



State of the District **ANNUAL REPORT** 2024-25



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STRATEGIC PLAN

VISION

Detroit Lakes Public Schools:
charting a course for
excellence.

MISSION

The mission of the Detroit
Lakes Public Schools is to fill
all of our sails with Laker
PRIDE.

Guiding Principles: Laker PRIDE

Purpose **R**elationships **I**nnovation **D**evelopment **E**quity

PURPOSE

Deliver educational Excellence.



Relationships

the ways we connect and
behave toward each other

Care and communicate positively and respectfully within
and across our schools and community.



Innovation

the creation, development, and
implementation of a new idea
or concept to enhance
educational opportunities

Embrace creativity and critical thinking.

- Renew and bring up to date all systems and practices
- Utilize growth mindset to hone existing intentions/objectives and explore new ideas
- Support diverse ways of thinking and doing
- Embed equity continually in every facet of our work



Development

a process that creates growth,
progress, positive change or the
addition of physical, economic,
environmental, social and
demographic components

Foster the academic, social, emotional, and cultural needs of all
learners.

- Implement and sustain PBIS at all levels
- Hone our support for social/emotional health
- Further learning and implementation of equitable feedback, assessment, grading, and reporting
- Provide professional development that supports PRIDE



Equity

the quality of being fair (not
equal) and impartial

Ensure that our values, policies, and practices are equitable for
our students, staff, and community.

- Clarify and support understanding of equity vs. equality for all
- Actively promote equity (institutional, personal, and instructional)
- Remove systemic barriers
- Accommodate different learning styles
- Give students a voice

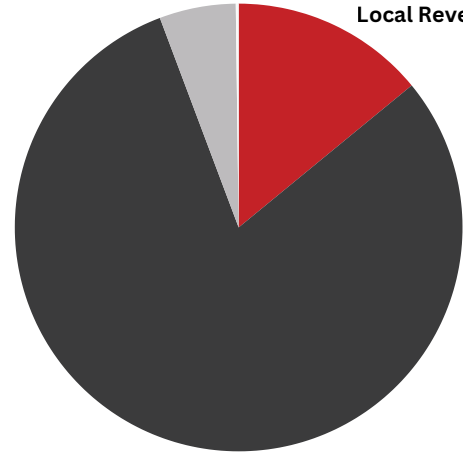
FINANCE

2024-25 GENERAL FUND REVENUE BY MAJOR SOURCE

Local Revenues	\$6,140,865	14.1%
State Revenues	\$35,036,138	80.2%
Federal Revenues	\$2,410,000	5.5%
Other Revenues	\$90,000.00	0.2%
Total Revenues	\$43,677,003	

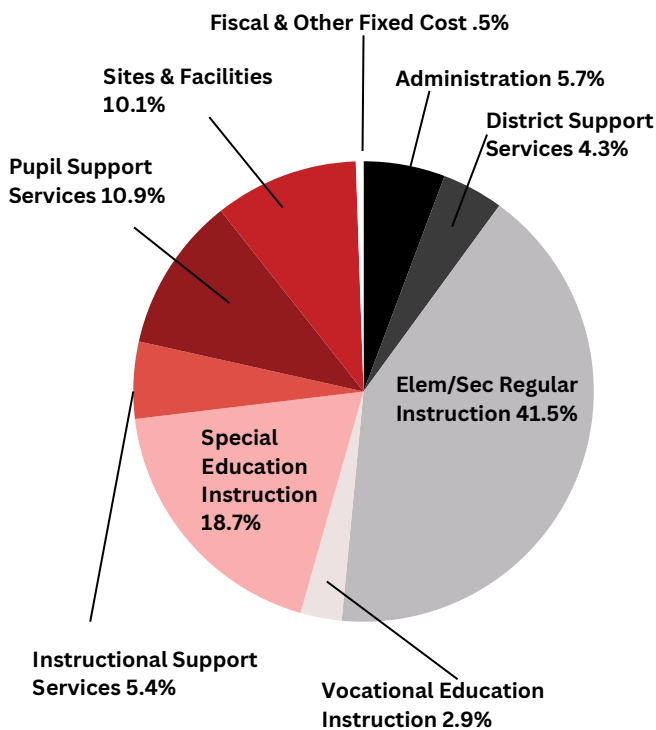
Federal Revenues 5.5 %

Local Revenues 14.1 %



State Revenues 80.2 %

2024-25 GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES BY PROGRAM



Administration	\$2,495,642	5.7%
District Support Services	\$1,881,110	4.3%
Elem/Sec Regular Instruction	\$18,078,812	41.5%
Vocational Education Instruction	\$1,265,843	2.9%
Special Education Instruction	\$8,140,171	18.7%
Instructional Support Services	\$2,353,918	5.4%
Pupil Support Services	\$4,737,175	10.9%
Sites & Facilities	\$4,402,800	10.1%
Fiscal & Other Fixed Cost	\$235,000	0.5%

Total Expenditures \$43,590,471

2024-25 General Fund Revenues - \$43,677,003
 2024-25 General Fund Expenditures - \$43,590,471

COMMUNITY EDUCATION



EARLY CHILDHOOD AND FAMILY EDUCATION (ECFE)

37 Classes

670 Students



LITTLE LAKER PRESCHOOL

8 Classes

93 Students



ENRICHMENT FOR YOUTH & ADULT

71 Classes

451 Students

- Added Esports for Middle School and High School



DRIVERS EDUCATION

2 Classes

167 Students



ADULT BASIC EDUCATION

47 Classes

578 Enrollees
258 Participants

12 Sites and Online

Participant = 12+ hours of attendance



This program was formerly known as LatchKey. The sites are located at Rossman and Roosevelt.

