BISMARCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

School Board Meeting Agenda
Regular Board Meeting

Tom Baker Room
City/County Building
221 N Fifth Street

August 10, 2026
5:15 p.m.

I. Convene – 5:15 p.m.

A. Roll Call

B. Pledge of Allegiance

C. BPS Mission, Vision, and Values

Mission: *Empower every learner to thrive.*

Vision: *Together, our strong relationships build inclusive, collaborative, and innovative environments that create agency and inspire a passion for learning, excellence, and discovery.*

Values: *Inclusion • Excellence • Innovation • Leadership*

BPS 2025-2030 Strategic Plan

II. Adopt Agenda – 5:18 p.m. **GC-2**

III. Focus on Success – 5:20 p.m.

A. Introduction to Infinite Campus

IV. Public Comment – 5:30 p.m. **GC-3.3**

Initiate and maintain constructive two-way dialogue with students, staff, parents, and the citizens as a means to engage all stakeholders in the current work of the Board and the District, as governed by Board Procedure BCBA *Public Participation at Board Meetings.* Individuals will be limited to addressing the Board strictly on agenda items in Matters Reserved for Board Action, the Consent Agenda, and the Superintendent's Report. Other concerns should be addressed to the Board through email. Groups will be urged to designate a representative to express their views. Individuals will generally be limited to no more than 4 minutes and will be notified with 30 seconds remaining to conclude their remarks. Individuals may hand out supplemental written information to the Board if

Bismarck Public Schools prohibits discrimination and harassment based on a student's, parent's, guardian's, or employee's race, color, religion, sex, gender identity, national origin, ancestry, disability, age, or other status protected by law. The District also provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups, as required by federal law.

they don't find the 4 minutes is adequate. The Board will not debate issues as presented, but will take such matters under advisement.

V. Monitor District Operations – 5:35 p.m. GC-6

A. R-1 Mega Result

B. GC-1 Board Purpose

VI. Matters Reserved for Board Action – 5:50 p.m. B/SR-4

A. Initial Resolution for General Obligation School Building Bonds

B. Resolution Submitting Bond Question to Voters – November 3, 2026 Primary Election

C. Resolution Authorizing Application for State School Construction Loan

D. 2026-2027 Board Appointments

VII. Consent Agenda – 6:00 p.m. GC-2.4

The Board will use a consent agenda as a means to expedite the disposition of routine matters and dispose of other items of business it chooses not to discuss.

A. Approval of July 13, 2026, Regular School Board Minutes, July 13, 2026, Board Workshop Minutes, and August 3, 2026, School Board Retreat Minutes

B. Meal Price Increase

C. New Contracts

D. Resignations

E. Open Enrollment Application

F. Tuition Agreement

VIII. Superintendent's Report – 6:05 p.m. OE-8

The Superintendent shall assure that the Board is fully and adequately informed about matters relating to Board work and significant district concern.

A. Annual Superintendent's Report

IX. Adjourn – 6:15 p.m.

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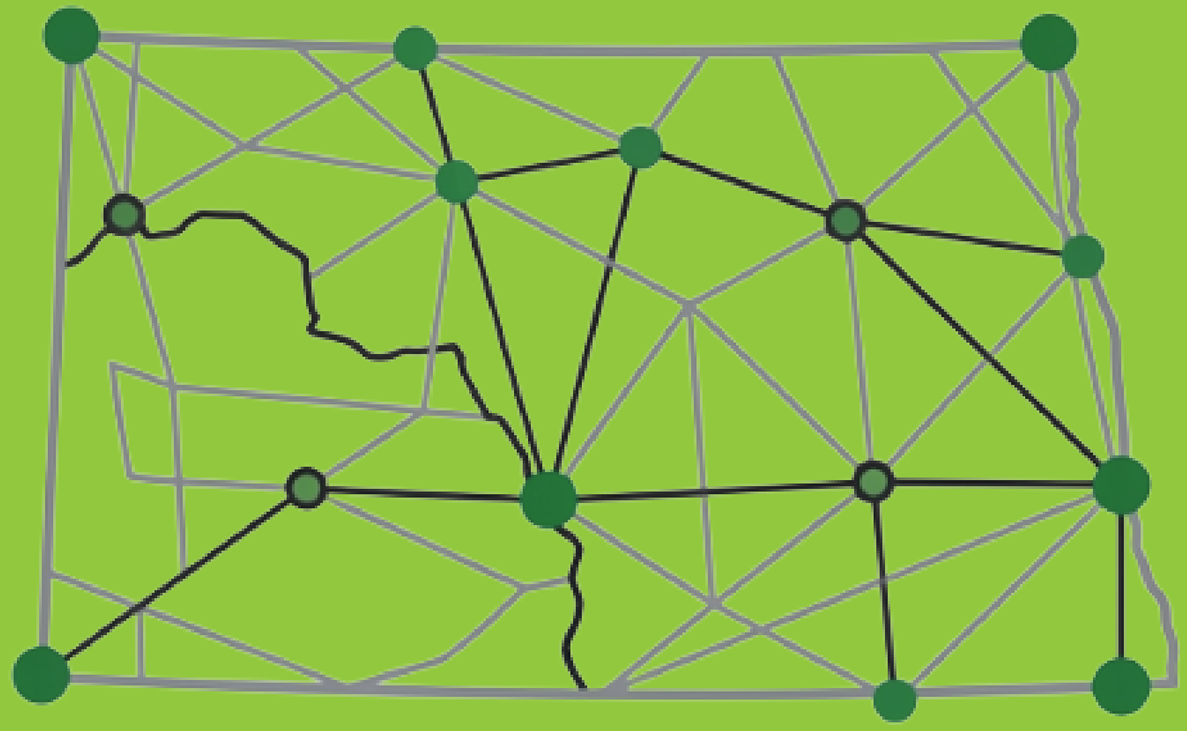

BISMARCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

SIS Moderinzation

Migration Overview

NDDPI K-12 Data Modernization Project

Improving long-term functionality, access to information, and alignment across schools.

Student Information System (SIS)

The transition will provide greater consistency across North Dakota school districts:

- **Greater consistency across North Dakota school districts**
- **Improved statewide data reporting and information sharing**
- **Unified approach to student information management**
- **Streamlined processes for staff, students, and families**
- **Future-ready platform supporting continued system improvements and efficiencies.**

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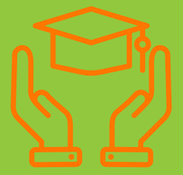
What is Impacted?

Instruction
- Gradebooks
- Learning Management Systems
- Curriculum Integrations
- Assessment
- Reporting Progress
- Transcripts

Daily Operations
- Registration
- Scheduling
- Transportation
- Food Service
- Athletics & Activities
- Fees
- Health Services
- Safety

District Operations
- State Reporting
- Accountability
- Fee/Payment Processing
- Data integrations
- Log In configurations
- HR integrations
- Data Security



Student Services
- Attendance
- Discipline
- Special Education
- EL Support
- 504 Plans

Family Experience
- Parent Portal
- Student Portal
- Mass Communication and Notifications
- Online Registration

Legacy System	New/Modernized System	Status/Notes
Core SIS: 25 Years PowerSchool	Infinite Campus	Retired 6/30/2026
Special Education: TieNet	Infinite Campus Special Education	Retired 6/30/2026
Mass Communication: SwiftK12 & BrightArrow	Infinite Campus Messenger	Streamlined messaging
Data & Analytics: ViewPoint	PANORAMA	ViewPoint retired 6/30/2025
Document Storage: DocumentLok	Infinite Campus Portals	Archived 6/30/2026; historical data preserved
Transportation: Various	StopFinder Routefinder	Successfully implemented
Nutrition Payments: Various	LINQ	No change for 2026-27

Who is Impacted?

