
- The attendance office will process the request and an attendance record will be created for your student in your Campus Parent Portal account.

If you are unable to use your Campus Parent Portal account, please call your student's school and provide:

- Student's name
- Student's grade
- Why they are absent
- If your student has symptoms or has been diagnosed with any communicable disease.

Prescription Medication Distribution

SoWashCo Schools provides health services personnel to dispense medication to students in need of medication during school hours. Families must complete the parental permission form, have a health care provider sign the form and follow all other requirements as listed at sowashco.org/services/health.

Vision Screening

Healthy students are better learners. The ability to see adequately is directly linked to academic success. SoWashCo Schools Health Services annually screen students for vision acuity.

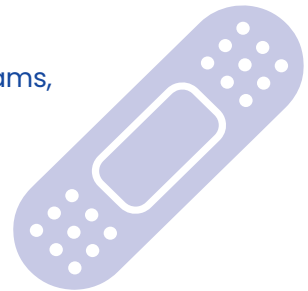
- Vision screening is provided for all students.
- Color vision screening is done each year for kindergarten boys only.
- Additional vision or hearing screening may be requested by the teacher, family, or student or when a student is referred for evaluation of educational concerns.
- Families will be notified of students who do not pass screening via a referral form that the health care provider completes. Once complete, it should be returned to the school health office.



Required Immunizations

The Minnesota School Immunization Law (Minn. Statute 121A.15) requires that all students enrolled in school be protected from childhood diseases by receiving immunizations. This includes students enrolled in Preschool-12 schools or programs, Kids Club, preschool, alternative programs and home school programs.

Your student's immunization dates, or a medical or non-medical exemption, must be shared with the school health office or emailed to immunizations@sowashco.org before the first day of school. For more information including required forms, low-cost immunization clinics and recommended immunizations for teens, please visit sowashco.org/health.



Required Vaccinations			
Birth through Age 4 Early Childhood programs and child care	Age 5 to 6 Kindergarten	Age 7 to 11 Grades 1-6	Age 12 and Older Grades 7-12
Hepatitis A (Hep A) ✓	-----	-----	-----
Hepatitis B (Hep B) ✓✓✓	Hepatitis B (Hep B) ✓✓✓	Hepatitis B (Hep B) ✓✓✓	Hepatitis B (Hep B) ✓✓✓
DTap/DT ✓✓✓✓	DTap/DT ✓✓✓✓	Tetanus and Diphtheria containing doses ✓✓✓	Tdap (and at least two tetanus and diphtheria containing doses) ✓
Polio ✓✓✓	Polio ✓✓✓✓	Polio ✓✓✓	Polio ✓✓✓
MMR ✓	MMR ✓✓	MMR ✓✓	MMR ✓✓
Hib ✓	-----	-----	Meningococcal and booster ✓
Pneumococcal ✓✓✓✓	-----	-----	-----
Varicella (Chicken Pox) ✓	Varicella (Chicken Pox) ✓✓	Varicella (Chicken Pox) ✓✓	Varicella (Chicken Pox) ✓✓
Highly Recommended, But Not Required			
Rotavirus (for infants)	Influenza (annually for anyone age six months and older)	COVID-19 Vaccine (available for anyone age 6 months and older)	Human Papillomavirus (begins at ages 11-12)

✓ Each check mark represents the number of doses a child should have by age group.

Nutrition Services

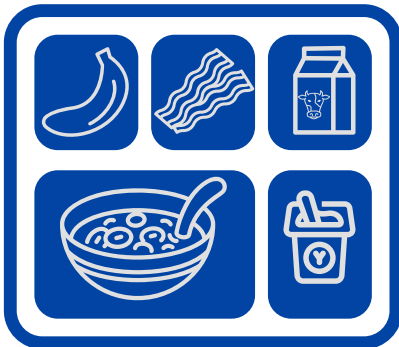
Nutrition Services provides healthy and nutritious meals to students that meets or exceeds USDA standards. Every menu consists of whole grains, lean protein, fruit and/or vegetable and milk daily.

Free Meals

Every child enrolled in SoWashCo Schools is eligible to receive free breakfast and lunch in accordance with the Free School Meals law in Minnesota. To qualify as a free meal, students must meet the following requirements for breakfast and lunch food selections:



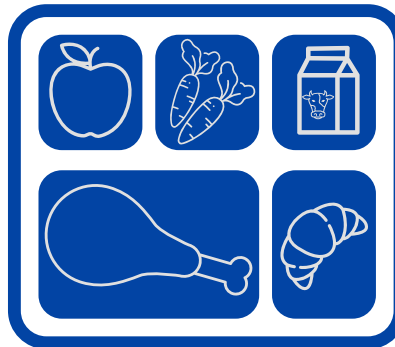
Free Breakfast



Must Have At Least 3 Items

- 1 serving of a fruit and/or vegetable (Required)
- 1 serving of protein
- 1 serving of milk
- 1 serving of grains

Free Lunch



Must Have 3 Components

- 1 serving of a fruit and/or vegetable (Required)
- 1 serving of protein (meat or meat substitute)
- 1 serving of milk
- 1 serving of grains

SchoolCafé

SoWashCo Schools uses SchoolCafé for student meal accounts. All items outside of the complete meal are considered ala carte purchases. These purchases require funds available in the student's lunch account. Families can set low-balance email reminders, schedule automatic payments when a balance of your choosing is reached, review student purchases online, view menus and apply for free and reduced education benefits.