2024 SUMMER:

69 Students

24-25 SCHOOL YEAR:

110 Students

FACILITIES



ROOSEVELT ELEMENTARY

CONSTRUCTED: 1990
SQUARE FEET: 112,690
REMODELED: 2021



ROSSMAN ELEMENTARY

CONSTRUCTED: 1951
SQUARE FEET: 91,765
REMODELED: 2020



DETROIT LAKES MIDDLE SCHOOL

CONSTRUCTED: 1977
SQUARE FEET: 156,246
REMODELED: 2021



DETROIT LAKES HIGH SCHOOL

CONSTRUCTED: 1957
SQUARE FEET: 249,803
REMODELED: 2022



AREA LEARNING CENTER

CONSTRUCTED: 2014
SQUARE FEET: 14,263



LAKER TRANSITIONS

CONSTRUCTED: 2021
SQUARE FEET: 9,417



DISTRICT OFFICE

CONSTRUCTED: 1934
SQUARE FEET: 8,696

STUDENTS

TOTAL STUDENTS

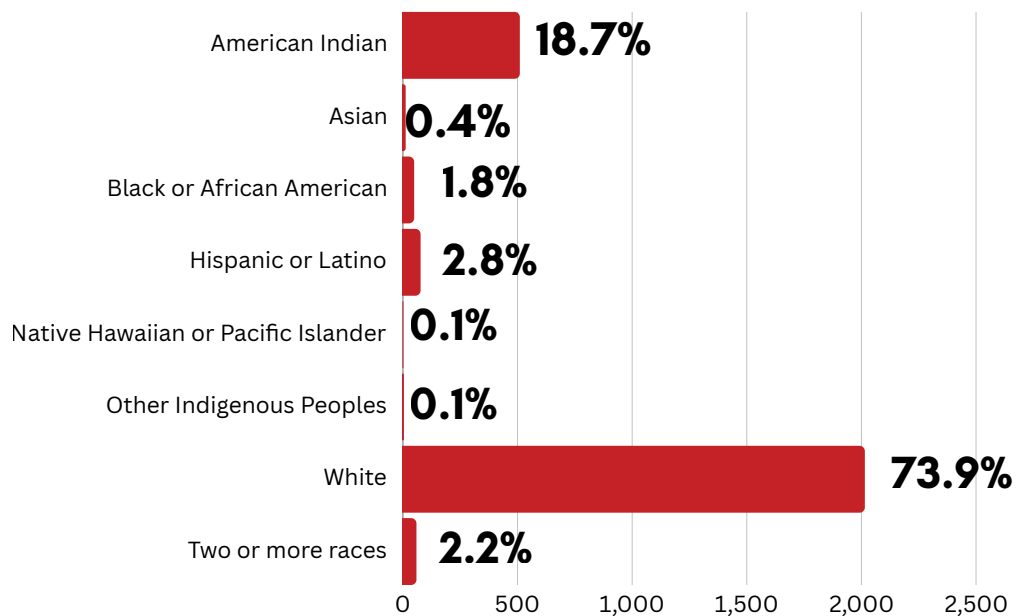
2,728

DLHS GRADUATION RATE

89.3

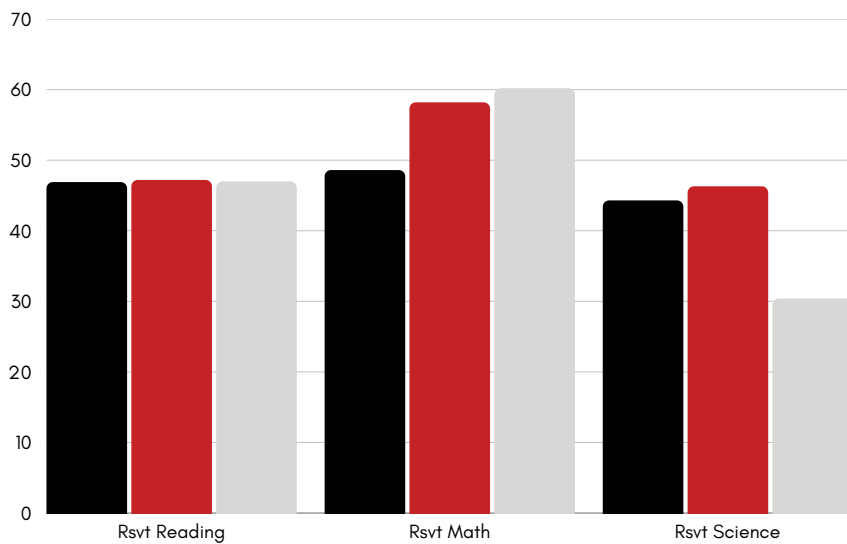
STATE GRADUATION RATE: 83.3%

ENGLISH LEARNERS	.6%
SPECIAL EDUCATION	23%
HOMELESS	2.4%
FREE/REDUCED MEAL PRICES	37.1%



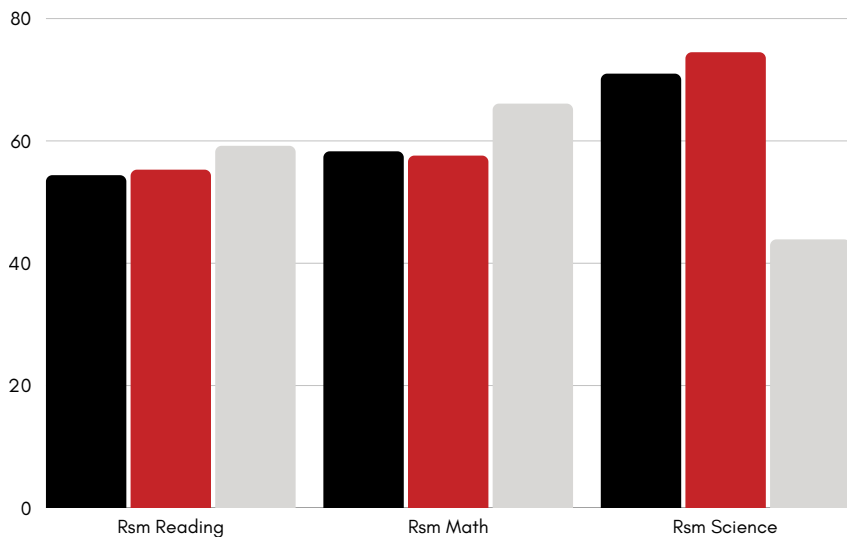
ACHIEVEMENT

ROOSEVELT ELEMENTARY



	2023	2024	2025
Rsvt Reading	46.9	47.2	47.0
Rsvt Math	48.6	58.2	60.2
Rsvt Science	46.3	50	30.4