Families

Parent and Student Portal

↓

Infinite Campus

Child Nutrition

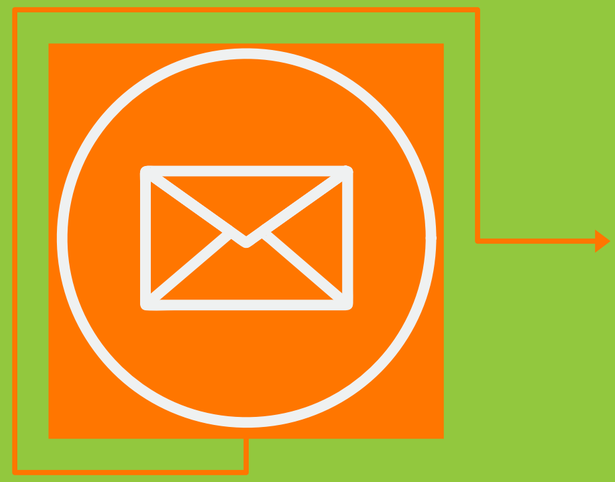
↓

LINQ

Transportation

↓

StopFinder



Communication

↓

IC Messenger

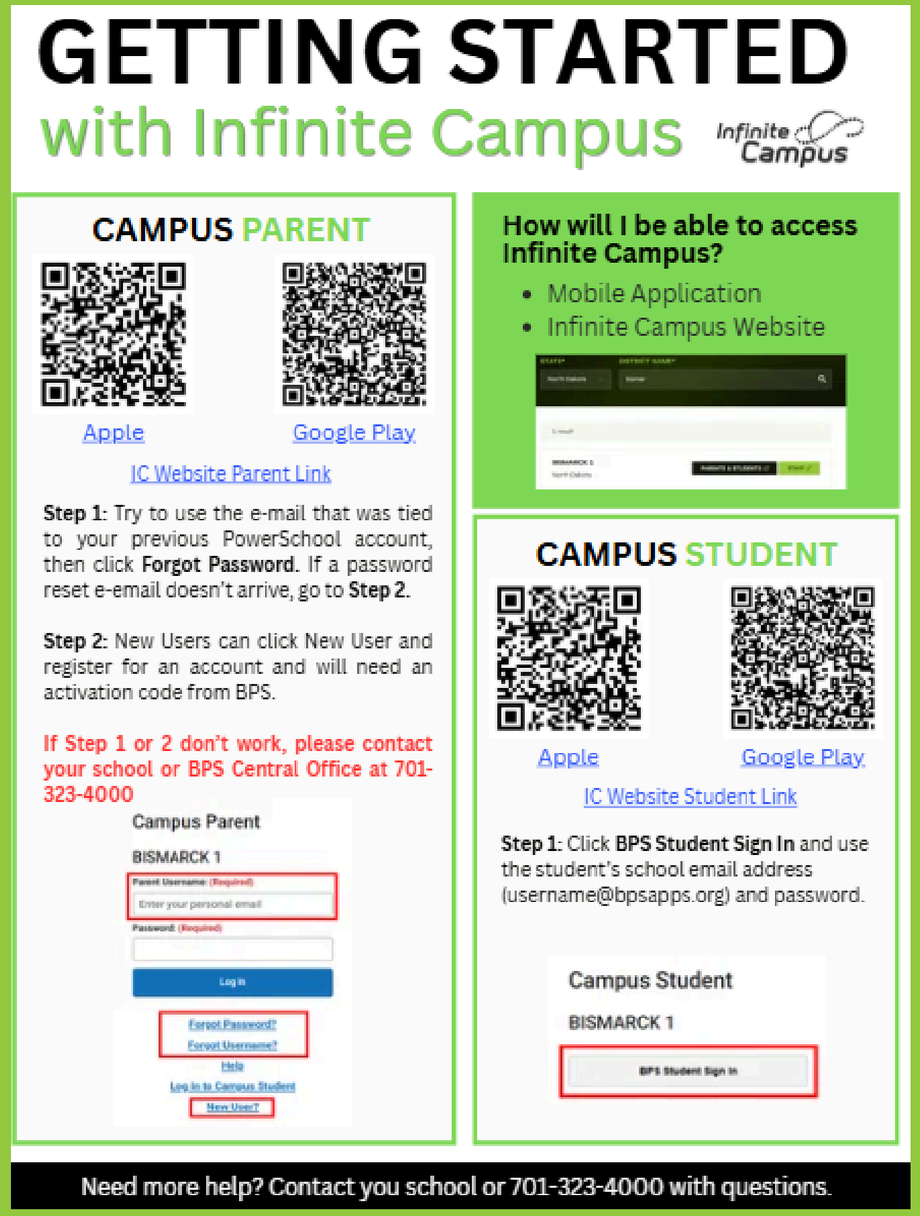
Parent, Guardian, and Student App

Campus Parent and Student App

Rollout started July 29th
32,913 parent logins
30,461 student logins

Support call center themes

- e-mail changes
- household or contact changes



Transportation

Product	Description	Intended Audience
routefinder plus	Central routing and scheduling platform that shares data with all products.	**Transportation Department** and Busing Vendor
WAYfinder	Uses Routefinder routes for driver turn-by-turn navigation.	**Bus Drivers**
viewfinder	Shows Routefinder **routing information for students**	**School Staff** and Transportation Department
tripfinder	**Request field trips** using Routefinder vehicle, driver, and scheduling information	Transportation Department, **School Staff & Activities**
formfinder	Collects transportation requests and approvals, then sends approved information into Routefinder or Tripfinder workflows. **(Bus Conduct & Video Requests) and future GenEd Bus Registration Form**	Parents/Guardians, **School Staff,** Transportation Department & Safety team
stopfinder	Receives student assignments, bus stops, route changes, and notifications from Routefinder.	**Parents/Guardians**, Students, School Offices

Communications

Changed communication platform to Infinite Campus Messenger

Messenger will provide general and emergency messaging to:

- **Inbox within the Infinite Campus Parent or Student App**
- **E-mail**
- **Text messages**
- **Parents can change their contact info inside the Parent App**

***Program specific, activities, clubs, and extra curriculars will continue to utilize different platforms with continued efforts to unify communications**

Status Update
Student Support Services

BPS STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Transition to Infinite Campus

From an established electronic document system to a new IEP workflow

Document migration in progress

TIENET

Established system

Our electronic document system has sustained Student Support Services and provided continuity for IEP documentation.

MIGRATION

Work underway

IEP-related documents are moving from TIENET to Infinite Campus, with accuracy and continuity as the priority.

INFINITE CAMPUS

New IEP process

Staff will learn new steps, navigation, and routines for developing and managing IEPs in Infinite Campus.

What this means now

Continuity of student records • **Careful migration** of documents • **Staff learning** for new Infinite Campus IEP processes

The goal is a smooth transition that protects documentation while building confidence in the new system.

Infinite Campus

Completed	In Progress	Ongoing
Data Migrated	Access	Role-specific Training and Support
Transportation Routes & Child Nutrition	Special Education Transition	Special Education Implementation
Master Schedules	Schedule Changes	Exploring Capabilities
Online Registration	Attendance & Academic Progress Notifications	System Alignment

GC-1 Board Purpose

Background Information: GC-1 *Board Purpose* is a policy in the Governance Culture category. Governance Culture policies establish the overall culture for the Board, including a definition of the Board's job, as well as the processes delineating how the Board will accomplish its work. The policies affect only the Board and its members and define the standards for Board performance. Upon a public reading of GC-1 *Board Purpose* by President Eastgate, the Board should determine if the policy should be retained as presented or if they wish to amend the policy. The Board should also use this opportunity to discuss and determine their understanding and application of GC-1 *Board Purpose* and establish their compliance level with the policy.

Recommendation: Retain or amend GC-1 *Board Purpose*.

Determine as in compliance, in compliance with exception, or out of compliance.

Board Purpose

The Bismarck Public School Board represents, leads, and serves the community and holds itself accountable to the citizens by committing to act in their best interests and by ensuring that all Board and district action is consistent with law and the Board's policies.

The Board's purpose is to assure that the district achieves the results described in the Board's **Results** policies and that it operates according to the values expressed in the Board's **Operational Expectations** policies.

End of Bismarck Public School District Board Policy GC-1 Adopted: 3/12/2018

Monitoring Method: Board Self-Assessment
Monitoring Frequency: Annually in November

R-1 Mega Result

Background Information: Coherent governance in schools is a structured system that tightly aligns a district's political accountability with student-centered outcomes. It strictly separates policymaking by the school board from daily operational management handled by the superintendent, establishing accountability without micromanagement. The four pillars of Coherent Governance are Governance Culture (GC), Board/Superintendent Relations (BSR), Operational Expectations (OE), and Results (R). After the report is presented, Board members should determine if the Monitoring Report is making reasonable progress, making reasonable progress with noted exceptions, or failing to make reasonable progress.

Information specific to this report will be found within the report itself.

Recommendation:
Option 1) I move to accept the report R-1 Mega Result as making reasonable progress
Option 2) I move to accept the report R-1 Mega Result as making reasonable progress with noted exceptions
Option 3) I move to find the report R-1 Mega Result as failing to make reasonable progress

BISMARCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

R-1 Mega Result
Reporting Period: 7/1/2025 to 6/30/2026

SUMMARY OF PROGRESS STATUS

AUGUST 2026

SUPERINTENDENT CERTIFICATION

With respect to R-1 *Mega Result* taken as a whole, the superintendent certifies that the proceeding information is accurate and complete, and the district is:

_____ Making Reasonable Progress
__X__ Making Reasonable Progress, with Exception
_____ Failing to Make Reasonable Progress

Summary Statement by Administration

Monitoring of results policies is part of the ongoing process of district performance evaluation and superintendent evaluation. This report includes an Areas of Focus for Continuous Improvement outlining new practices or protocols to be utilized for the next reporting timeframe and recommendations for suggested changes to Results policies and/or indicators and interpretations. A Data Analysis on page 4 presents an administrative summary of the data. This report addresses nine indicators of the superintendent's responsibility regarding the Mega Result.

Progress Reporting Summary

Making Reasonable Progress

- 1.1.1, 1.1.2, 1.1.3, 1.1.4
- 1.2.2, 1.2.3
- 1.3.1

Making Reasonable Progress, with Exception

- 1.1.5
- 1.2.1

Failing to Make Reasonable Progress

- N/A

Areas of Focus for Continuous Improvement

We completed our fifth year with an Academic Alert process to help identify students who are at risk of not graduating on time with their class. This alert allows for early identification and response, as this is crucial to helping students achieve their academic goals. By intervening on their behalf, the school and parents can work together to provide appropriate assistance and support to the student. While the student must realize the severity of lost credits, Academic Alert is designed to assist the student with their recovery to good academic standing.

As we shared in the past years with the BPS School Board and community, our internal data analysis has demonstrated that if students are enrolled and attend our schools from 6th - 12th grade, those students had an overall 96.72% graduation rate. Additionally, among subgroups that have traditionally struggled our BPS data showed exceptional outcomes regarding graduation rates as long as students were part of our system for their last seven school years.

BISMARCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

R-1 Mega Result
Reporting Period: 7/1/2025 to 6/30/2026

Bismarck Public Schools continues to systematically address our processes, frameworks, and our system in order to better serve the needs of our students. Particularly, we have reported in the past regarding the work done over the years surrounding Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS/ISF) and the associated work aimed to help engage students in their learning experiences. The MTSS framework and staff collaborative work has helped provide safety nets through practices focused to identify students that may need additional support to succeed academically, behaviorally, and address their social and emotional needs.

Administration has no recommendations for changes at this time.

Signed: _____ Date: 8/10/2026

Superintendent

BISMARCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

R-1 Mega Result
Reporting Period: 7/1/2025 to 6/30/2026

SCHOOL BOARD ACTION

With respect to R-1 *Mega Result*, the Board:

_____ Accepts the report as making reasonable progress.
_____ Accepts the report as making reasonable progress with noted exceptions.
_____ Finds the district failing to make reasonable progress.

Summary Statement/Motion of the Board

Signed: _____ Date: 8/10/2026
Board President

BISMARCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

R-1 Mega Result
Reporting Period: 7/1/2025 to 6/30/2026

Data Analysis

The R-1 Mega Result Monitoring Report overall is "Making Reasonable Progress, with Exception" based on the nine indicators, seven demonstrated making reasonable progress, two demonstrated making reasonable progress with exception, and none failed to make reasonable progress. An area of focus for the R-1 Mega Results report examines graduation rates as determined by the four-year cohort, completion rate, and seven-year graduation outcomes. The four-year graduation rate was 87%, which was 3% higher than the previous year and 8% lower than our 95% BPS target, yet we still outscored the North Dakota state average by 3%.

Our post-secondary enrollment has a target of 70%. This last year of data that was reported has shown growth with 632/922 or 69% of our students engaging in post-secondary enrollment, which was an increase of 3% over the previous year.

Our student engagement survey results demonstrate we are making reasonable progress, with exception towards the targeted areas. BPS continues to generally perform in-line or outperform North Dakota state averages in each of these areas. We can celebrate BPS's high standards of expectation and outperforming North Dakota state averages in some areas. Additionally, we have made progress specifically in critical thinking and creative problem-solving skills that are essential to success in today's world. BPS continues to have discussions regarding these data sets, trends, and implications with internal stakeholder groups in order to acknowledge areas of growth and build capacity accordingly.

R-1 Mega Result
1.1 Empower every learner to thrive.
1.2 Contribute to a better world by applying their knowledge and skills to improve communities through citizenship and service.
1.3 Be able to think critically, analyze, and evaluate information to make informed decisions.

Green	Met or Increased
Blue	Flat or a Decrease Under 2%
Yellow	Decreased 2% to 4.9%
Red	Decrease of 5% or More

Monitoring Report

1.1 Empower every learner to thrive.	**Making Reasonable Progress, with Exception**

Interpretation: R-1 *Mega Result* is the board's comprehensive vision which sets the direction of the district's instructional program, its assessments, and its operational plan designed to move the district closer to the board's vision. Although our strategic goals parallel and overlap with the ND Choice Ready model, it is likely that our indicators will need to evolve to meet requirements from the state.

