



Royal Roundup

Investing in Our Future: District-Wide Facility Update

Superintendent, Darren Schuler
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As we close the 2025–2026 school year, I want to express my sincere appreciation to our families, staff, and community partners. Your continued collaboration is what allows us to consistently turn connections into incredible opportunities for our students.

one key area for future attention: the geothermal heating and cooling systems at the elementary and middle/high school buildings, which are now approximately 20 years old. Strategic reinvestment in this infrastructure will be crucial to enhance operational performance and improve indoor air quality. Wold Architects has been retained to further evaluate these systems and develop recommendations for our next steps.

One of our strategic commitments at Watertown-Mayer Public Schools is Financial Stewardship—effectively managing our resources to support both our facilities and long-term financial stability. To ensure we are proactively planning, the district recently hired Wold Architects & Engineers to conduct a comprehensive Facility Condition Assessment.

Following collaborative meetings and detailed physical walkthroughs of all district buildings, I am proud to report that our facilities are in very good condition. This rating is a direct reflection of our community's recent, responsible financial support and investment to maintain high-quality, safe, and modern learning environments for our students and staff.

A primary goal of the district-wide facility assessment was to stay ahead of the curve so we can prioritize capital investments wisely. The evaluation highlighted

When our buildings are safe and efficient, our educators can focus entirely on preparing our students to succeed. Thank you for your unwavering partnership, your trust, and your shared commitment to the future of Watertown-Mayer Public Schools! Go Royals! 🏰



Watertown Mayer
Public Schools

Connections • Opportunities

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Watertown-Mayer Elementary – A Minnesota School of Excellence!

The Minnesota School of Excellence program recognizes schools that focus on creating the best possible learning environment and encourages continuous improvement. It takes dedication, teamwork, and a shared commitment to excellence to earn this recognition. WMES has demonstrated ALL of these qualities to earn this distinction!

Recently, WMES celebrated the hard work, heart, and spirit that makes it such an outstanding place to learn and grow! Michelle Krell, Executive Director of MESPA, joined the celebration to proudly present the award to the School of Excellence committee members on behalf of the entire staff, students, and families who made this achievement possible. Go Royals! 🏰



Pictured are the School of Excellence committee members who guided the school through the process and planned the celebration event.
Front row: Jake Rosholt and Principal O'Connell
Back row: Misty Roberts, Angie Hillman, Jamie Renken, Michele Shaw, Katie Brandenburg, and MESPA Executive Director, Michelle Krell.



\$88,500!

Watertown-Mayer Education Foundation is a huge supporter of our outgoing WM Seniors and this year was no exception! Fifty-six current WM Seniors received scholarships totalling \$88,500.00. These scholarships are funded by WMEF's generous scholarship and endowment donors. Thank you, WMEF! 🏰



\$85,000!

Watertown-Mayer Royal Boosters is another huge supporter of our WM Athletics & Activities! The Royal Booster Club strives to give annually to support essential needs beyond the district budget including equipment, displays, and awards! President, Crystal Sundby, and Secretary/Treasurer, April Gesinger, presented this year's check in the amount of \$85,000! Thank you to everyone who supports the Royal Booster Club through sponsorship, concessions, and the annual Booster Bash! 🏰

CELEBRATING THE CLASS OF 2026

Achievements and Plans of the Royal Class of 2026:

- 49% of graduates plan on pursuing a four-year degree in colleges.
- 23% of graduates plan on attending a two-year technical, trade, or community program.
- 25% plan on immediately starting their career.
- 3% plan on joining the military.
- The class features 9 Valedictorians.
- 25 National Honor Society seniors completed over 1,600 community service hours.
- More than 77% of graduates earned college credits before graduation, saving families over \$390,000 via College in the Schools courses, with multiple students earning a year or more of credits.
- The class boasts state and national participants and champions in Wrestling, Gymnastics, Boys Swimming, Mock Trial, Speech, and Business Professionals of America, with several students planning to participate at the collegiate level.
- Over 31% of graduates participated in Work Experience or Mentorship Programs where they experienced on the job experiences to prepare them for life after high school.
- For the Work Experience Program, 5 medical/childcare (CNA, PCA) students worked 3,365 hours; 9 trade students worked 7,603 hours; and 9 manual labor students worked 3,640 hours.
- Over 68% of seniors participated in at least one of 28 athletic/activity offerings, and over 30 individuals participated in one or more high school activities this year.





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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.

Celebrating WM Unified and Special Olympics

Mark Your Calendars—The Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics will be in Watertown June 18!

WM's Unified Team continues to shatter expectations! Not only did our athletes capture the State Unified Basketball Championship, but their excellence is shining on a national stage. Two students were selected for Team Minnesota's Youth Leadership Experience at the Special Olympics USA Games, another was chosen for a national UNRL commercial, and a Unified pair will compete alongside High School Principal Mr. Hennen and a professional athlete in the ESPN Sports Challenge at Allianz Field!

Now, it's our turn to cheer them on!

The Twin Cities will host the 2026 Special Olympics USA Games. Preceding the games, the high-profile Law Enforcement Torch Run Final Leg unites officers and athletes to carry the Flame of Hope across communities, raising awareness. On Thursday, June 18th, the Torch Run will pass right through Watertown to celebrate living Unified!



The run kicks off at 7:55 AM at the Watertown Fire Department, leading into an unforgettable celebration at 8:15 AM at the Watertown-Mayer High School Stadium.

We are thrilled to welcome confirmed special guests to help us honor Special Olympics. Watertown-Mayer invites every resident, business owner, and fan to line the streets, pack the stadium, and bring the noise. Let's show the state what WM Royal pride looks like! Live Unified! Go Royals! 🏆