



West – A Tradition of Excellence

mmsd.org    

Welcome to the West Attendance area in the Madison Metropolitan School District

The West attendance area is home to a thriving, family-friendly community that offers a unique blend of suburban charm and proximity to downtown Madison. This area is known for its vibrant atmosphere, intellectual energy and strong sense of community. Families enjoy easy access to local parks, quaint shops and opportunities for outdoor recreation. The world-renowned University of Wisconsin-Madison is also within the West attendance boundaries, providing unparalleled access to academic resources, extracurricular opportunities and a wealth of cultural and educational events. Our schools are among the best in the state, with top-ranked elementary schools like Shorewood Hills, Randall and Van Hise, and secondary schools like Hamilton Middle School and West High School. West High School, ranked one of the best in Wisconsin, continues to uphold a strong reputation for academic excellence and offers a dynamic school spirit that unites students and families alike. Together, we are nurturing the next generation of leaders in a neighborhood that values education, community and connection.

Learn.

The West attendance area offers an engaging learning environment, and a new middle school building set to open in the coming years. Additionally, the recently renovated high school is expanding opportunities across the arts, sciences, technology and co-curricular activities, helping students discover their interests and reach their full potential.

Belong.

Shorewood Elementary's International Week fosters belonging by celebrating the school's diverse community, where nearly 40 languages are spoken. Through activities and performances, food fair and a global village, students and families connect and learn from one another. It's an environment where all feel valued.

Thrive.

Madison West High School's Mock Trial team recently won the State Championship, highlighting the opportunity for students to thrive in competitive legal advocacy. Through developing legal knowledge, public speaking skills and composure under pressure, students are prepared for success in various fields; they demonstrate the value of their educational experiences.



Shorewood Hills, Van Hise and Randall Elementary Schools Among the Top-Ranked in Wisconsin

U.S. News & World Report

DLI - Dual Language Immersion Program

West Attendance Area Elementary Schools:

- 1 Franklin Elementary**
Grades: **4K - 2nd Grade**
Enrollment: **309**
Programs Offered: Half-Day 4K
- 2 Leopold Elementary**
Grades: **4K - 5th Grade**
Enrollment: **597**
Programs Offered: Full-Day 4K, Half-Day 4K, Spanish for Native Speakers 4K, Community School, DLI
- 3 Lincoln Elementary**
Grades: **3rd - 5th Grade**
Enrollment: **355**
Programs Offered: Half-Day 4K, Full-Day 4K, DLI
- 4 Midvale Elementary**
Grades: **K - 2nd Grade**
Enrollment: **341**
Programs Offered: Half-Day 4K, Full-Day 4K, Community School, DLI
- 5 Randall Elementary**
Grades: **3rd - 5th Grade**
Enrollment: **311**
- 6 Shorewood Hills Elementary**
Grades: **4K - 5th Grade**
Enrollment: **368**
Programs Offered: Half-Day 4K
- 7 Thoreau Elementary**
Grades: **4K - 5th Grade**
Enrollment: **399**
Programs Offered: Half-Day 4K
- 8 Van Hise Elementary**
Grades: **K - 5th Grade**
Enrollment: **396**

West Attendance Area Middle Schools:

MMSD middle schools offer a variety of clubs based on student interest, including academics, arts, music, drama, sports and more. After-school team sports, such as cross country, volleyball, soccer, basketball, flag football and ultimate frisbee, are also available. Competition is among MMSD middle schools.

- 9 Cherokee Heights Middle**
Grades: **6 - 8th Grade**
Enrollment: **530**
Program Offered: DLI
- 10 Wright Middle**
Magnet School - Admission via application lottery
Grades: **6 - 8th Grade**
Enrollment: **254**
- 11 Hamilton Middle**
Grades: **6 - 8th Grade**
Enrollment: **796**

West Attendance Area High School Options:

MMSD offers a wide range of clubs, organizations and opportunities in music, theater, leadership, career exploration and athletics. Its athletic teams compete in the WIAA Big Eight Conference at the Division 1 level.

- 12 West High**
Grades: **9 - 12th Grade**
Enrollment: **2,245**

Offerings: 21 AP Courses, 8 Dual Enrollment Courses, 14 Honors Courses, Early College Biomedical Academy, Early College Networking & Cybersecurity Academy, Running Start: Personalized Academy, Early College Education Academy, Early College STEM Academy, Start College Now and the Early College Credit Program, Nursing Assistant programs and DLI

District Wide Alternative High Schools:

- 13 Capital High**
Grades: **9 - 12th Grade**
Enrollment: **99**
Offering Standards-aligned curriculum, smaller learning groups and flexible schedules.
- Shabazz City High**
Grades: **9 - 12th Grade**
Enrollment: **102**
Offering a unique educational experience with project-based learning, non-traditional schedules, experiential opportunities and an emphasis on community, skill development and identity exploration.

Stories from the West Attendance Area:



West High, Randall Elementary Club Grows Female Empowerment in Mathematics Exponentially —

Discover how West High students are encouraging the next generation of girls to grow their confidence in math and pursue careers in STEM.



SCAN the QR CODE
to READ MORE



Velma Hamilton Middle School Teacher Hits All the Right Notes

— Margaret Jenks has performed at Carnegie Hall, conducts for the Madison Youth Symphony and coaches music teachers across the country. She recently earned a residency with opera soprano Kiena Williams to create an impactful experience for Hamilton middle schoolers.