- **Four-Year Graduation Rate** is the on-time graduation rate based upon high school students obtaining a diploma within four years of entering 9th grade.
- **Completer Rate** is the adjusted graduation rate for students who obtained high school diplomas and/or General Education Development (GED) diplomas within seven years of entering 9th grade.
- **Post-Secondary Enrollment** refers to high school graduates going on to post-secondary institutions within 12 months of graduation. These are tracked based upon the following categories: public or private, two or four year, and in-state or out-of-state; or no post-secondary plans (e.g. entering military service or the workforce).
- **Committed Engagement** (Authentic Engagement) – The student volunteers resources under their control (time, effort, and attention). The student is attentive to the task because they find personal meaning and value in the task. The student persists with the task even when they experience difficulty and does not compromise personal standards for the completion of the task.
- **Cognitive Engagement** – A student's perceptions and beliefs associated with school and learning. It refers to the cognitive processing a student brings to academic tasks, as well as the amount and type of strategies a student utilizes.
- **Behavioral Engagement** – A student's observable actions or participation while at school that is investigated through a student's positive conduct, effort, and participation (e.g., participation in extracurricular activities, attendance and work habits).
- **Emotional** (Affective) **Engagement** – A student's feelings toward their school, learning, teachers, and peers.
- **"n"** equals number of students.

Indicator	Finding
Indicator 1: The board's strategic plan goals are translated into measurable results policies which drive direction of the instructional program. (BPS Strategic Plan).	**Making Reasonable Progress**
Evidence: The new 2025-2030 Strategic Plan, including the affirmation of our mission, vision, and values statements, was finalized in May 2025. Additionally, we have worked to create annual Strategic Plan Phases that updates and reflects the focus for the next 18-months. These plans make our priorities clear, ensure transparency in what we do, and use measurable outcomes to hold us accountable for maintaining a focus on what truly benefits our students.	

Results policies are adopted by the BPS School Board and translate the strategic results into measurable policies for which the superintendent along with the administrative team can help identify key measurable indicators for the School Board, design and/or align measures, and show progress with evidence.

R-1 Mega Result:

1.1 Empower every learner to thrive.
1.2 Contribute to a better world by applying their knowledge and skills to improve communities through citizenship and service.
1.3 Be able to think critically, analyze, and evaluate information to make informed decisions.

R-2.1 Academic Achievement: Achieve targeted growth and proficiency in the following disciplines: Literacy, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies.

R-2.2 Academic Achievement: Demonstrate proficiency in all elective subjects according to their standards.

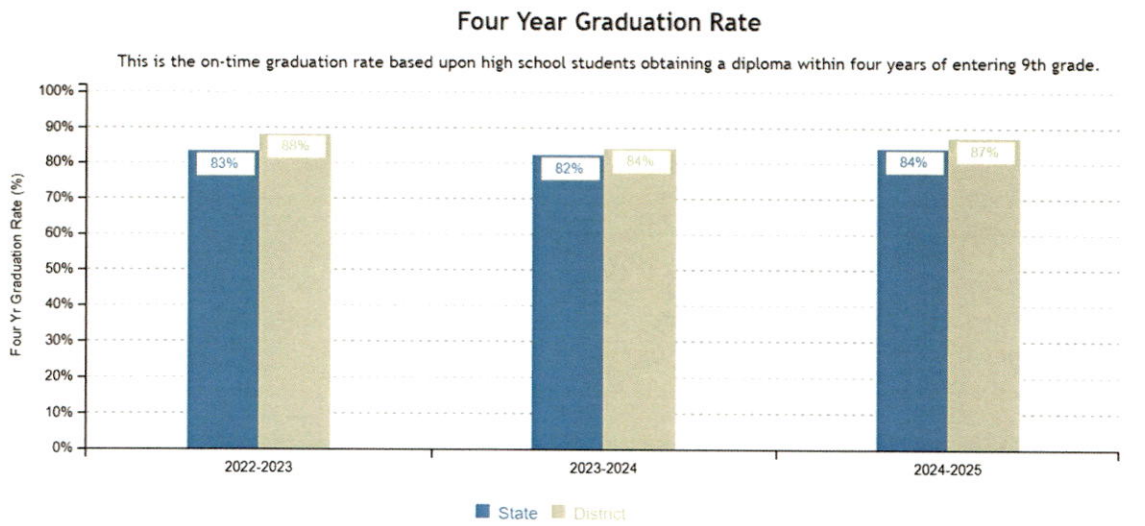
R-3 Personal Development - Behavior: Each student will actively develop and integrate skills, attitudes, behaviors, and habits to achieve a productive, healthy, and balanced life.

R-4 Personal Development – Community Ready: Each student will acquire the skills and knowledge to lead, serve, and contribute to their communities.

Indicator 2: Students will show continuous improvement toward, or attainment of, a target so that the district achieves a four-year graduation rate of at least 95% of all students.	**Making Reasonable Progress**

Evidence: During the 2024-2025 school year, Bismarck Public Schools had an overall graduation rate of 87%, which was 3% above the North Dakota state average. The graduation rates increased by 3% from the previous year and still below the 95% target by 8%.

Grade	Target	22-23	23-24	24-25
12	95%	88%	84%	87%

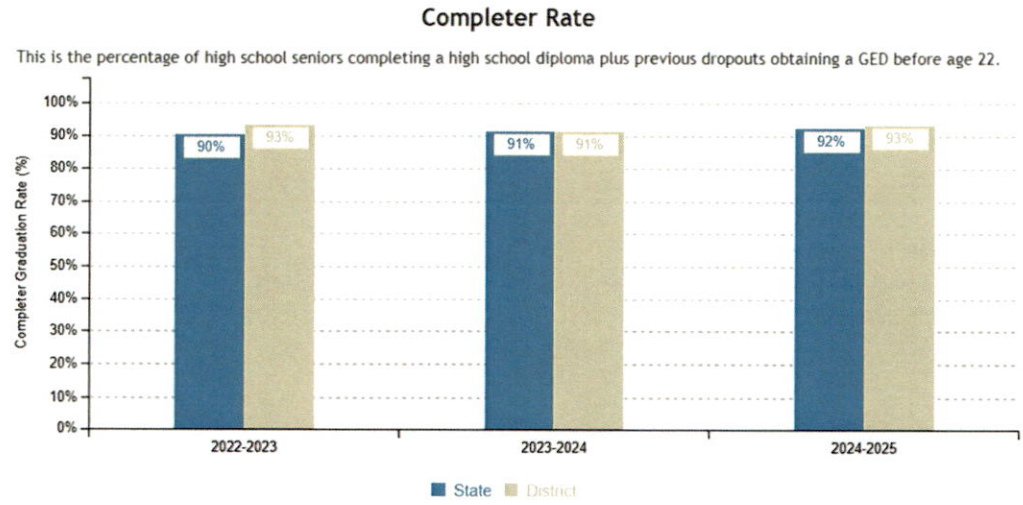


Indicator 3: Students will show continuous improvement toward, or attainment of, a target so that the district achieves a completer rate target set to be at or above 95% of all students.	**Making Reasonable Progress**

Evidence: During the 2024-2025 school year, Bismarck Public Schools had an overall Completer Rate of 93%, which was 1% higher than the North Dakota state average. For the 2021-2022 school year cohort, Bismarck Public Schools had a seven-year graduation rate of 87%, which was 1% higher than the North Dakota state average.

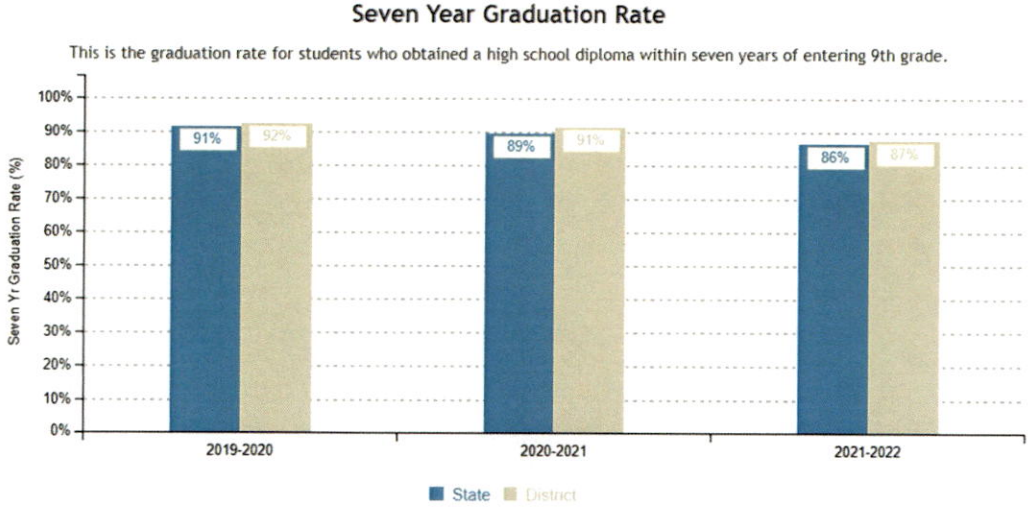
Completer Rate

Grade	Target	22-23	23-24	24-25
12	95%	93%	91%	93%



Seven-Year Graduation Rate

Grade	Target	19-20	20-21	21-22
12	95%	92%	91%	87%

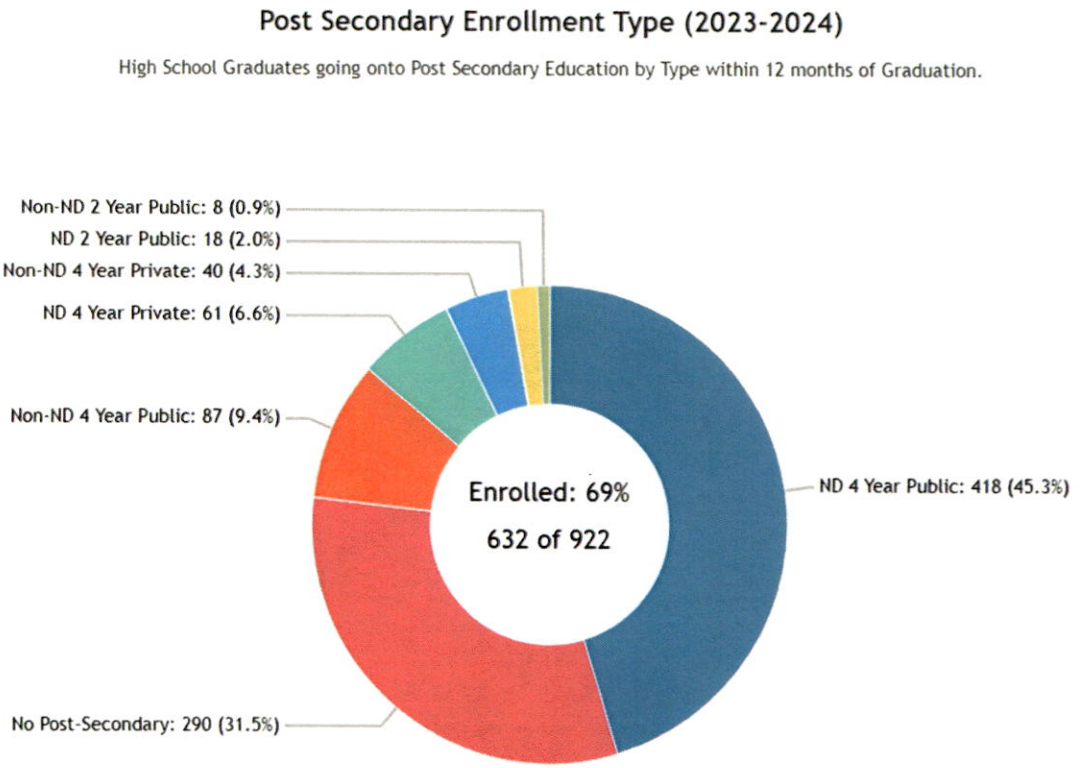


Indicator 4: Students will show continuous improvement toward, or attainment of, a target so that the district achieves a post-secondary education enrollment (within 12 months of graduation) rate target set to be at or above 70%.	**Making Reasonable Progress**

Evidence: Evidence for this data point is state-collected data. The data will show a two-year lag as it counts graduates 12 months following their graduation year. For the 2023-2024 school year, Bismarck Public Schools had 69% of graduates planning to enroll and attend a post-secondary institution. This was an increase of 3% from the previous year's data. Of the 922 graduates, 632 graduates enrolled in a variety of types of institutions as reflected in the following three graphs and table.