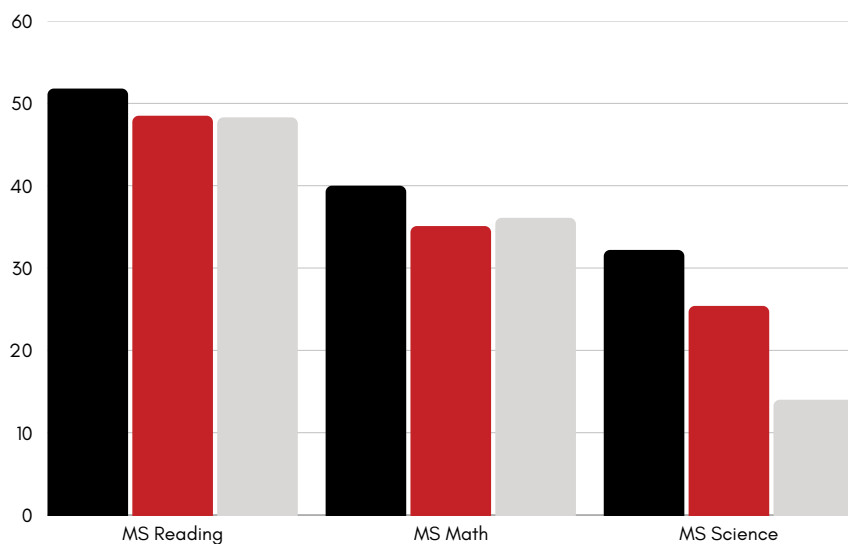
ROSSMAN ELEMENTARY



	2023	2024	2025
Rsm Reading	54.4	55.3	59.2
Rsm Math	58.3	57.6	66.1
Rsm Science	71	74.5	43.9

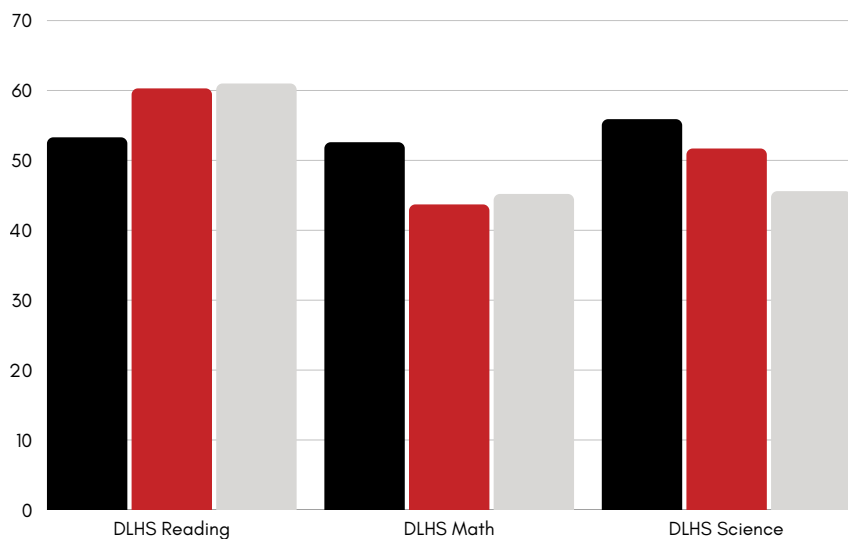
ACHIEVEMENT

DETROIT LAKES MIDDLE SCHOOL



	2023	2024	2025
MS Reading	51.8	48.5	48.3
MS Math	40.0	35.1	36.1
MS Science	32.2	25.4	14

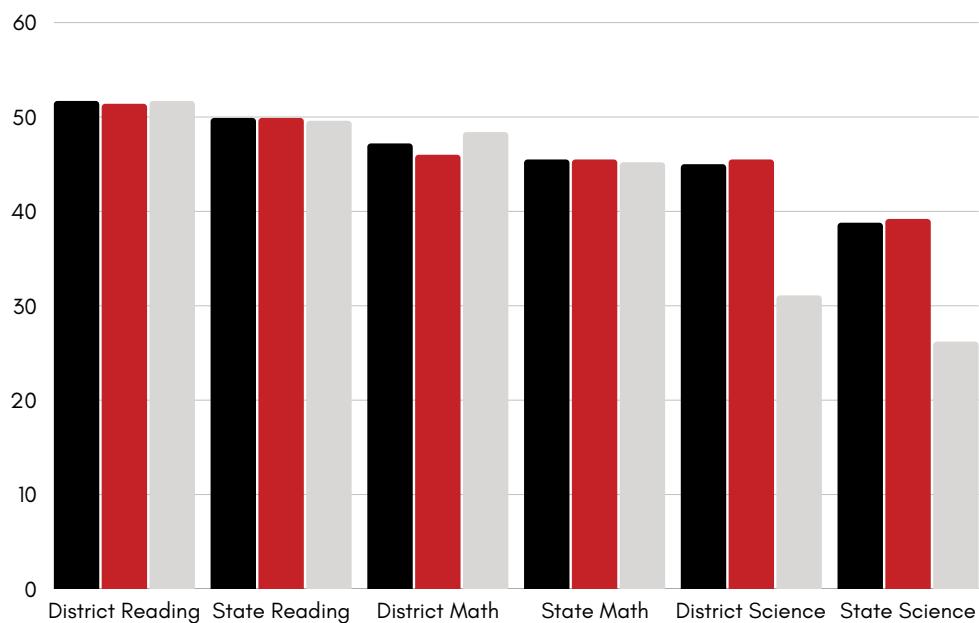
DETROIT LAKES HIGH SCHOOL



	2023	2024	2025
DLHS Reading	53.3	60.3	61.0
DLHS Math	52.6	43.7	45.2
DLHS Science	55.9	51.7	45.6

