



SHEBOYGAN AREA
— SCHOOL DISTRICT —

COMMUNITY REPORT

2025



SASD SCHOOLS

by the numbers

1 Early Learning Center

12 Elementary Schools

5 Middle Schools

2 4K-8 Schools

5 High Schools



9,323 Students

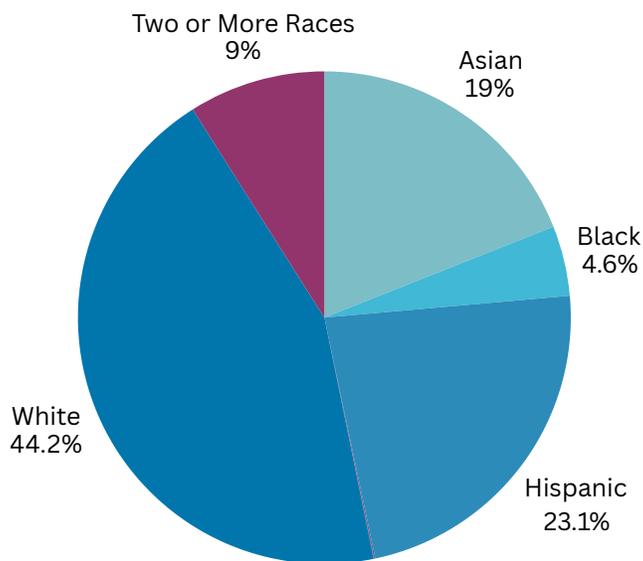
1,698 Staff

35 Languages spoken by families in the SASD

COMPARITIVE PEER DISTRICT ANALYSIS

An independent analysis of comparable districts conducted by the ECRA K12 analytics and research firm identified the Sheboygan Area School District as outperforming our comparable group average in every category of overall proficiency and achievement scores, while serving the second-highest percentage of economically disadvantaged students.

Indicator	Peer Group Average	SASD
ELA Proficiency	40.9%	43.3%
Math Proficiency	38.4%	44.9%
Achievement Score	47.7%	52.9%
ELA Achievement Score	50.6%	53.6%
Math Achievement Score	44.8%	52.2%



Source: SASD 2024-25 Third Friday Enrollment Report

PEER DISTRICTS FOR COMPARISON

Peer Districts were selected based on similar enrollment levels and the make-up for economically disadvantaged students.

2023-24 data
Source: ECRA Group K-12 Data and Analytic Solutions



GROWING student success



a strong elementary Academic Foundation

*The nationally normed Star assessment considers growth levels above 50% to be above average.

- **68%** of elementary school students met or exceeded their individual growth target on Star Reading in Spring 2025.*
- **66%** of elementary school students met or exceeded their individual growth target on Star Math in Spring 2025.*
- **94%** of elementary school students attend school daily.

- The SASD invested \$910K in Benchmark Advance, a universal curriculum for K-5th grade, with implementation starting next school year. This new reading curriculum is engaging for students, will **build knowledge across content areas**, is standard-aligned, and is more user-friendly for staff.
- The SASD adjusted our professional development time for teachers to remove early release Wednesdays. Instead, we added nine full-day professional development opportunities. This year, a significant portion of the time was allocated to curriculum and instruction work focused on **improving literacy**.
- In 2024-25, the SASD expanded 4K programming to five half-days per week. The 4K programs provide age-appropriate learning experiences that support the development of social, emotional, physical, and cognitive skills, as well as general learning skills, for all children. The change to five days per week is positively impacting students by **increasing these learning experiences by 20%**.



2024 National ESEA Distinguished School





beyond the basics in ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



A WELL-ROUNDED EDUCATION

Elementary students receive a strong foundation in core academic subjects while also participating in a rotation of Art, Music, and Physical Education classes. In addition, students have enrichment opportunities to explore their interests and expand their skills:

- Over **350** students participated in coding clubs in grades 3-5.
- **456** 5th-grade students participated in Band and Orchestra.
- **615** students participated in the 5th Grade Sports Day.
- Over **85** students participated in the new district-wide choir for 4th and 5th graders.
- Over **550** students in grades 5-12 performed in the 46th annual SASD String Festival.
- **24** students from grades K-12 had their artwork featured at the John Michael Kohler Arts Center.

Over **3,400 students** were **invited** to individual Great Start Conferences held before the first day of school to build strong connections between teachers and families.



SCREENER & SURVEY RESULTS

- **90%** of Elementary students were considered Healthy in the Spring b.e.s.t. Universal Screener.
- **70%** of Elementary students responded favorably on the Panorama Survey to questions about Self-Management Skills, which include being prepared, paying attention, following directions, and completing work.