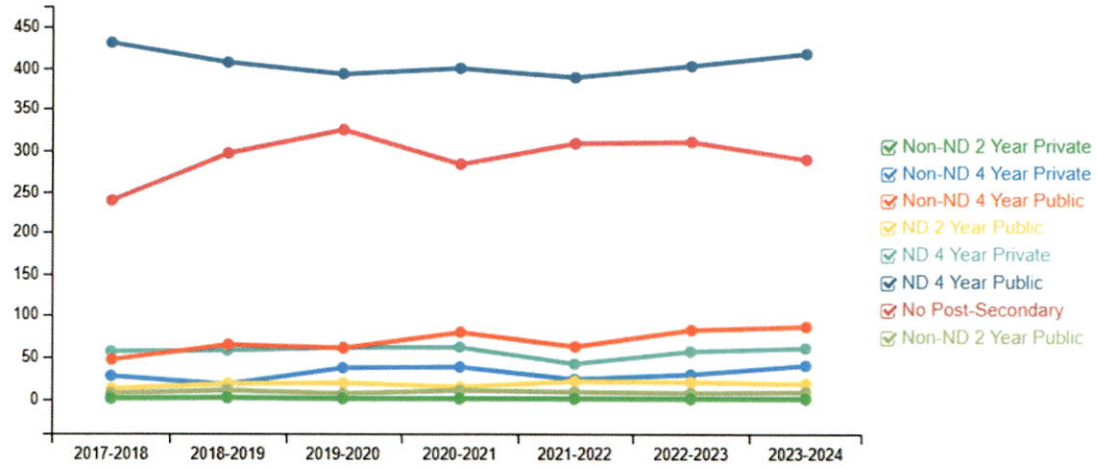
Post-Secondary Enrollment

Grade	Target	n	21-22	n	22-23	n	23-24
12	70%	546/851	64%	599/910	66%	632/922	69%



Post Secondary Enrollment by Type Trend

High School Graduates going onto Post Secondary Education by Type within 12 months of Graduation.



Destinations (2023-2024)

Destinations for High School Graduates within 12 months of Graduation. To select different years or a different time since graduation, use the filters at the top of the page.

Institution State: All States

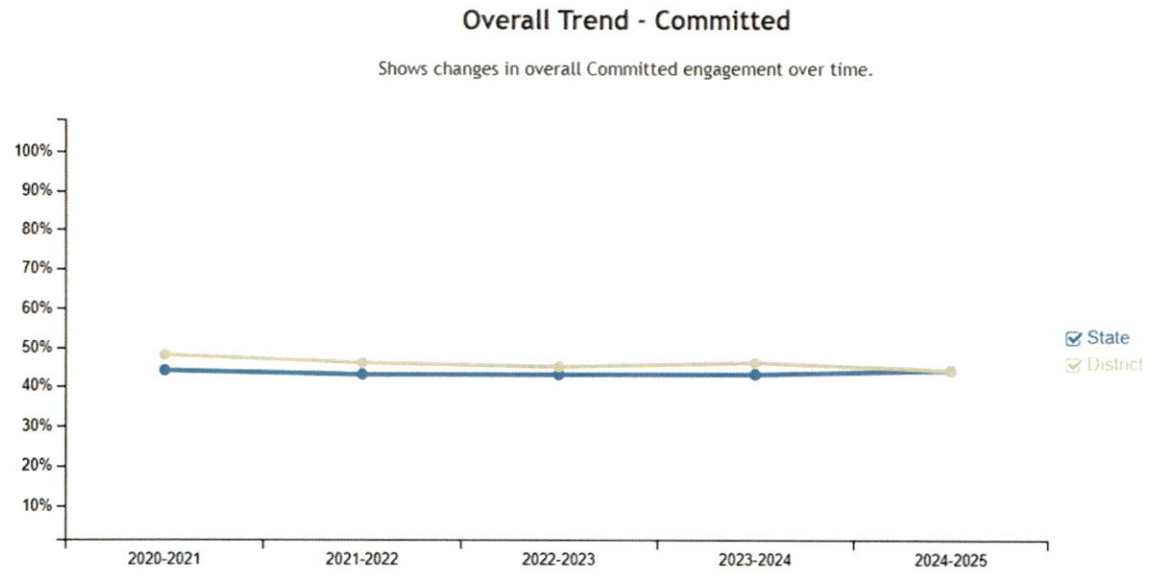
Institution Name	State	Type	Number of Enrollments
Bismarck State College	ND	Public Four Year	237 (38%)
North Dakota State University	ND	Public Four Year	89 (14%)
University Of North Dakota	ND	Public Four Year	74 (12%)
University Of Mary	ND	Private Four Year	48 (8%)
University Of Minnesota-Twin Cities	MN	Public Four Year	15 (2%)
Concordia College	MN	Private Four Year	11 (2%)
N.Dakota State College Science	ND	Public Two Year	10 (2%)
Minnesota State University Moorhead	MN	Public Four Year	8 (1%)
South Dakota School Of Mines	SD	Public Four Year	7 (1%)
United Tribes Technical College	ND	Private Four Year	7 (1%)
Dickinson State University	ND	Public Four Year	7 (1%)
Arizona State University	AZ	Public Four Year	7 (1%)
Grand Canyon University-Traditional	AZ	Private Four Year	7 (1%)
University Of Jamestown	ND	Private Four Year	6 (1%)
Minnesota State University - Mankato	MN	Public Four Year	5 (1%)
Black Hills State University	SD	Public Four Year	5 (1%)
Dakota College At Bottineau	ND	Public Two Year	5 (1%)
Valley City State University	ND	Public Four Year	4 (1%)
Williston State College	ND	Public Two Year	3 (<1%)
Mayville State University	ND	Public Four Year	3 (<1%)

Indicator 5: Students will show continuous improvement toward, or attainment of, a target so that the district achieves overall committed student engagement and domain level (behavioral, cognitive, and emotional engagement) rates with a target set to be at or above 55% of all students.	**Making Reasonable Progress, with Exception**

Evidence: Part of the ND ESSA plan is to incorporate student engagement survey results. During the 2024-2025 school year, 44% of Bismarck Public Schools students surveyed were determined to be at an overall "committed engagement" level, which was the same as the North Dakota state average of 44%. Additionally, BPS students overall were determined to be at a "Committed Engagement" above the state average in the subcategory for Behavioral Engagement, equal for Cognitive Engagement, and below the state average for Emotional Engagement.

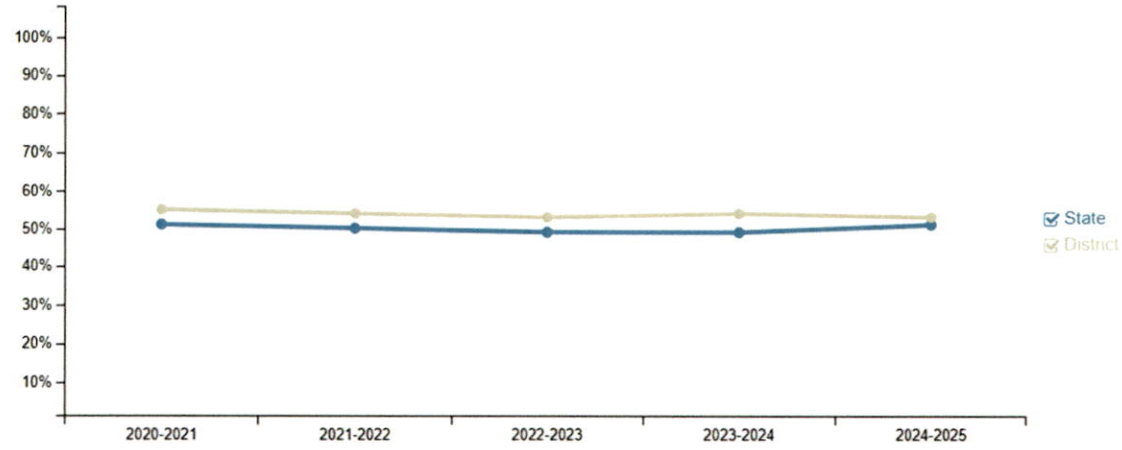
Engagement Survey

	Target	State Average	20-21	21-22	22-23	23-24	24-25
Overall "Committed Engagement"	55%	44%	48%	46%	45%	46%	44%
Behavioral Engagement	55%	51%	55%	54%	53%	54%	53%
Cognitive Engagement	55%	39%	42%	40%	40%	41%	39%
Emotional Engagement	55%	43%	45%	43%	42%	42%	40%



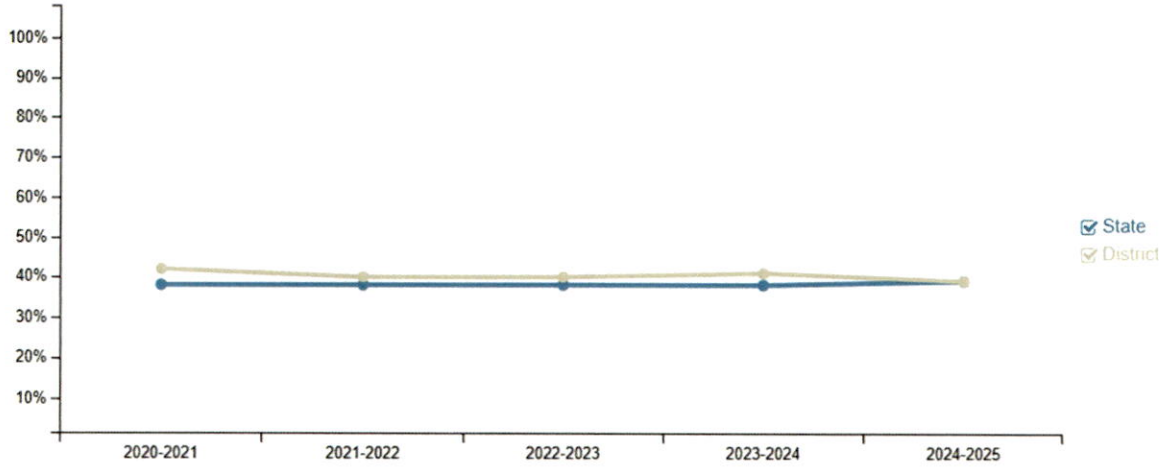
Behavioral Trend - Committed

Shows changes in Behavioral Committed engagement over time.