ACHIEVEMENT

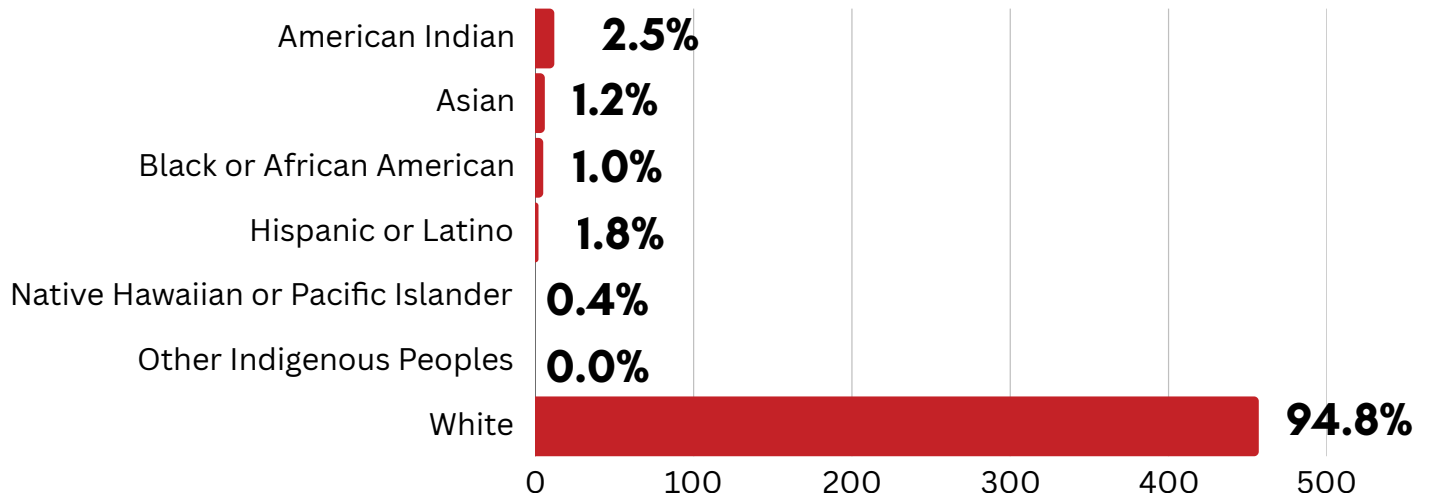
DETROIT LAKES PUBLIC SCHOOLS - DISTRICTWIDE



	2023	2024	2025
District Reading	51.7	51.4	51.7
State Reading	49.9	49.9	49.6
District Math	47.2	46	48.4
State Math	45.5	45.5	45.2
District Science	45	45.5	31.1
State Science	38.8	39.2	26.2