104 5th-grade students earned the President's Award for Educational Excellence.



MIDDLE SCHOOL

leaders in the making



ENRICHING THE MIDDLE SCHOOL EXPERIENCE

Middle school students study all core academic areas, in addition to a quarterly rotation through our Allied Arts classes like Art, Music, Technical Education, Physical Education, World Languages, and Family and Consumer Science. Students can also choose electives such as band and orchestra, and participate in clubs and interscholastic sports.

- **65%** of middle school students met or exceeded their individual growth target on Star Reading in Spring 2025.*
- **62%** of middle school students met or exceeded their individual growth target on Star Math in Spring 2025.*
- **93%** of our middle school students attend school daily.
- Over **700** middle school students participated in the band and orchestra programs.
- **148** middle school students participated choir.
- **23** interscholastic sports are offered across three middle schools, with **580** students participating.
- **57** clubs and activities offered across three middle schools with **1,480 students** participating over the course of the school year in clubs like STEM, Drama, Speedball, Newspaper, Yearbook, and more!
- **82** middle school students competed in the Lakeland Math Meet.



*The nationally normed Star assessment considers growth levels above 50% to be above average.

REDgen launched in the 2024-25 school year, with **19** students serving as student leaders. REDgen's mission is to advocate for youth mental health and well-being.

SCREENER & SURVEY RESULTS

73% of students responded favorably on the Panorama Survey to questions about Self-Management Skills, which target being prepared, paying attention, following directions, and completing work.



HIGH SCHOOL

preparing for what's next



FREE COLLEGE COURSES

In June 2022, the Sheboygan Area School District and Lakeland University signed an innovative agreement, providing high school students with access to college credit courses at no cost to students. SASD students now have free access to dual credit courses, **which provide high school and college credits simultaneously.**

- Over **50 Dual Credit Career Pathway courses** are offered at North and South High Schools.
- In the 2024-25 school year, high schools had nearly **3,000 enrollments** in Dual Credit courses, resulting in over **\$3.6 million of tuition-free college credit!** *(Students may be enrolled in more than one dual credit class.)*

ACT Performance

All 11th-grade students in Wisconsin are required to take the ACT each March. The ACT is a nationally recognized standardized test used for college admissions. It measures a student's overall educational development and readiness for college-level coursework.

To support student success, SASD students in grades 9, 10, and 11 take the PreACT assessment each fall. These practice tests help students build familiarity with the ACT format and track their academic progress leading up to the official test.

In the 2024-25 School Year:

Average composite ACT scores are in the top half of our peer districts.

- **290** juniors scored at or above the state average ACT score of 19.
- **83** juniors earned a 25 or higher.
- **21** juniors earned a 30 or higher.
- **2 juniors earned a perfect score of 36!**

planning FOR THE FUTURE



The SASD was one of the first districts to adopt 'Redefining Ready,' the research-based college and career readiness accountability measures - such as attendance, community service, workplace learning experiences, dual credit course enrollment, participation in co-curricular activities, GPA, ACT scores, and other course participation - and use it to measure students' readiness to enter college or a career after graduation.

The **SASD Career and College Readiness Report Cards** show schools, as well as individual students, if they are meeting the research-based benchmarks for success in future plans, whether entering directly into a career or attending a two-year or four-year college. The benchmarks are aligned to the National College and Career Readiness Indicators to ensure our students have relevant coursework, academic performance, and workplace experience to prepare them for success after high school.

Over **380** students from North and South High signed commitments at the 7th Annual Signing Day.

Senior Signing Day recognizes graduating seniors whose future plans include:

- attending a four-year college or university
- enrolling in a technical or community college
- entering the workforce
- joining the military



CLASS OF 2025



Participated in 2+ co-curricular activities
150+ offered



Earned Credit for a Workplace Learning Experience



Earned college credit at no cost to students!



FROM FRESHMEN

to finish line



Graduation rate increased by 3% for the Class of 2024.



Over **\$4 million in scholarships** awarded to Class of 2025.



728 students to participate in the annual joint graduation ceremony.