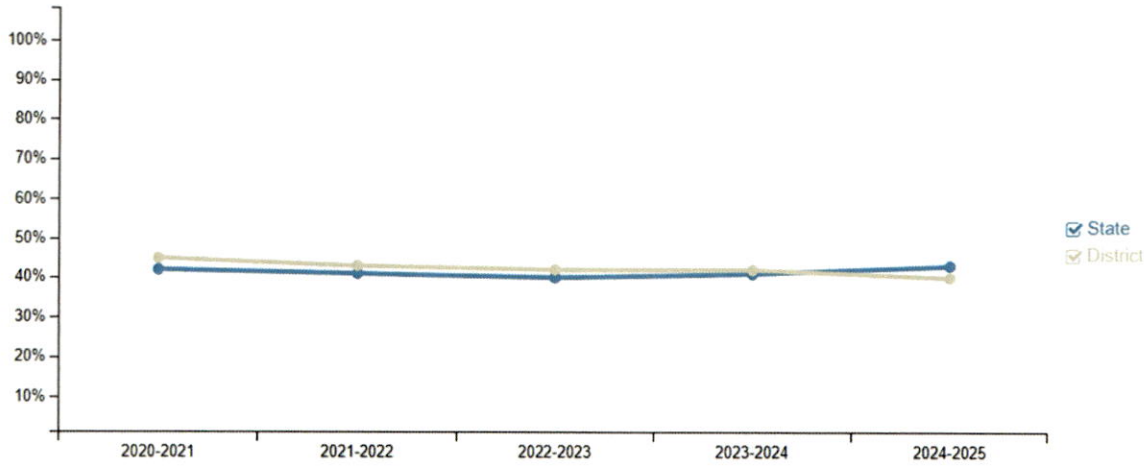
Cognitive Trend - Committed

Shows changes in Cognitive Committed engagement over time.



Emotional Trend - Committed

Shows changes in Emotional Committed engagement over time.



Every Learner Will:

1.2 Contribute to a better world by applying their knowledge and skills to improve communities through citizenship and service.	**Making Reasonable Progress, with Exception**

Interpretation: Through the North Dakota Choice Ready framework in order to ensure that all students are successfully departing high school they are to possess the Essential Skills necessary to be ready for life. One of those indicators is to complete 25 hours of Community Service. Two other areas relate to "Work-Based Learning Experience" and "Successfully completing a Capstone Project."

- **Choice Ready** is a component in the North Dakota accountability system to measure whether our high schools prepare students that are ready for success upon graduation. The metrics outlined within the Choice Ready initiative are intended to measure growth for North Dakota high schools, as indicated by student readiness.
- **Capstone Project** includes, but is not limited to a singular course, student intern projects, and Empower[ED] participation. It is designed to give students the opportunity to deepen academic content and success skills (21st Century Skills) in a real-world setting. The Capstone Project will be a vehicle for students to explore job-embedded learning that is hands-on, authentic, rigorous and relevant to their world beyond high school. With the help of the instructor and potential business and field experts, students will develop an individualized learning plan that identifies objectives, project foci, presentation of learning, and reflection.

Indicator	Finding
Indicator 1: Students will show continuous improvement toward, or attainment of, a target so that at least 40% of students report completion for the ND Choice Ready Essential Skills indicator of 25 hours of Community Service.	**Making Reasonable Progress, with Exception**
Evidence: ND Choice Ready data indicates that in the 2024-2025 school year, 39.92% of grade 12 students had 25 hours or more of documented community service hours. This is a decrease of 8.62% from the 2023-2024 school year. The data will show a two-year lag as it counts graduates 12 months following their graduation year. The data source changed this past year from a counselor indication through student self-reporting to a recorded form for verification.	
Indicator 2: Students will show continuous improvement toward, or attainment of, a target so that at least 50% of students report completion for the ND Choice Ready Essential Skills indicator of completing a "Career Exploration Experience."	**Making Reasonable Progress**
Evidence: ND Choice Ready data indicates that in the 2024-2025 school year, 96.63% of grade 12 students had a documented "Career Exploration Experience." This is a 20.76% increase from the 2023-2024 school year. The data will show a two-year lag as it counts graduates 12 months following their graduation year.	

Indicator 3: Students will show continuous improvement toward, or attainment of, a target so that at least 20% of students report completion for the ND Choice Ready Essential Skills indicator of "Successfully complete a Capstone Project."	**Making Reasonable Progress**
Evidence: ND Choice Ready data indicates that in the 2024-2025 school year, 51.25% of grade 12 students report successfully completing a formal Capstone Project. This is a 50.19% increase from the 2023-2024 school year. The data will show a two-year lag as it counts graduates 12 months following their graduation year. A district had previously defined their own criteria for meeting the capstone indication, BPS now uses the broader North Dakota state definition. Due to the district's data conversion to EDU CAL, Capstone data for the 2024–2025 school year did not migrate accurately into the new system. As a result, the reported Capstone information is incomplete and should not be interpreted as an accurate reflection of student participation or outcomes. District staff have verified that this issue is the result of the data conversion process rather than student performance or program implementation. Processes have been established to ensure accurate data collection and reporting moving forward.	

Every Learner Will:

1.3 Be able to think critically, analyze, and evaluate information to make informed decisions.	**Making Reasonable Progress**
Interpretation: The success skills indicators that we will already be providing contextualized evidence of as part of the academic results indicators by subject area. • **Critical and creative thinking** refers to the success skills which include critical thinking, creativity, collaboration and communication. Done well, students will collect, assess and analyze relevant information, reason effectively, reflect critically on learning experiences, use a wide range of idea creation techniques to create new and worthwhile ideas, work collaboratively in teams for sustained periods of time to develop high quality products, and communicate ideas through the creation of authentic products using a combination of words, data, and visual representations to inform, persuade and entertain others. • **Routine application** means evidence (e.g. eleot/classroom observation data, survey data, Danielson, ND DPI student engagement survey (ESSA), Cognia survey data) indicates that critical and creative thinking is a clearly understood and regular part of the classroom environment.	

Indicator	Finding
Indicator 1: Students will report and show continuous improvement toward, or attainment of the identified target so students are routinely applying critical and creative thinking in all subject areas.	**Making Reasonable Progress**

Evidence:

BPS Student Survey - Critical Thinking

Critical Thinking - *I engage in coursework, discussion, and tasks that require the use of critical thinking (e.g. analyzing, applying, evaluating, synthesizing).*

Grade	Target	22-23	23-24	24-25
K-5	80%	83.2%	84.4%	84.3%
6-8	80%	70.3%	72.8%	73.5%
9-12	80%	77.2%	79.3%	79.7%

Specific Grade-Level Questions

- ***K-2*** *"I am a problem solver even when things are hard."*
- ***3-8*** *"I think about and work on difficult tasks (things that challenge my thinking)."*
- ***9-12*** *"I engage in coursework, discussion, and tasks that require the use of critical thinking (e.g. analyzing, applying, evaluating, synthesizing)."*

BPS Student Survey - Creative Problem Solving

Creative Problem Solving - *I solve complex problems by creatively thinking about solutions.*

Grade	Target	22-23	23-24	24-25
K-5	80%	82.9%	84.6%	83.7%
6-8	70%	66.8%	69.3%	70.1%
9-12	70%	61.8%	63.5%	65.6%

Specific Grade-Level Questions

- ***K-2*** *"I can use my own ideas to do my work."*
- ***3-8*** *"I solve problems by creatively thinking about solutions."*
- ***9-12*** *"I solve complex problems by creatively thinking about solutions."*

Initial Resolution for General Obligation School Building Bonds

Background Information: Administration recommends approval of an Initial Resolution proposing the issuance of General Obligation School Building Bonds in an amount not to exceed $116,500,000. The proposed bond would provide funding for districtwide facility improvements including Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance upgrades and capital renewal needs. Projects may include heating, ventilation, plumbing and electrical system upgrades, building envelope repairs, entrances, elevators, restrooms, site circulation improvements, and other modifications necessary to improve equitable access and address deferred maintenance across district facilities.

Recommendation: Approve the Initial Resolution for General Obligation School Building Bonds in an amount not to exceed $116,500,000.

INITIAL RESOLUTION FOR
GENERAL OBLIGATION SCHOOL BUILDING BONDS

BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Bismarck Public School District No. 1 of Burleigh County, North Dakota (the "School District"), that it is necessary and expedient for the School District to issue its general obligation school building bonds as hereafter described:

1. The maximum amount of bonds proposed to be issued is $116,500,000.

2. The purpose for which the bonds are proposed to be issued is to provide funds, together with any other funds available, for Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance upgrades, to undertake facility improvements districtwide to address deferred maintenance and capital renewal needs including, but not limited to heating, ventilation, plumbing and electrical system upgrades, building envelope repairs and related infrastructure improvements, including entrances, elevators, restrooms, site circulation and other modifications necessary to improve equitable access to District facilities, together with related site work, equipment, furnishings, and incidental costs.

3. The assessed valuation of all taxable property in the School District as defined in N.D.C.C. Section 21-03-01, is $7,546,478,190 as last finally equalized for the year 2025.

4. The total amount of bonded indebtedness of the School District, all issued for school building purposes, is $96,711,166.

Dated: August 10, 2026.

BISMARCK PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1 **Attest:**

_____ _____
President, School Board Business Manager

The governing body of the District acted on the foregoing resolution at a properly noticed meeting held in Bismarck, North Dakota, on August 10, 2026, with the motion for adoption made by _____ and seconded by _____, and the roll call vote on the motion was as follows:

"Aye" _____

"Nay" _____

Absent _____

Resolution Submitting Bond Question to Voters – November 3, 2026 Primary Election

Background Information: Following adoption of the Initial Resolution proposing the issuance of General Obligation School Building Bonds, state law requires voter approval prior to issuance of the bonds. This resolution authorizes the District to submit the question of approving the Initial Resolution to the qualified voters of Bismarck Public School District No. 1 at the November 3, 2026 primary election.

Recommendation: Approve the Resolution Submitting the Question of Approving the Initial Resolution for General Obligation School Building Bonds to the voters of the District at the November 3, 2026 primary election.