Educational Benefits

SoWashCo Schools families are encouraged to apply for educational benefits every year. Households that qualify will receive discounted or free services both in and out of school. SoWashCo Schools serves the same healthy meals to all students and provides the same services, no matter their income status.

Applications can be submitted online, dropped off at your child's school or the District Service Center. For more information or to access the application visit, sowashco.org/services/nutrition.

EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS

Apply in August through your **School Café** account

Benefits In School



Field Trips



Athletics



Student Fees



Kids Club



Instrument
Rentals



Community
Education



School
Funding

Benefits Out of School



Some Energy
Providers



Some Internet
Providers



Some Phone
Providers



Public
Transportation



Theatres



Zoos



Museums



More

Family Resources



Calendar

The district and family calendar can be found at sowashco.org/calendar. K-12 calendars specific to your child's school can be found on the school's website for students.



Campus Parent Portal

Campus Parent Portal allows parents or guardians to view online information about student class schedules, report and view attendance, view school bus route assignments, and more. Parents and guardians are required to update their accounts annually before the school year.



EduTrak

EduTrak is used for processing payments for school fees such as parking, transcripts, clubs, competitive activities and more. You can set up an account at sowashco.org/fees.



SchoolCafé

Menus and student school meal accounts can be viewed and managed through SchoolCafé. SchoolCafé has a free mobile app available for use on any mobile device. For more information on how to access SchoolCafé visit sowashco.org/nutrition.



Schoolology

Schoolology is an online learning platform, or Learning Management System (LMS), used at all secondary SoWashCo Schools. Teachers post assignments, classroom resources, quizzes and a course calendar with due dates and deadlines. Students and parents should use Schoolology to review assignments and grades to stay on top of academic progress. For more information visit sowashco.org/parents/schoolology. For help with Schoolology, please email schoolologyhelp@sowashco.org.



Seesaw

Seesaw is a student portfolio intended to give students in grades Preschool-5 a place to create, submit and share learning with the class, teachers and parents. The simplicity of Seesaw provides an easy entry into digital learning. The Seesaw class and family apps are available to download on Android and iOS. For more information visit sowashco.org/parents/seesaw. For help with Seesaw, please email seesawHelp@sowashco.org.





Family Calendar

2025–2026 School Year

Important Dates

Event Information		Grades
AUGUST	28 Assessment Day	K-5
SEPTEMBER	2 First Day of School Assessment Day	6, 9 K-5
	3 First Day of School	K-5, 7–8, 10-12
	29 No School	K-12
OCTOBER	15 No School	K-8
	15 Pre-ACT and Practice ACT Testing	10, 11
	15 Complete Schoolwork at Home Day	9, 12
	16-17 No School – Fall Break (MEA)	K-12
NOVEMBER	4 No School – Professional Development	K-5
	4 Complete Schoolwork at Home Day	6-12
	25 End of Trimester 1	K-12
	26 No School – Teacher Workday	K-12
	27-28 No School – Employee Holiday	K-12
DECEMBER	22-31 No School – Winter Break	K-12
JANUARY	1-2 No School – Winter Break	K-12
	19 No School – MLK Jr. Day	K-12
FEBRUARY	13 No School – Professional Development	K-5
	13 Complete Schoolwork at Home Day	6-12
	16 No School – Presidents Day	K-12
MARCH	5 End of Trimester 2	K-12
	6 No School – Teacher Workday	K-12
	9-13 No School – Spring Break	K-12
	20 No School – Professional Development	K-12
	31 MCA, Seal of Biliteracy Testing	10, 11, 12
	31 Complete Schoolwork at Home Day	9, 12
APRIL	3 No School – Employee Holiday	K-12
	21 ACT and Science MCA Testing	9-12
	21 Complete Schoolwork at Home Day (if not participating in testing)	9-12
MAY	1 No School – Professional Development	K-12
	25 No School – Memorial Day Holiday	K-12
JUNE	4 Last Day of School, End of Trimester 3	K-12

SoWashCO

SCHOOLS

AUGUST 2025	SEPTEMBER 2025	OCTOBER 2025
S M T W T F S 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	S M T W T F S 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
NOVEMBER 2025	DECEMBER 2025	JANUARY 2026
S M T W T F S 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31
FEBRUARY 2026	MARCH 2026	APRIL 2026
S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30
MAY 2026	JUNE 2026	JULY 2026
S M T W T F S 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31	S M T W T F S 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30	S M T W T F S 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14 15 16 17 18 19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 30 31

First or Last Day of School
No School for Students
Important Date

Last Updated: Nov. 18, 2024
Calendar is subject to change



Independent School District #833
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www.sowashco.org

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Join Our Team!

SoWashCo Schools has openings for:

- School Bus Drivers
- Nutrition Services
- Paraprofessionals
- Kids Club
- Special Education
- Athletic and Activity Coaches



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community
you live in!

Apply at sowashco.org/careers

