



Celebrating Excellence: A Royal Achievement at WM Elementary

Superintendent, Darren Schuler
@DarrenSchuler



It is with great pride that I share some wonderful news for our district: Watertown-Mayer Elementary has been officially recognized as a 2025–26 Minnesota School of Excellence by the Minnesota Elementary School Principals' Association (MESPA).

This prestigious honor is not simply an award; it is a validation of a multi-year journey of self-reflection and growth. To earn this title, our staff, students, and families engaged in a rigorous process of data analysis and peer review, measuring our progress against six national standards of effective schools.

Long before it was a state mandate, our elementary teachers embraced the Science of Reading, establishing Watertown-Mayer as a statewide leader in evidence-based literacy. This commitment ensures that every student builds the strong foundational skills necessary for lifelong success.



Beyond the classroom, this award recognizes the unique partnership we share with our parents. Programs like “Desserts & Data” events exemplify our commitment to transparency, allowing us to work side-by-side with families to support student growth.

This recognition belongs to the students, staff, families, and community. It reflects the tireless dedication of our educators, the hard work of our students, and the unwavering support of our parents and community. Congratulations to everyone at Watertown-Mayer Elementary for this exceptional accomplishment and for truly exemplifying what it means to be a Royal! 🏰



Watertown Mayer
Public Schools

Connections • Opportunities

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Watertown-Mayer Recognizes Leaders in Educational Excellence (LEEA) and Educational Support Staff (ESS)

Every year, Watertown-Mayer recognizes those teachers and educational support staff at a banquet sponsored by Resource Training & Solutions in St. Cloud.

In October, Watertown-Mayer recognized and celebrated three teachers who exemplify outstanding leadership in education. Congratulations to Sarah Ress (ES), Kinsie Stifter (HS), and Jenna Olson (MS).

In November, Watertown-Mayer recognized three educational support staff for their contributions to the district. Congratulations to Ronna Ritter (MS), Ann Nelson (ES), and Joe Berrios (HS - not pictured).

Thank you, teachers and support staff, for all the work you do every day to make Watertown-Mayer such an excellent place to learn & grow! 🏰



LEADERSHIP IN EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

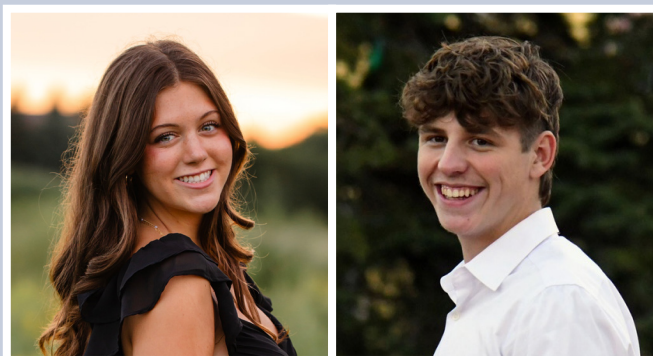


EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT STAFF

#OwnTheCrownWM

WM Triple A & ExCEL Representatives

Each year, two WM Seniors and two WM Juniors are chosen to represent their school.



The WM Senior representatives for the Triple A Award (Academics, Arts, and Athletics) are Eliza Rowan and William Mandt. Both students have a 3.0 GPA or higher and participate in MSHSL sponsored athletic and fine arts activities. Congratulations, Eliza & William!



The WM Junior representatives for the ExCEL Award are Alanah Holmstrom and Evan Jewison. Both are active in school activities, show leadership, and are model citizens! Evan was also named one of the final 34 ExCEL recipients in Minnesota. Congratulations, Alanah & Evan!

Become a Royal Today!

Watertown-Mayer is raising the bar on early learning and laying the groundwork for a lifetime love of learning!