STAFF

STAFF: 482



ROOSEVELT ELEMENTARY

CERTIFIED TEACHERS: 50

FULL-TIME COUNSELORS: 1

ROSSMAN ELEMENTARY

CERTIFIED TEACHERS: 47

FULL-TIME COUNSELORS: 1

DETROIT LAKES MIDDLE SCHOOL

CERTIFIED TEACHERS: 45

FULL-TIME COUNSELORS: 2

DETROIT LAKES HIGH SCHOOL

CERTIFIED TEACHERS: 55

FULL-TIME COUNSELORS: 3

AREA LEARNING CENTER

CERTIFIED TEACHERS: 7

FULL-TIME COUNSELORS: 1

LAKER TRANSITIONS

CERTIFIED TEACHERS: 12

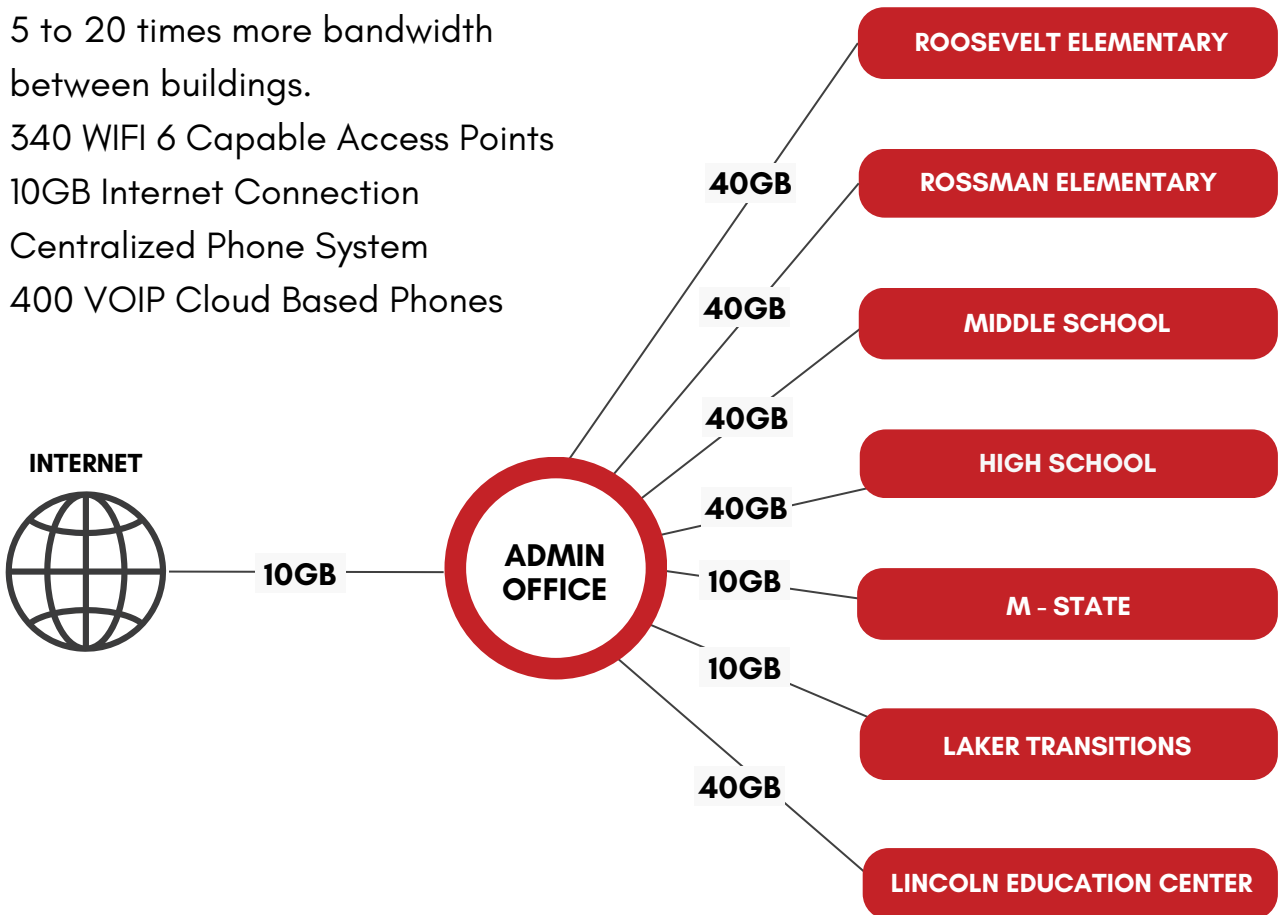
COMMUNITY EDUCATION

SCHOOL READINESS: 4

TECHNOLOGY

NETWORK INFRASTRUCTURE UPDATE 2022-23

- 5 to 20 times more bandwidth between buildings.
- 340 WIFI 6 Capable Access Points
- 10GB Internet Connection
- Centralized Phone System
- 400 VOIP Cloud Based Phones



DIGITAL CLASSROOM DISPLAYS

183 Under 2 Years Old
Replacing 10+ Year Old Displays

STAFF & STUDENT DEVICES

Over 3,000 Wireless Devices



ACTIVITIES

LAKER ACTIVITIES

BUILDING CHAMPIONS IN LIFE

Laker activities strive to develop young adults who are respectful, responsible committed teammates.

Detroit Lakes Public Schools is committed to making extracurricular activities available and accessible, our activities fees are historically some of the lowest in the state.

DETROIT LAKES HIGH SCHOOL

Detroit Lakes High School (DLHS) had 79.6% of our students participate in one or more activity during the 2024-25 school year. DLHS is proud to offer over 50 activities for our students to participate in. This includes Fine Arts, Athletics, and Clubs/Organizations.

79.6% DLHS STUDENTS PARTICIPATED ONE OR MORE ACTIVITY

DETROIT LAKES MIDDLE SCHOOL

Detroit Lakes Middle School students are active and involved in the 2024-25 school year 77.3 percent of our students in grades 7 & 8 participated in one or more sport at the middle school level. Coupled with our strong fine arts programs and student council we are well in excess of 85 percent of our students participating in at least one activity with most doing multiple. We are proud of our outstanding participation numbers and specifically, the large number of students who participate in multiple activities throughout the year. DLMS strives to have as many students as possible involved and participating.

80% DLMS STUDENTS PARTICIPATED ONE OR MORE ACTIVITY

DLHS AND DLMS MSHSL ATHLETIC ACTIVITIES

Adapted Bowling 1A	Hockey 8A (B-G)
Alpine Skiing 5A	Nordic Skiing 8A (B-G)
Baseball 8AAA	Robotics 1A
Basketball 8AAA (B-G)	Soccer 8AA (B-G)
Cheer 1A	Softball 8AAA
Cross Country 8AA (B-G)	Swimming 5A (G 8A) (B-G)
Danceline 4AA	Tennis 8AA (B-G)
Field & Track 8AA (B-G)	Trapshooting 1A
Football 8AAAA	Volleyball SAAA
Golf 8AAA (B-G)	Wrestling 8AA
Gymnastics 8A	

DLHS MSHSL FINE ARTS ACTIVITIES

Choir 8AA	One Act Play 8AA
Jazz Band 8AA	Speech 8AA

DLHS NON-LEAGUE ACTIVITIES

BPA	National Honor Society
Drum & Dance Team	Native American Club
FFA	Pep Band
Fall Musical	Prom Committee
Knowledge Bowl	Spring Play
Laker Singers	Student Council
Math-Contest	Yearbook

DLHS VOLUNTEER GROUPS

Interact	PaY
Key Club	Sidekicks'
Link Crew	Targét

DLMS FINE ARTS

Band	Fall Musical
Choir	Speech
Drama	

DLMS ACTIVITIES

Drum & Dance Team	Student Council
Math-Contest	

ROOSEVELT ELEMENTARY

Roosevelt Elementary School serves approximately 580 students in Kindergarten through 5th grade. The building has undergone several additions and remodels through the years, with the largest being completed in 2021. It included updated areas including a gymnasium, office, health office, several classrooms, and cafeteria.

Roosevelt's school day begins at 8:15 am with morning announcements and is followed by morning meetings in each classroom. Academic instruction continues throughout the day and concludes at 3:25 pm.

Roosevelt provides students with a caring and supportive learning environment that enables them to achieve success in academic knowledge and social/emotional growth. Core instruction includes reading and mathematics, along with science, social studies, health, physical education, music, and art. Instruction is combined with differentiated intervention programming. Interventions include STEAM-based and art opportunities, math and reading support, special education programming, and after-school extension programming.

Roosevelt Elementary staff understand that fostering a positive school and classroom climate by building trusting relationships with students is essential. Universal practices include a trauma-informed approach when providing behavioral assistance. PBIS framework (Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports) has been fully implemented and it aligns with the school building goals, academic instruction, student management and professional development.

