



BEAR'S UPDATE



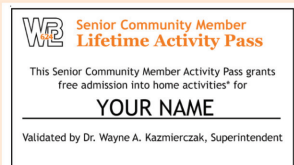
Summer 2025

GO GRADUATE GO IGN
GO BEARS GO ACHIEVE
GO GRADUATE GO IGN
GO BEARS GO ACHIEVE
GO GRADUATE GO IGN

FREE Senior Activity Pass

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

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



Building Our Future

While most facilities projects approved by the community in 2019 are complete, some final stage construction is happening at buildings in the district.

See details and updates on individual projects, as well as presentations about the overall process at isd624.org/BuildingOurFuture.



Follow Us!



Celebration and Recognition

The close of the school year is always a special time — filled with celebration, pride, and a deep sense of accomplishment.

This year, the completion of two major building projects — the unification of grades 9-12 at our high school and the opening of Mariner Middle School — has created enhanced experiences for our secondary students.

Superintendent's Message continued on reverse

TRANSLATIONS

Para Español por favor llame al 651-407-7625.

Xav tau ntawv Hmoob hu rau 651-407-7623.

ISD624.ORG

Honoring Graduates

Members of the Class of 2025 were recently celebrated throughout the district by families, friends and staff members as they received their diplomas. Congratulations, graduates!



Applauding Retirees

Families and staff members recently gathered for a Retirement Luncheon to honor 2024-25 retirees. The School Board thanked retiring employees for a total of more than 641 years of service to the students, families and community! See a video honoring all retirees on the district's YouTube channel.



White Bear Lake Area Schools
2399 Cedar Avenue
White Bear Lake, MN 55110
651-407-7500



WBL 624 BEAR'S UPDATE



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GO BEARS GO ACHIEVE
GO GRADUATE GO IGNITE
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GO GRADUATE GO IGNITE



July 10 - Spirit Night

Stop by the district's Marketfest booth on Thursdays through July 31 in Downtown White Bear Lake!

AND - wear orange and join us for an "Orange Out" photo at 6:30 p.m. on July 10! We're sponsoring WBLAS Spirit Night, filling 4th Street with activities and student groups.



The changes occurring in our schools are not just structural. Across the district, new approaches to teaching and learning are producing meaningful, lasting outcomes as students design their futures and create their own

successes. Our collective efforts are leading to measurable gains, including:

- **Rising graduation rates.** In data released by the Minnesota Department of Education this spring, White Bear Lake Area High School's 2024 graduation rate reached an impressive 96.5%. This tops the state average by 12.3 percentage points, represents a three-point increase over last year, and ranks as the second-highest graduation rate among area high schools. Multiple student groups across the district also exceeded statewide averages by double digits — a strong reflection of our commitment to success for every student.
- **Significant gains in student attendance.** This year, we've seen estimated increases of more than 15 percentage points at the elementary level and over 25 percentage points at the middle and high school levels since 2021 — clear evidence that our student and family engagement strategies are making a meaningful difference.

- **State-level recognition.** Hundreds of students have earned state and national awards in a variety of student activities and programs. At the district level, two of our secondary programs received state-level honors, being named "Gold Star Winner" and "Exemplary Secondary Program of the Year." These awards recognize innovative, forward-thinking models that serve as examples for schools statewide.

These achievements are not only reasons to celebrate — they are powerful reminders of what's possible when we remain committed to continuous improvement and innovation. Our students, staff, and families represent the very best of what we strive to do: create opportunity, foster curiosity, and help every learner reach their full potential.

I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to every member of our school community. To our students: your energy and resilience continue to inspire. To our staff: your dedication and professionalism make these successes possible. And to our families and community partners: your support strengthens every aspect of our work.

Thank you for another incredible year. We look forward to continuing this important work together — with energy, pride, and a steadfast focus on the future.

Go Bears!
Dr. Wayne Kazmierczak, Superintendent

ENROLL TODAY!

WHY BE A BEAR?

- **Student-centered instruction.** We believe all students grow and learn in different ways and at different rates - that all can achieve.
- **Expanded academic opportunities.** Our students explore their interests, excel and design their futures.
- **Empowered, supported learning.** Students are agents and owners of their learning in an environment that is safe, supportive and challenging — with high expectations for student success.
- **Inspiring, nurturing educators.** Our educators facilitate learning and challenge students - fostering curiosity and confidence.
- **Transformative learning.** Our flexible learning spaces and learning studios ignite opportunities for communication, collaboration, creativity and critical thinking.



isd624.org/enroll

NEW this year:
Elementary Spanish
Dual Immersion!

The White Bear Lake Area School District serves all or parts of Birchwood, Gem Lake, Hugo, Lino Lakes, Little Canada, Maplewood, North Oaks, Vadnais Heights, White Bear Lake and White Bear Township.