RESOLUTION SUBMITTING QUESTION OF APPROVING INITIAL RESOLUTION FOR GENERAL OBLIGATION SCHOOL BUILDING BONDS

WHEREAS, pursuant to North Dakota Century Code ("N.D.C.C.") Chapter 21-03, public school districts may issue general obligation bonds when authorized to do so by the electors of the public school district at a primary or general election; and

WHEREAS, the general election will be held on November 3, 2026; and

WHEREAS, Section 21-03-11(2), N.D.C.C. requires a public school district to enter into an agreement with the governing body of the respective county concerning a general obligation bond election.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the School Board of Bismarck Public School District No. 1, Burleigh County, North Dakota (the "School District"), as follows:

1. This Board has heretofore adopted an initial resolution proposing the issuance of general obligation bonds of the School District in the principal amount of not to exceed $116,500,000 for school building improvement purposes.

2. The question of approving the initial resolution and the issuance of general obligation bonds shall be submitted to the qualified voters of the School District at the time of the general election to be held on November 3, 2026.

3. The District shall enter into an agreement with Burleigh County regarding the use of a single canvassing board, the sharing of election materials, the publishing of legal notices, the apportioning of elections expenses and related matters.

4. The ballot question is approved in substantially the form set forth in Exhibit A hereto. The Business Manager shall notify the Burleigh County Auditor in writing, at least sixty-four days before the election, of the question to appear on the general election ballot.

5. The polling hours and polling places shall be the same as for the general election. Pursuant to Section 15.1-09-13, N.D.C.C. the Board hereby designates one precinct for the election and the polling places designated by the County. The Board authorizes the administration to employ individuals to act as the election officers.

6. The Business Manager is hereby directed to give notice of the election by:

(a) causing a notice thereof to be published once each week for two consecutive weeks in the official newspaper of the School District, with the first publication at least fifteen days before the date of the election, exclusive of the day of publication; and

(b) posting the notice of election, the initial resolution and ballot question on the website of the School District prior to the date of the election.

The notice shall state the date of the election, the polling places and polling hours, shall contain a complete copy of the initial resolution, a statement that the question to be submitted at the election shall be whether the initial resolution shall be approved, and the estimated additional millage and equivalent dollar amount on each $1,000 of taxable valuation for the first taxable year after all of the bonds are issued. The notice may refer to the notice of the general election for the designation of polling places.

7. The election shall be conducted, and the votes shall be canvassed as in the case of other school elections within the School District and pursuant to the agreement with Burleigh County.

Dated: August 10, 2026.

BISMARCK PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1 **Attest:**

_____ _____

President, School Board Business Manager

The governing body of the District acted on the foregoing resolution at a properly noticed meeting held in Bismarck, North Dakota, on August 10, 2026, with the motion for adoption made by _____ and seconded by _____, and the roll call vote on the motion was as follows:

"Aye" _____

"Nay" _____

Absent _____

Abstain _____

OFFICIAL BALLOT
November 3, 2026

BISMARCK PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1
BURLEIGH COUNTY, NORTH DAKOTA

QUESTION #1

Shall Bismarck Public School District No. 1 of Burleigh County, North Dakota, issue its general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed $116,500,000 maturing within a maximum of 20 years, resulting in an estimated additional millage of 9.45 mills, equal to $9.45 on each $1,000 of taxable valuation for the first taxable year after all of the bonds are issued, for the purpose of providing funds, together with any other funds available, for Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance upgrades, to undertake facility improvements districtwide to address deferred maintenance and capital renewal needs including, but not limited to heating, ventilation, plumbing and electrical system upgrades, building envelope repairs and related infrastructure improvements, including entrances, elevators, restrooms, site circulation and other modifications necessary to improve equitable access to District facilities, together with related site work, equipment, furnishings, and incidental costs.

Yes. . . . . .☐

No . . . . . .☐

INSTRUCTIONS TO VOTERS:

Voters desiring to vote in favor of the foregoing proposition should blacken the box in the space opposite the word “Yes.” Voters desiring to vote against such proposition should blacken the box in the space opposite the word “No.”

Resolution Authorizing Application for State School Construction Loan

Background Information: Bismarck Public Schools is eligible to apply for financing assistance through the North Dakota State School Construction Loan Program administered by the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction pursuant to N.D.C.C. Chapter 15.1-36.

Approval of this resolution authorizes the District to submit an application for a State School Construction Loan in connection with the proposed facility improvement projects and bond financing. The loan program may provide a lower interest financing option for eligible portions of the project and would be repaid through tax levies authorized under N.D.C.C. Section 21-03-15.

Recommendation: Approve the Resolution authorizing submission of an application to the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction for participation in the State School Construction Loan Program.

RESOLUTION FOR SUBMISSION OF
SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION LOAN APPLICATION

WHEREAS, the School Board of Bismarck Public School District No. 1, Burleigh County, North Dakota (the "District"), has determined that it is necessary and expedient for the District to issue bonds to construct, remodel, improve and equip school buildings (the "Project"); and

WHEREAS, the District adopted an Initial Resolution on August 10, 2026, for the issuance of General Obligation School Building Bonds in an amount not exceeding $116,500,000 to finance the Project; and

WHEREAS, a general election will be held on November 3, 2026, at which time the District shall request that the qualified electors of the District approved the Initial Resolution and the issuance of General Obligation School Building Bonds.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,

1. The District shall submit an application to the Department of Public Instruction for a State School Construction Loan pursuant to Chapter 15.1-36, N.D.C.C. to be paid from the tax levies authorized by Section 21-03-15, N.D.C.C. as necessary for such payment.

2. The Business Manager is directed to submit an application and take such action as may be necessary in connection with obtaining approval for a State School Construction Loan.

Dated: August 10, 2026.

BISMARCK PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 1 **Attest:**

_____ _____
President, School Board Business Manager

The governing body of the District acted on the foregoing resolution at a properly noticed meeting held in Bismarck, North Dakota, on August 10, 2026 with the motion for adoption made by _____ and seconded by _____, and the roll call vote on the motion was as follows:

"Aye" _____

"Nay" _____

Absent _____

2026-2027 Board Appointments

Background Information: The Board is required to approve the following Board appointments and assign Board members to Strategic Plan Priority Area Portfolios.

Motion:

1. **Appoint Tony Aukland to the Bismarck Public School Foundation Board**
2. **Appoint Dan Eastgate to the Bismarck Community Bowl Authority.**
3. **Assign Board members to Strategic Plan Priority Area Portfolios as follows:**
    - **Learning Excellence – Amanda Peterson**
    - **Personal Excellence – Rod Jonas**
    - **Operational Excellence – Donnell Preskey**
    - **Environmental Excellence – Tony Aukland**

The organizational meeting of the 2026-2027 Bismarck School Board was called to order by Board Vice President Donnell Preskey at 5:15 p.m., July 13, 2026, in the Tom Baker Room of the City/County Office Building. Vice President Preskey requested that Dr. Darin Scherr, Business and Operations Manager, call the roll.

Members present: Donnell Preskey, Dan Eastgate, Tony Aukland, Rod Jonas, and Amanda Peterson

Superintendent Fastnacht led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

Vice President Preskey asked for any additions, deletions, or changes to the Agenda. It was moved by Mr. Eastgate and seconded by Mrs. Peterson to adopt the agenda as presented. Upon roll call vote, Aukland, Jonas, Peterson, Eastgate, and Preskey voted aye. Motion carried.

For the Focus on Success, Superintendent Fastnacht introduced Foundation Development Director Tahlia Nygaard to present the 2026–2027 Strategic Plan and the 2025–2026 Impact Report. Nygaard then introduced Foundation Board President Stacey Lang, who welcomed former Board President Rick Geloff to the podium to recognize his dedication and contributions to the BPS Foundation. Following the presentation, Board members Peterson, Aukland, Eastgate, and Preskey each shared their appreciation for Mr. Geloff's service to Bismarck Public Schools.

Vice President Preskey called for nominations for the position of President of the Bismarck School Board for 2026-2027. Mrs. Peterson nominated Dan Eastgate to serve as President of the 2026-2027 School Board, Mr. Aukland seconded the nomination. Upon roll call vote, Jonas, Peterson, Aukland, Eastgate, who accepted the nomination at this time, and Preskey voted aye. Motion carried.

Vice President Preskey and Mr. Eastgate switched seats. President Eastgate resumed the meeting.

President Eastgate called for nominations for the position of Vice President of the Bismarck School Board. Ms. Preskey nominated Amanda Peterson to serve as Vice President of the 2026-2027 School Board, Dr. Jonas seconded the nomination. Mrs. Peterson accepted the nomination. Upon roll call vote, Preskey, Aukland, Jonas, Peterson, and Eastgate voted aye. Motion carried.

President Eastgate announced the time for public appearances. There was no public comment.

Superintendent Fastnacht presented the OE-1 *Global Operational Expectation* monitoring report. It was moved by Ms. Preskey and seconded by Mr. Aukland to accept the Monitoring Report for Policy OE-1 *Global Operational Expectation* as In Compliance. Upon roll call vote, Preskey, Aukland, Jonas, Peterson, and Eastgate voted aye. Motion carried.

Superintendent Fastnacht next presented the OE-2 *Emergency Superintendent Succession* monitoring report. It was moved by Mrs. Peterson and seconded by Dr. Jonas to accept the Monitoring Report for Policy OE-2 *Emergency Superintendent Succession* as In Compliance. Upon roll call vote, Aukland, Jonas, Peterson, Preskey, and Eastgate voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Ms. Preskey and seconded by Mrs. Peterson to appoint authorized representatives, designees, and authorizations listed in recommendations 1 through 26 of the 2026-2027 Board appointments. Upon roll call vote, Jonas, Peterson, Preskey, Aukland, and Eastgate voted aye. Motion carried.

It was moved by Ms. Preskey and seconded by Mrs. Peterson to approve the following items on the Consent Agenda: June 22, 2026 School Board Minutes; New Contracts; Resignation; Transportation Report; Milk Bid; FY26 Pupil Membership Summary; and policy FGA-E8 – Parties Approved to Receive Student Data. Upon roll call vote, Peterson, Preskey, Aukland, Jonas, and Eastgate voted aye. Motion carried.

Superintendent Fastnacht shared the 18-Month Strategic Plan – Phase II which is short term plan within the Districts long-term 5-Year Strategic Plan. This plan highlights the focus and goals for Bismarck Public Schools for the next year and a half which includes strengthening teaching practices, empowering learners, nurturing well-rounded individuals, and elevating educators.

Superintendent Fastnacht addressed accessibility issues related to the Board agenda on the district website and that the agenda and supporting documents will now be available on the district website in one single PDF while the district finds a long-term solution.

There being no further business to come before the Board, President Eastgate adjourned the meeting at 6:08 p.m.

_____

President – Dan Eastgate

_____

Business and Operations Manager – Dr. Darin M. Scherr, P.E.

The Bismarck School Board met in a workshop on July 13, 2026, in the Administration Conference Room of the Central Administration Building.