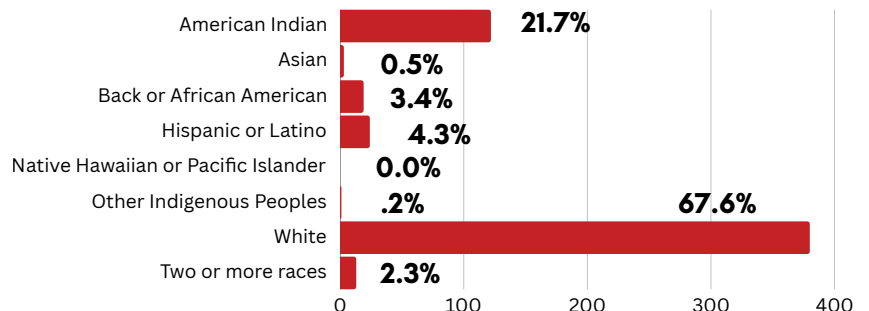


ADMINISTRATION: Trisha Mariotti, Principal
tmariotti@detlakes.k12.mn.us

STUDENTS

GRADES K-5: 565 students

ENGLISH LEARNERS	.9%
SPECIAL EDUCATION	26.3%
HOMELESS	3.4%
FREE/REDUCED MEAL PRICES	48.4%



510 11th Ave
Detroit Lakes, MN 56501



(218) 847-1106



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ROSSMAN ELEMENTARY

Rossman Elementary is located conveniently two blocks from the lake on Rossman Avenue. The building was originally constructed in the 1950's and underwent a major renovation in 2019. Improvements included a new front office, several new classrooms, a new Kindergarten wing, new cafeteria, commons, media center, music, art space, and a beautiful new gymnasium.

Rossman Elementary serves students K-5 and provides balanced academic programming to meet the unique needs of every learner. Core academics instruction includes reading, math, science, social studies, physical education, music, art, and STEAM. Intervention services and programming support the varied student needs academically, socially/emotionally, and behaviorally.

The Rossman school community cultivates positive relationships, mutual respect, and responsibility and ownership of actions and behaviors within a safe and caring learning environment. The Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports (PBIS) framework used at Rossman Elementary focuses on three expectations: Kind, Safe, Ready. The teaching, modeling, and promoting of PBIS expectations directly connects to our building goals, academic instruction, student management practices, and professional development focus.

Student progress reports are shared with parents at the end of each trimester. Growth and performance are monitored through various measures to ensure each student is making progress and working toward grade-level standards.

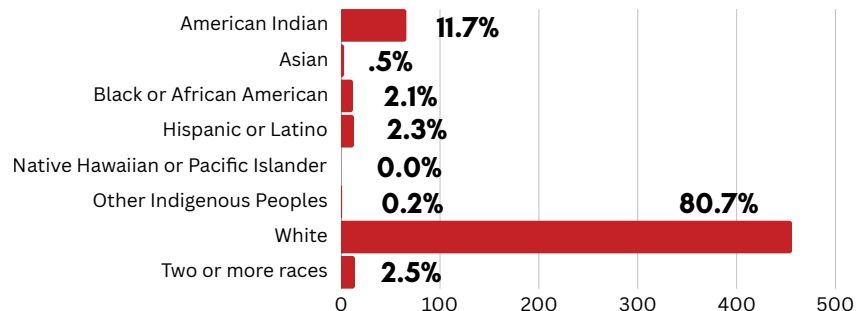


ADMINISTRATION: Emily Sternberg, Principal
esternberg@detlakes.k12.mn.us

STUDENTS

GRADES K-5: 546 students

ENGLISH LEARNERS	0.5%
SPECIAL EDUCATION	23.4%
HOMELESS	1.4%
FREE/REDUCED MEAL PRICES	33.1%



11221 Rossman Ave
Detroit Lakes, MN 56501



(218) 847-9268



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DETROIT LAKES MIDDLE SCHOOL

Detroit Lakes Middle School is a 154,000 square foot building built in 1979 and houses approximately 610 students in grades 6-8. A major remodel was completed at the end of the 2020-2021 school year, with almost every area being rejuvenated.

The Middle School day begins at 8:20 with a 24 minute Primetime(advisor/advisee) period. The day ends at 3:30.

Students are assigned to one of three learning teams at the 6th grade level. At the 7th & 8th grade level, there is one 7th grade team, one 8th grade team, and one 7th/8th grade combination team.

Language arts, mathematics, science, and social studies are taught as year-long courses at all three grade levels. Art, Healthy Living, or Technology Applications teachers rotate between the grade level teams on a trimester (12-week) rotation. All students have physical education every day. Students can choose to be in band and choir and, if not in either of these, will have reading exploration as 6th graders or industrial technology as 7th and 8th graders.

The Middle School uses trimester (12 week) grading periods with progress reports going home at midterm of each trimester for 7th and 8th grade students. The Middle School also utilizes standards-based grading based on a four-point mastery scale with "4" being Exemplary, "3" being Meets Standard, "2" being Partially Meets Standard, and "1" being "Does Not Meet Standard." A value of "0" stands for No Evidence of mastery.

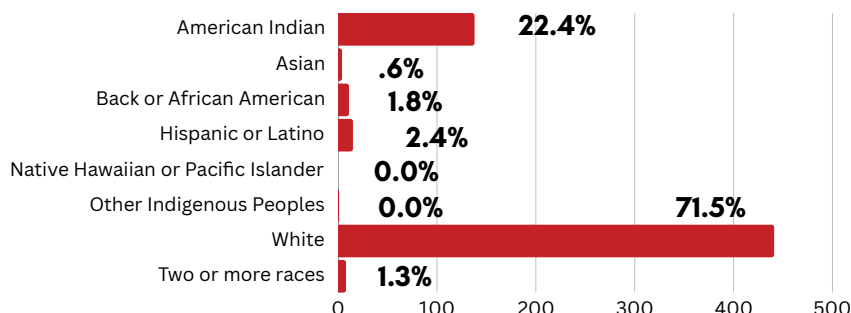


ADMINISTRATION: Mike Suckert, Principal
msuckert@detlakes.k12.mn.us

STUDENTS

GRADES 6-8: 601 students

ENGLISH LEARNERS	0.8%
SPECIAL EDUCATION	18.8%
HOMELESS	1.3%
FREE/REDUCED MEAL PRICES	32.2%



500 11th Ave
Detroit Lakes, MN 56501



(218) 847-9228



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DETROIT LAKES HIGH SCHOOL

Detroit Lakes High School (DLHS) is a 263,220-square-foot building built in 1957 that houses approximately 851 students in grades 9-12. A major remodel was completed between the 2020-22 school years. New additions completed include a Freshman Wing, a new Field House, Family and Consumer Science and Art rooms, and a Commons area. Renovations were completed in the CTE wing, main academic area, and weight room.