27TH STUDENT-BUILT HOME IN SHEBOYGAN



STANDOUT PERFORMANCES

- **2 students** qualified as National Merit Finalists (2025)
- **27 students** qualified for the AP Scholars Award (in 2024)
- **1 student** was selected as a 2025 WIAA Scholar-Athlete out of only 16 senior boys statewide.
- **3 State Championships:** North High Dance Team, North High Esports, South High Esports
- **79 students** attended Regional Competitions with Robotics, DECA, and Honors Society.
- **31 students** attended national and international competitions with clubs like Model UN and DECA.
- **33** high school students traveled abroad as part of a school-sponsored trip.
- **55** 11th and 12th grade students participated in the GEAR UP Rising Phoenix program, with **21** seniors on track to earn an Associate of Arts and Sciences (AAS) degree.

Recognition for Service

- South High School won the **United Way Group Volunteer of the Year Spirit Award** for its annual school-wide day of service.
- A current South High student and a graduate won the **United Way Youth Star Volunteer of the Year** for their creation of 'Under the Wing,' a student-led initiative that pairs 6th graders with trained high school mentors at Horace Mann Middle School.

74

Cum Laude
4,600-4,999
Weighted GPA

59

Magna Cum Laude
5,000-5,299
Weighted GPA

53

Summa Cum Laude
5.3+
Weighted GPA



HERE for all students

SERVICES THAT MAKE A DIFFERENCE

The Sheboygan Area School District has a unique demographic make-up and is rich in diversity. We take pride in offering a range of services to support the diverse educational needs of every student.

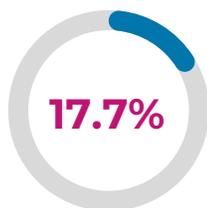
- Over **300** Special Education staff members (Special Education Teachers, Special Education Assistants, Speech Therapists, Occupational Therapists, Physical Therapists, etc.) provided services to over **1,700** students across 12 areas of need.
- **80** Multilingual Language staff (Multilingual Teachers and Multilingual Assistants) provide language services to over **1,790** students, speaking over 35 languages.
- The PATH program provided services to **501** students and conducted **6,297** mental health therapy sessions.
- **293** homeless students and their families were supported through the SASD McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Program.
- In Summer 2024, **2,670** students participated in summer school to strengthen core academic skills, explore elective and enrichment courses, or recover high school credits.
- Over **520** students were served in the KidStop before- and after-school program at nine sites, including our partnerships with the Boys & Girls Club and YMCA.
- As of May 1, 2025, over **1,320,000** breakfasts, lunches, and suppers were served to students free of charge.



ECONOMICALLY
DISADVANTAGED



ENGLISH
LEARNERS



STUDENTS WITH
DISABILITIES

2023-24 data

Source: SASD Data Tool by the Wisconsin Policy Forum



EXPANDING HORIZONS

Dual Language Program

- Two-way immersion is offered starting in 4K at the Early Learning Center or from K-5th grade at Sheridan Elementary School, with an option to continue into Horace Mann Middle School.

Field Trips

- Elementary school students enjoy field trips to JMKAC, Weill Center, Sheboygan Marsh, Sheboygan County Historical Museum, Heritage School, and more!

Access to Technology

- Over 9,000 one-to-one Wi-Fi-enabled devices are provided to SASD students.

In-District School Choice

Annually, around **1,000** students utilize our in-district school choice to enroll in a school other than their neighborhood school.

Open Enrollment (from outside SASD)

Last year, **78** students were accepted to enroll in the SASD who live outside our district boundaries.



community **OPPORTUNITIES**



The Sheboygan Theatre Company rounded out its 91st season with **6,836** community members in attendance at its **5 mainstage productions**.

- **207 volunteers** helped behind the scenes.
- **116 cast members** ranging in age from 5 to 70+ participated in productions.
- **36 musicians** shared their talents.



SHEBOYGAN AREA
SCHOOL DISTRICT
Community Recreation

The Sheboygan Community Recreation Department offers a variety of recreational events and activities for residents of all ages.

- Outdoor sports leagues engaged more than **880** youth, with tee ball, baseball, and flag football all showing increased participation compared to last year.
- Basketball, volleyball, and aquatics were offered for youth, high school students, and adults, with participation in volleyball at the youth and high school student levels on the rise.
- Adult fitness and aquatic classes both saw over **30% increases** in participation over the last year.





128 educators participated in the SASD Mentor Program, including 65 new teachers who were supported throughout their first year in the SASD.

Expanded Professional Development

- **286** staff trained in Early Literacy Practices aligned to the Science of Reading.
- **9 full-day professional development** opportunities for teachers.
- Free, in-house **Teacher Development Institute** offered for 8 years with 115 teachers participating.
- New **Principal Development Institute** will launch in the 2025-26 school year, with three participants selected through an interview process.
- **20** employees are working toward a teaching license through the RITE program.