YOUNG ROYALS PRESCHOOL

Voted Carver County's Best Preschool this year, Watertown-Mayer's Young Royals Preschool program is many of our youngest learners' (ages 3-5) first time in a school setting. Located in the Watertown-Mayer Community Learning Center, our preschool program has many class options including an all-day option for 4 and 5 year olds to support our local families' needs. Registration for our award-winning Young Royals Preschool program opened on January 29th!



YOUNG ROYALS
REGISTRATION



KINDERGARTEN ROUNDUP

Voted Carver County's Best Principal, Ms. O'Connell and our Kindergarten program are some of the many reasons why Watertown-Mayer Elementary earned the prestigious honor as a Minnesota School of Excellence!



KINDERGARTEN
ROUNDUP

Watertown-Mayer Elementary provides even our youngest learners the opportunity to explore Allied Arts (STEM, music, and art) along with a robust curriculum of early literacy, math, and science! Our team of highly qualified teachers are laying the foundation for a love of learning and cultivating the caring, safe, problem-solving learners of our future! 

7th Annual

2026

**BOOSTER
BASH**

*** FLANNEL FORMAL ***

Sponsored by the WM Royal Booster Club

Save the Date:
Saturday, March 21, 2026

5-8 pm ~ Live Auction Following
Neaton Brothers Erosion Shed



Mark your calendar for WM High School Theater's presentation of 'Little Women'!

Join us at WM Performing Arts Center
April 9-11, 2026.

Little Women

Adapted by Thomas Hirschak.
Based on the book by Louisa May Alcott.



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POSTAL CUSTOMER

2028 Strategic Plan Vision Statement: At Watertown-Mayer Public Schools, we create environments where all students feel connected and experience opportunities to grow and thrive.

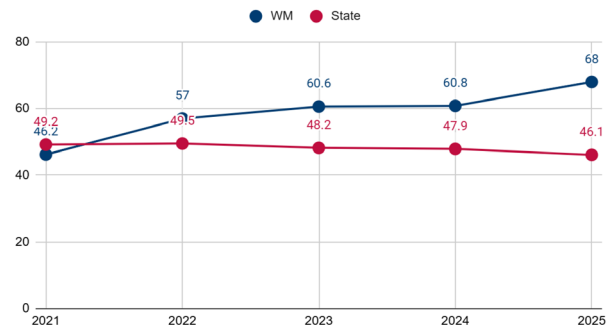
The Watertown-Mayer Difference!

Watertown-Mayer is a testament to what happens when dedicated educators unite with a common purpose of improving student outcomes. The 2025-2026 school year stands out as a landmark chapter for our district. Thanks to the tireless efforts of our staff, student achievement in many areas has not only returned to pre-pandemic levels but has begun to surpass them.

Out of all the districts and charter schools in Minnesota, Watertown-Mayer's MCA math scores were in the top 7% and specifically, our 5th grade MCA math scores were in the top 8 in the state! MCA reading was similar with Watertown-Mayer's MCA reading in the top 10% and specifically, our 4th grade MCA reading in the top 5% in the state!

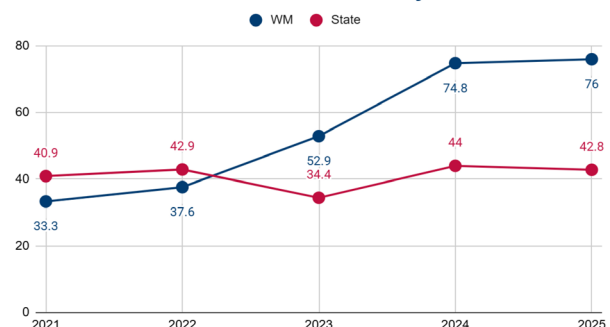
Thank you to our educators, students, and families for making the "Watertown-Mayer Difference" a reality! 🏰

Grade 4 Reading MCA Proficiency Rates



WM POSTED A NEARLY 22 POINT INCREASE IN THE LAST 5 YEARS

Grade 5 MCA Math Proficiency Rates



WM POSTED A NEARLY 33 POINT INCREASE IN THE LAST 5 YEARS