DLHS employs a seven-period modified block schedule. Students attend 7, 50-minute periods three days during the week and four odd/even block periods that are 90 minutes each on Wednesday and Thursday. This also includes Academic Intervention time (AIT) that is built into the school day on three days each week. The academic calendar is divided into semesters, ensuring a comprehensive and structured learning experience.

DLHS offers rigorous college preparatory academic coursework in mathematics, language arts, social studies, and science, in addition to a multitude of opportunities in physical education, art, music, CTE, and pathway courses that are tied directly to over 90 business and community partners. Students also embark on a journey of work-based learning from their freshman year through their senior year. This encompasses a wide spectrum of experiences, including career fairs, job shadowing, mock interviews, guest lectures, industry-focused field trips, and immersive internships. DLHS also offers advanced coursework opportunities in multiple academic areas including Concurrent Enrollment (CE), Advanced Placement (AP), and Post Secondary Enrollment Options (PSEO). Over 79.6% of our students participate in athletics, activities, and fine arts programs each year.



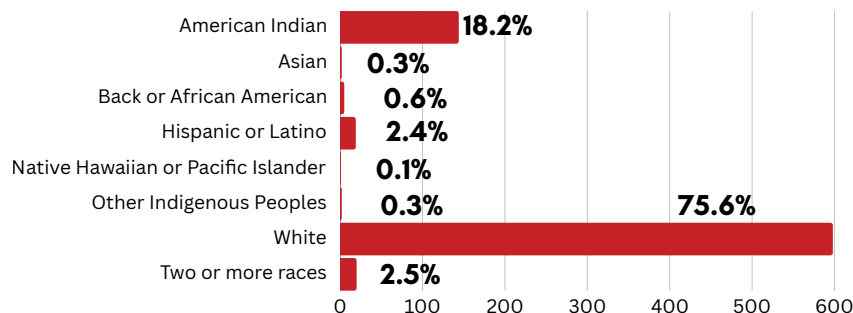
ADMINISTRATION: Jill Walter, Principal
jwalter@detlakes.k12.mn.us

STUDENTS

GRADES 9-12: 770 students

GRAD RATE: 89.3%

ENGLISH LEARNERS	1.2%
SPECIAL EDUCATION	17.3%
HOMELESS	2.8%
FREE/REDUCED MEAL PRICES	37.7%



1301 Roosevelt Ave
Detroit Lakes, MN 56501



(218) 847-4491



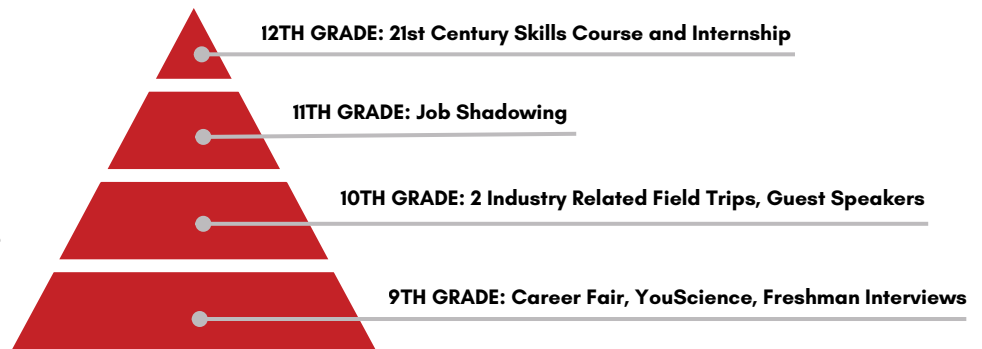
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DETROIT LAKES HIGH SCHOOL



ACADEMIES OF DETROIT LAKES HIGH SCHOOL

At the heart of our educational model is a unique academy structure centered around five distinct pathways: Business/Entrepreneurship, Information Technology, Production, Health Science, and Human Service. These pathways empower students to delve into areas of interest, fostering a sense of purpose and equipping them with valuable skills for success in the 21st century.



Each academy course has three components: 1. Industry aligned content, 2. Work-based learning activities, and 3. Guest speakers or teachers. More than 90 business and community partners provide authentic learning experiences for students at DLHS. In addition, many of these partners serve on academy advisory boards ensuring that curriculum meets industry standards and helping to develop experiential learning opportunities within our pathways. As noted in the graphic above, each grade level participates in different work-based learning activities throughout the academy experience.



HUMAN SERVICES



HEALTH SCIENCES



PRODUCTION



INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY



BUSINESS & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Human Services: The Human Service Pathway at DLHS offers a unique opportunity for students interested in Early Childhood Development, Education, and Culinary arts. Students work on real-life culinary projects, are able to earn a CDA certification and gain college credit for Introduction to Teaching through MSUM.

Health Sciences: 60 Students received their OSHA 10 Health Certification this year. Additionally, students completed certifications in Anatomy and Physiology and Clinical/Lab Procedures in our Health Science pathway courses this year.

Production: The Production Pathway at DLHS offers students a unique opportunity to gain hands-on experience and skills in engineering design, manufacturing, building trades, and agriculture. Students are exposed to the Siemens Engineering curriculum, have access to the latest technology, and create impressive projects in wood, vinyl decals, and laser engraving.