SASD Teachers Have Experience

- SASD teachers have an average of 14.4 years of experience, which ranks in the top half of comparable districts.

Competitive Compensation

- Average teacher salary is above the state average and is in the top half of comparable districts.

Teacher Retention

- SASD has a high teacher retention rate, placing it in the top half of peer districts.

Source:

SASD Data Tool by the Wisconsin Policy Forum

Annual Teacher Recruitment Campaign

For the third year in a row, SASD advertised teacher openings in a billboard campaign featuring our own teachers. Billboards were displayed in Sheboygan, Milwaukee, Oshkosh and Green Bay, attracting professionals to the Sheboygan community.

The *only* school district in Wisconsin named by



as one of






Recognizing Retirees

In the spring of 2025, students created one-of-a-kind mugs for **50** retiring staff members with over **1,300 years in combined service!**

New Department Leaders

New for the 2025-26 school year, 12 Department Leaders have been appointed to provide additional instructional leadership and support in our elective and exploratory areas.



SASD Upgraded to Aa1 Credit Rating

In December 2024, Moody’s Investors Service upgraded the district’s credit rating to Aa1, up from Aa2. This prestigious upgrade reflects the district’s strong financial health and effective fiscal management.

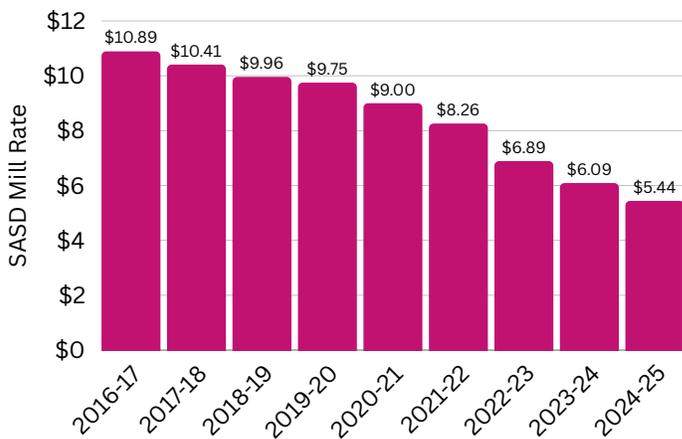
As a direct result of this improved rating, SASD property taxpayers will save over \$16 million in interest costs associated with the financing of the recently approved referendum projects. The favorable interest rate, driven by the Aa1 rating, significantly reduces the long-term cost of school improvements.

Moody’s Investors Service is a leading bond credit rating agency. Their credit ratings range from Aaa (highest quality) to C (lowest quality), serving as a benchmark for financial strength and creditworthiness. At Aa1, the Sheboygan Area School District ranks among the most financially stable public school districts in the state and the nation.

Of the 164 Wisconsin school districts rated by Moody’s, only 12 hold an Aa1 rating or higher. Nationally, the median rating for school districts is Aa3, placing SASD two tiers above the average.

“This is great news for our local taxpayers,” said SASD Superintendent Dr. Jacob Konrath. “The Aa1 rating is a vote of confidence from a reputable rating agency regarding our district finances; however, it also accounts for less-than-expected enrollment declines compared to the national averages, strong student retention initiatives, and residential and industry growth. It’s a sign of a strong district and a strong community. It’s a good indication of the school and community partnership that continues to benefit students and taxpayers alike.”

Historical View of SASD Mill Rate



The SASD mill rate has decreased for the last seven years, including in the 2024-25 school year which includes the approved referendum costs.

SASD Mill Rate Compared to Peer Districts



This chart shows that the SASD has one of the lowest property tax mill rates when compared to other districts.



building FOR THE FUTURE

A Sincere Thank You to the Sheboygan Community

The Sheboygan Area School District (SASD) has a long history of fiscal responsibility and has taken excellent care of our school facilities.

We extend our heartfelt appreciation to the Sheboygan community for your support of the \$121 million November 2024 referendum to rebuild and remodel Farnsworth and Urban Middle Schools, which were built in the 1930s and require extensive repairs and upgrades.

With 65% of voters in favor, this outcome reflects a strong and shared commitment to the future of public education in our community. Your support ensures that our middle schools will be safe, modern, and equipped to serve generations of students for the next century.



Rendering of the new entrance to Farnsworth Middle School, located on S. 10th Street



Rendering of exterior of the cafeteria, facing Union Ave.



Rendering of the new entrance to Urban Middle School, located on N. 13th Street, which includes a new parking lot and parent drop-off area.



Rendering of the original entrance to Urban Middle School, located on North Ave., maintaining the historical facade.