SCAN the QR CODE
to READ MORE

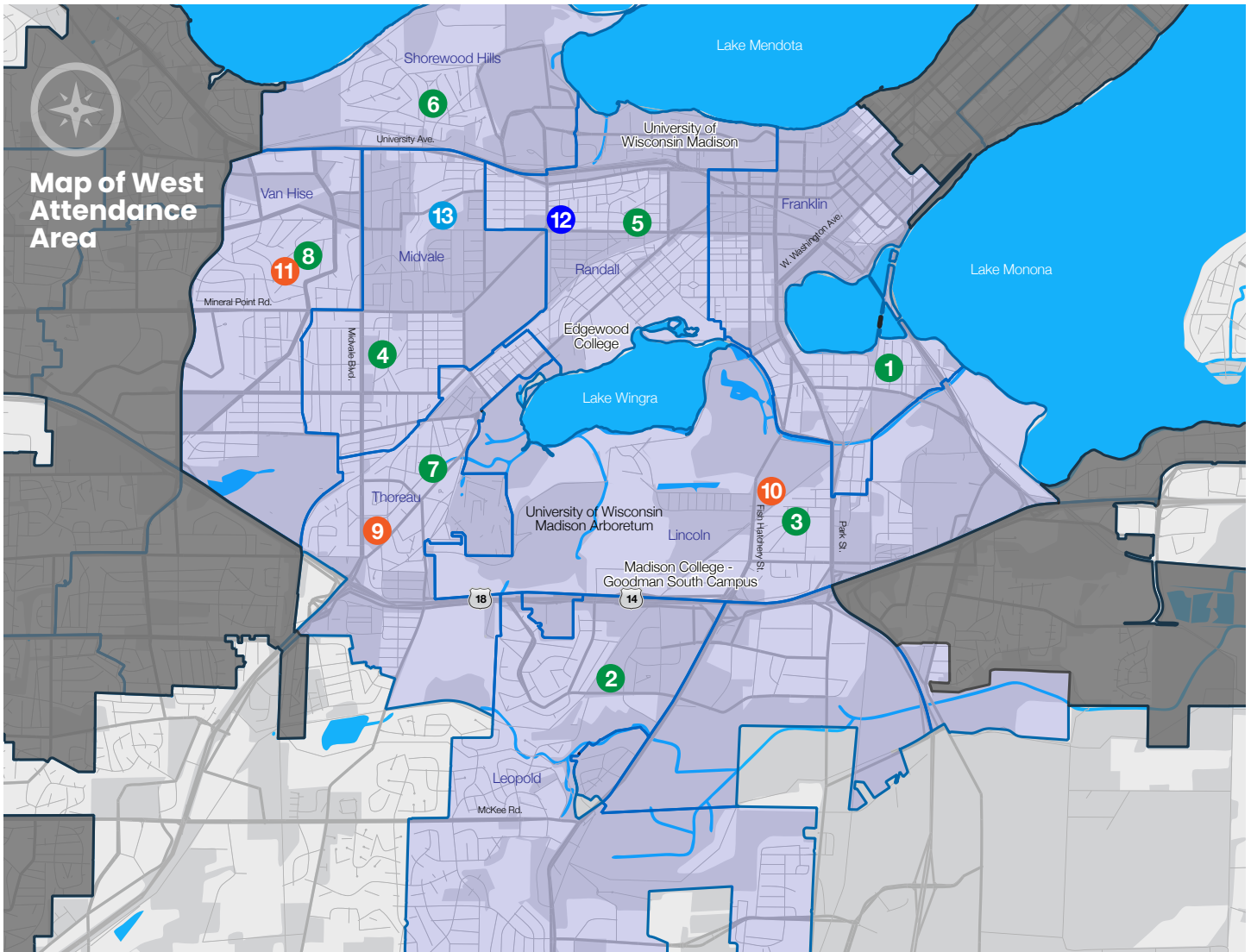


Franklin Students' Kindness Results in Surprise Visit from National News Reporter Steve Hartman

— All year long, second grade students in Cathy Schrage's class had been watching Steve Hartman's 'Kindness 101' videos. Two students' act of kindness earned them a surprise visit from acclaimed journalist Steve Hartman.



SCAN the QR CODE
to READ MORE



"I hope the music we sing helps them to better understand the world around them and how they fit into it."

– Anthony Cao, choir director,
West High School

Building Inclusivity Through Music At West High School — At West High School, the choir program is a space where students of all backgrounds and abilities come together to create music, build friendships and support one another.

A choir director at West High School for 21 years, Anthony Cao is dedicated to providing a welcoming, inclusive environment where every student feels a sense of belonging.

The West Choir program includes three main ensembles: Chorale, typically for ninth and 10th graders; Treble, a medium-level group for treble voices; and Concert, for 11th and 12th graders. Additionally, West offers a Pop Vocal program, which blends grade levels and provides a more flexible, personalized singing experience, allowing students to explore music in a way that suits their strengths and personalities.



**SCAN the QR CODE
to READ MORE**



West High School has more than 393,800 square feet of new additions and renovations thanks to the 2020 Referendum.



Madison Metropolitan School District

(MMSD) is the place where your child will truly thrive. We welcome all children and foster a strong sense of belonging, ensuring every student feels valued and supported.

At MMSD, we believe in exploring a wide range of interests and providing opportunities that help students discover their passions, talents and unique potential. From arts to sciences, technology to sports, there's something for every child to explore and grow!

We're proud to have the support of our community, with newly renovated high schools, a new elementary school and 10 new buildings coming soon. These modern spaces create an environment for future-ready opportunities that will set your child up for success!

District wide:

87%
Graduation Rate

43
National Merit
Scholar
Semifinalists

61% of
students graduate
with some college
credits

5,500
Advanced
Placement Test
Registered 2025

750 Career
and Technical
Concentrators
class of 2022

54%
Co-curricular
participation