Board President Eastgate called the meeting to order at 6:34 p.m. President Eastgate requested that Dr. Darin Scherr, Business and Operations Manager, call the roll.

Members present: Dan Eastgate, Tony Aukland, Rod Jonas, Amanda Peterson, and Donnell Preskey.

Superintendent Fastnacht and Dr. Scherr facilitated a discussion surrounding the 2026 Bond and the next steps moving forward.

Superintendent Fastnacht informed the Board that the Wisdom Sharing Conference would be pushed off until next year.

There being no further business to come before the board, President Eastgate adjourned the workshop at 7:34 p.m.

_____

President – Dan Eastgate

_____

Business and Operations Manager – Dr. Darin Scherr, P.E.

The Bismarck School Board held a retreat on August 3, 2026, at Knutson Companies, 5112 Stockholm Loop, Bismarck, North Dakota.

Board President Eastgate called the retreat to order at 8:03 a.m. and requested that Dr. Darin Scherr, Business and Operations Manager, call the roll.

Members present: Dan Eastgate, Tony Aukland, Rod Jonas, Amanda Peterson, and Donnell Preskey.

Superintendent Fastnacht introduced Mr. John Steach to present on Coherent Governance.

The Board reviewed and discussed the following agenda items:

- Review 18-Month Strategic Plan
- School Visits & Excellence Committees
- Committee Appointments
- 2025-2026 Budget Recap
- FY26 Budget – Revenues/Expenditure
- Levies
- Infinite Campus Transition
- Back-to-School Week

President Eastgate adjourned the retreat at 4:15 p.m.

_____

President – Dan Eastgate

_____

Business and Operations Manager – Dr. Darin Scherr, P.E.

Meal Price Increases

Background Information: The district is required to use a Paid Lunch Equity Tool to compare the average weighted prices to the per meal federal reimbursement for free and paid lunches. The tool shows that the district is required to increase meal prices.

Recommendation: Increase all meal prices by $0.10.

	Current	Proposed	Mandan	Average of Large Districts
Elementary Breakfast	$1.85	$1.95	$2.15	$1.95
Elementary Lunch	$2.75	$2.85	$3.30	$2.92
Secondary Breakfast	$1.95	$2.05	$2.30	$2.13
Secondary Lunch	$3.25	$3.35	$3.90	$3.27
Adult Breakfast	$3.00	$3.10	$3.10	$3.01
Adult Lunch	$4.50	$4.60	$5.10	$4.59

Contract - Teacher

Name	Subject	School	School Year	Salary	%
Jennifer Bearstail	Instructional Coach (.6) LMS (.4)	Prairie Rose	2026-27	68534	100
Angela Erickson	Special Education	Roosevelt	2026-27	73932	100
Brittney Kaiser	Reading Specialist	Pioneer	2026-27	32669	50
Katelyn Kaiser	Math Specialist	Moses	2026-27	29299.4	52
Tekyera McCree	Special Education	SMS	2026-27	61112	100

Resignations

Background Information: The following employees have submitted resignations: Ashley Brawley, Sue Scott, Andrea Vinje, and Nicole Gabel. The official letter of resignation is held in their personnel file.

Recommendation: Approve the listed resignations.

Open Enrollment Application

Background: Bismarck Public Schools (BPS) handles cross-district transfers via BPS Policy FAAA, which utilizes "opt-out" provisions under NDCC Chapter 15.1-31 to allow non-resident students to remain enrolled through high school graduation. While standard open enrollment requires a March 1st deadline, Policy FAAA provides specific continuity exceptions for 11th and 12th graders whose families move out of the district, though this extension excludes younger siblings. Under an approved open enrollment application, state foundation funding automatically follows the student to BPS, the district bears no transportation obligations, and the board must vote to approve or deny the request strictly based on current building and grade-level capacities.

Recommendation: Approve the Open Enrollment Application

Tuition/Cost-Sharing Agreement

Background: North Dakota public school districts use tuition and cost-sharing agreements (NDCC Chapter 15.1-29; Form SFN 50013) to transfer funding when a student attends school outside their home district. School boards must approve or deny parental tuition requests.

This tuition waiver agreement applies to a student residing in Mandan. Bismarck Public Schools is requesting a formal Tuition/Cost-Sharing Agreement with Mandan Public Schools.

Recommendation: Approve the Public School District Tuition/Cost-Sharing Agreement.

BISMARCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

2026

EXCELLENCE • INNOVATION • INCLUSION • LEADERSHIP

ELEVATE POTENTIAL

bps BISMARCK PUBLIC SCHOOLS

2026-2027

SUPERINTENDENT'S ANNUAL REPORT

DR. JEFF FASTNACHT

bps

Superintendent's Message

Dear BPS Community and Families,

I am truly honored to lead this exceptional school district and am incredibly proud of the work we have accomplished together this year. Bismarck Public Schools is filled with dedicated educators and staff who make supporting our children their life's work. Their passion and professional commitment continue to create a system that provides meaningful opportunities for our students to **THRIVE**.

A priority this year has been around the word ELEVATE. We have been intentional in elevating our educators, showcasing the incredible work they do each day. We have elevated the importance of dignity, reinforcing that how we communicate matters and holding ourselves to a high standard in how we treat one another. We have also worked to elevate student opportunities, ensuring they are Choice Ready, expanding Career and Technical Education (CTE) pathways, and amplifying student voice. Finally, we have prioritized well-being, strengthening mental health supports for students and providing resources to support our staff.

This year required us to work through several complex and, at times, difficult challenges. The transition to new bell times and a redesigned transportation system created real disruption at the start of the school year. While these changes were necessary to address a system that was not sustainable, we recognize the impact it had on families. Through adjustments, continued communication, and the commitment of our staff, we saw meaningful improvements as the year progressed and are in a stronger position moving forward.

We also engaged our community in important conversations about the future of our facilities. While the June bond referendum did not meet the required threshold for approval, the level of support and feedback we received was significant. That input is helping us refine our approach as we continue planning for safe, functional, and future-ready learning environments.

In addition, like many school systems, we continue to navigate ongoing pressures related to staffing, student needs, and the pace of change in education. These challenges require us to stay focused, make thoughtful decisions, and work together as a community.

I want to thank our families, staff, and community partners for their engagement throughout this year. Your willingness to share feedback, ask questions, and stay involved, especially during challenging moments, makes our system stronger. That partnership is essential to our continued growth.

Thank you for trusting us with your most precious gift. We look forward to building on this year's progress and continuing our work together to make BPS even better.

With gratitude,

Superintendent

Our Values

EXCELLENCE

INNOVATION

INCLUSION

LEADERSHIP

Bismarck School Board

DANIEL EASTGATE

JOSH HAGER
President

DONNELL PRESKEY
Vice-President

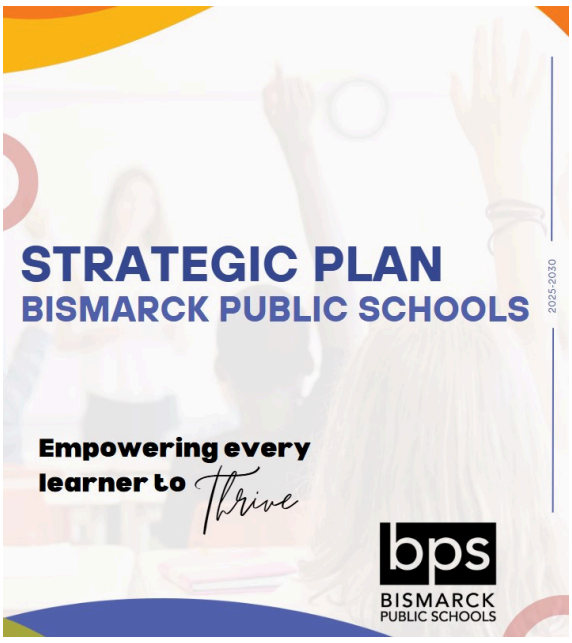
JON LEE

AMANDA PETERSON

Mr. Hager & Mr. Lee ended their tenure on the BPS Board as of June 2026. Winning seats on the board to fill these vacant positions were Dr. Rod Jonas and Mr. Tony Aukland, both with four-year terms.

ROD JONAS

TONY AUKLAND



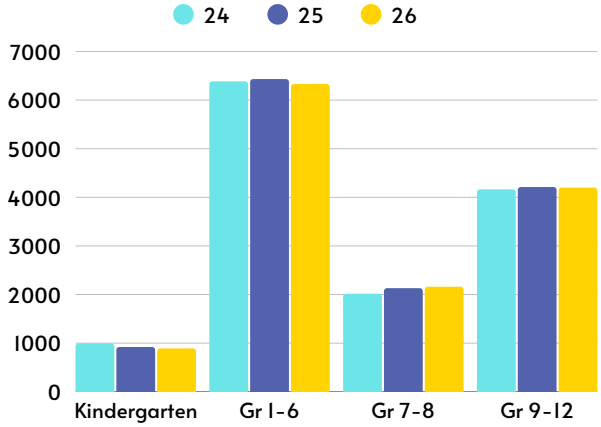
Strategic Plan

The BPS Strategic Plan is the roadmap for the future for the district. It is designed as a framework to guide district decisions, prioritize actions, and align efforts to serve the students and families of Bismarck.

You can access the entire plan and other strategic documents at https://www.bismarckschools.org/bps-strategic-plan/bps-strategic-plan-new