Business and Information Technology: The Business and IT pathway at DLHS offers students a comprehensive education in business and technology fields, preparing them for various career opportunities. Students apply skills learned in this pathway to compete in Business Professionals of America and create real-world projects using text, symbols, and digital imagery. Students have various internship options available to them in this pathway, providing valuable exposure to real-world business and IT environments.

AREA LEARNING CENTER

Detroit Lakes Area Learning Center (DLALC) first opened its doors September 4th, 2001. In 2015, the ALC acquired approximately 7,360 square feet of space from M State to use for the many programs that the ALC offers.

The DLALC approach to students and families is singular, strategic, and with one fundamental purpose: Identify what is getting in the way of a student being successful academically or socially and create interventions based on the findings to support growth. The DLALC was created to support multiple needs that include chemical and mental health issues, attendance, pregnant and parenting teen needs, credit recovery, regional afterschool programming (K-12), and regional summer school (K-12). Detroit Lakes is home to one of six Recovery Schools in the state of Minnesota. It serves students who have successfully completed or are currently in an in or out-patient treatment program and have a sincere desire for a clean and sober lifestyle.

The DLALC begins the day at 8:15 and ends the day at 3:30 with seven 50 minute class periods. There is also a 30 minute advisory and a 25 minute skills class mixed in throughout the day. We have one additional period after school that runs from 3:30 until 4:30 that accommodates our credit recovery program. Classes are broken up into quarters throughout the year to make sure we are accommodating the needs of our students. DLALC serves approximately 60 students face to face but attendance fluctuates throughout the year.



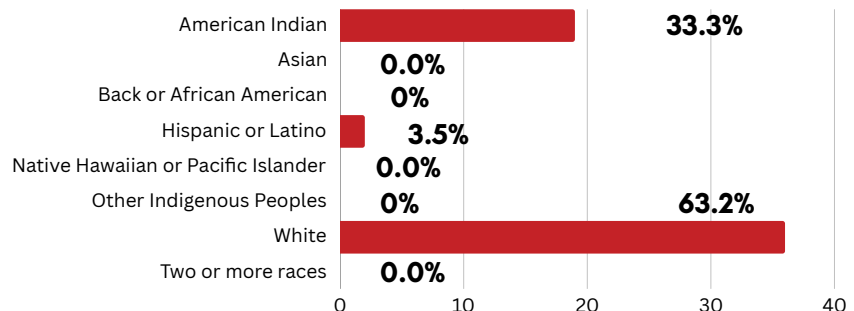
ADMINISTRATION: Brandon Schlenner, Principal
bschlenner@detlakes.k12.mn.us

STUDENTS

GRADES 9-12: 45 students

GRAD RATE: 61.5%

ENGLISH LEARNERS	0.0%
SPECIAL EDUCATION	12.3%
HOMELESS	7.0%
FREE/REDUCED MEAL PRICES	54.4%



900 MN-34
Detroit Lakes, MN 56501



(218) 844-5687



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LAKER TRANSITIONS

Laker Transitions is a program designed to assist adult-aged students with disabilities learn employment and independent living skills, along with facilitating post-secondary education and training opportunities. Students will learn about and be able to access community agencies that will support transition goals. Students learn skills encouraging them to be involved members in the community while accessing their greatest level of independence in employment, daily living, post-secondary education and training, community participation, and recreation/leisure.

Project LIFE

Project LIFE is a comprehensive transition program that combines classroom and life skill education with authentic work experiences to prepare students with disabilities for a self-determined future. Paired with Project SEARCH® as a final year, employment outcomes are well above the national average for persons with disabilities. Project LIFE provides two levels of a transition-focused course of study. Classroom instruction for both levels develops skills for future employment, daily living, participation in the community, self-determination, social communication, personal financial literacy, and basic and safe use of technology.

Project SEARCH

Project SEARCH is a nine-month post high school transition program that provides training and education leading to employment for individuals with disabilities. It is a collaboration between interns, families and guardians, Essentia Health, Detroit Lakes School District, Becker County, and Vocational Rehabilitation Services. Interns are immersed in the workplace and participate in three internships to explore career options while learning transferable job skills. The ultimate goal upon completion of the Project SEARCH program is competitive, integrated employment.



ADMINISTRATION: Karen Nudell, Director of Special Education
knudell@detlakes.k12.mn.us

FACILITATOR: Wendy Fritz, Transition Facilitator
wfritz@detlakes.k12.mn.us

Laker Trek

Laker Trek is a multi-year transition program designed to support students with higher needs who receive special education services and have completed their senior year of high school. The program focuses on vocational and independent living skills with the end goal being successful transition to life after public education.

PAES LAB: PRACTICAL ASSESSMENT EXPLORATION SYSTEM

The PAES Lab is a hands-on assessment of employment potential. Participants clock in and go to work exploring nearly 300 jobs in five career areas (Computer/Technology, Construction/Industrial, Processing/Production, Consumer/Service, Business/Marketing) that are based upon typical skills found at community-based job sites. Participants find out what job skills they are good at and what job skills they like to do.

STUDENTS

ADULT AGED 18-21: 17 students

PAES LAB: 40-50 students



1104 West River Road
Detroit Lakes, MN 56501



(218) 844-4760



[dlschools.net/schools/
laker-transitions](https://dlschools.net/schools/laker-transitions)

ADMINISTRATION

MEET the SCHOOL BOARD



John Steffl
Chairperson



Mary Rotter
Vice Chairperson



Julie Smith-Yliniemi
Clerk



Michelle Okeson
Treasurer



Michael Walther
Director



Sanford Nelson
Director

MEET the DISTRICT CABINET



Mark Jenson
Superintendent



Kylie Johnson
Human Resources Director



Renee Kerzman
*Director of Curriculum,
Instruction, and Technology*



Jason Kuehn
*Director of Finance and
Operations*



Katrena Lende
*Executive Assistant to
the Superintendent*



Karen Nudell
*Special Education
Director*