OUR KIDS

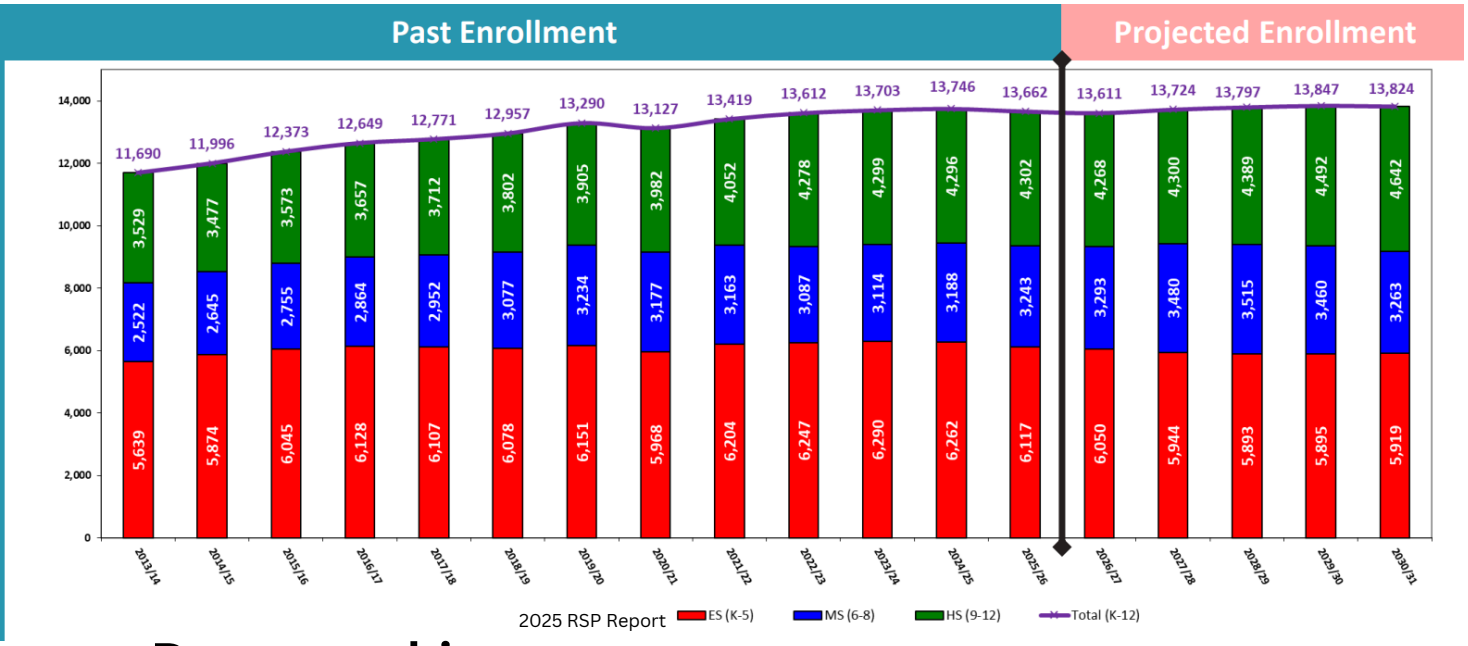
Average Daily Membership



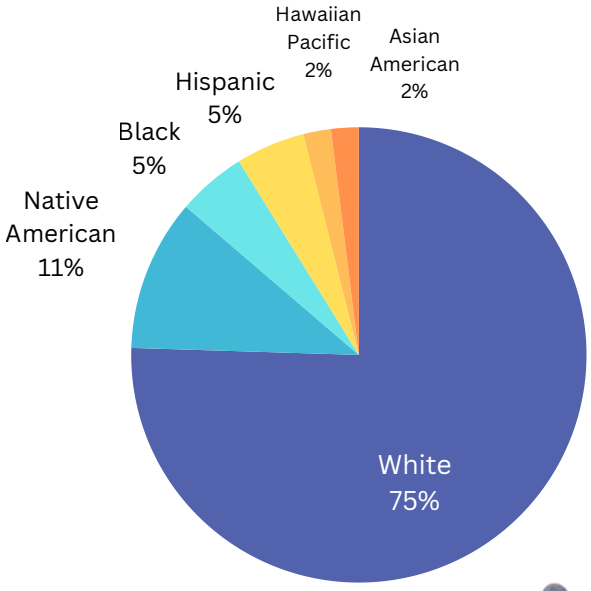
Spring 2024 - 13,871
Spring 2025 - 13,970
Spring 2026 - 13,863

(ADM - DPI Spring Enrollment Report)

Market Forecast



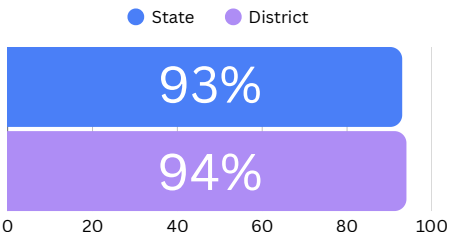
Demographics



Low Income - 22%
Homeless - 1%
English Learners (EL) - 4%

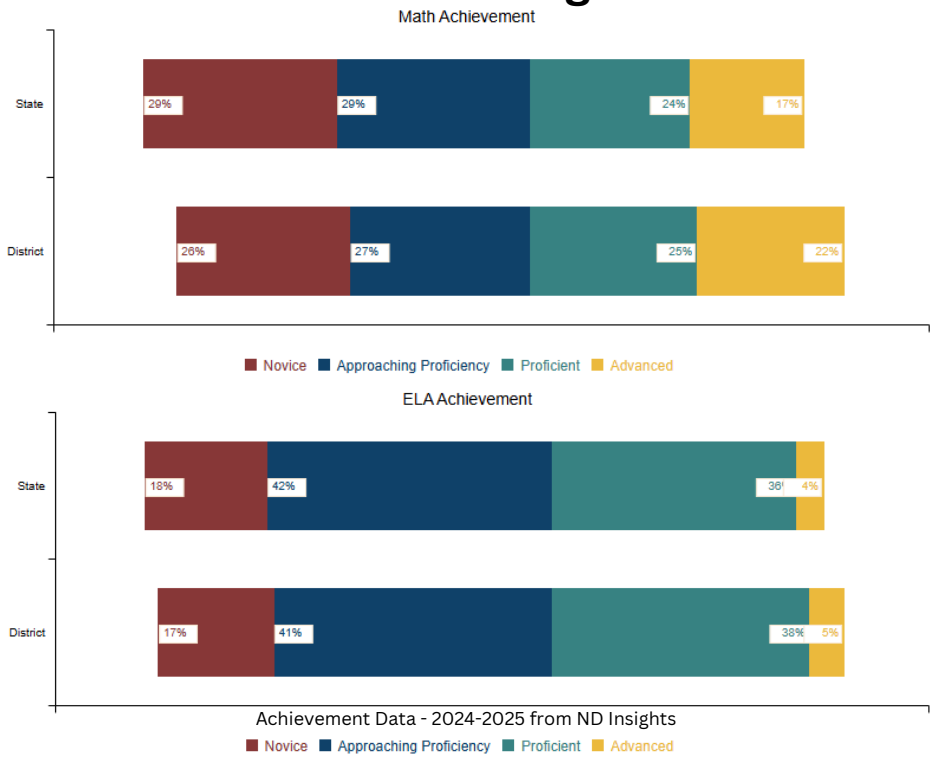
Data from ND Insights

Attendance

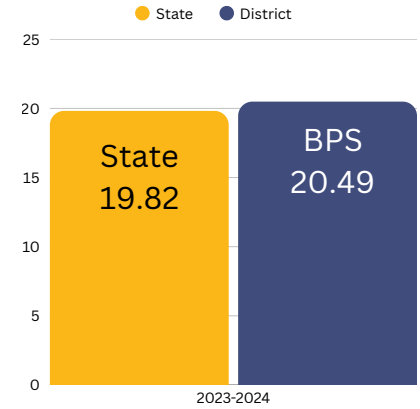


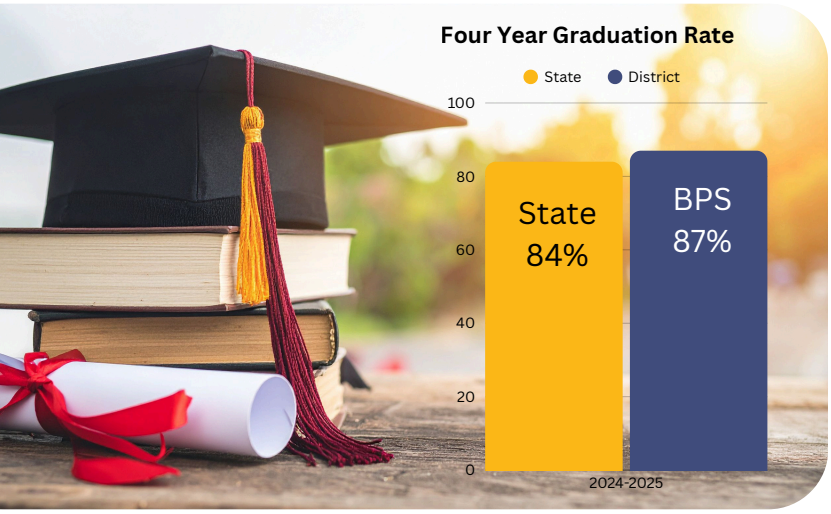
ACHIEVEMENT

State NDA+ Testing Results



ACT Composite Score





69% of BPS Graduates Attend College

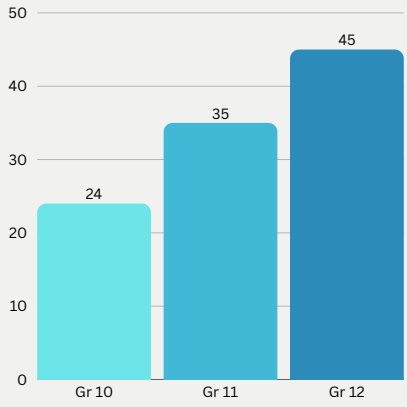
Top schools:

- Bismarck State College (38%)
- NDSU (14%)
- UND (12%)
- University of Mary (8%)

Dual Credit & AP

Dual Credit

Participation Rate %

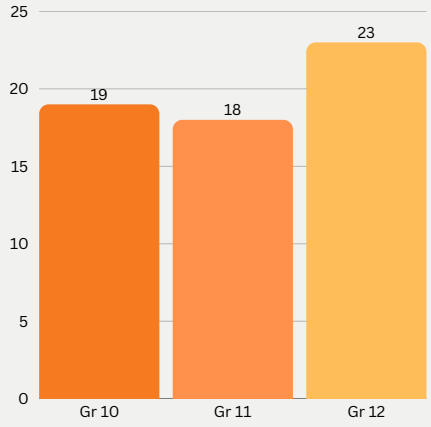


Pass Rate

98%

Advanced Placement

Participation Rate %

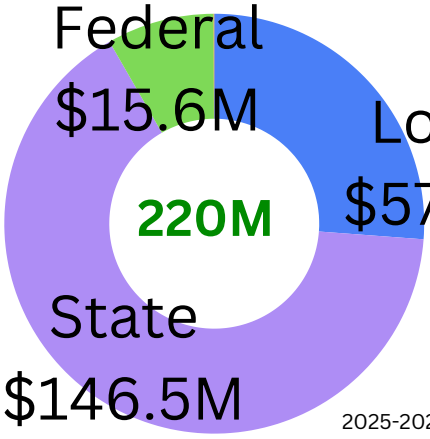


Pass Rate

75%

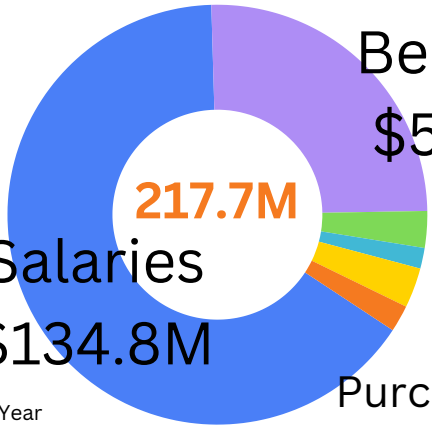
2023-2024 Data from ND Insights

Revenue



2025-2026 Actual @ End of Year

Expenditures



Benefits
$51.2M

Utilities $3.4M
Supplies $5.6M
Facilities $4.9M
Purchase Services $5.7M
Professional Services $6.2M

Staffing

Teachers: 1,145
Aides: 464
Professional Support: 116
Administration: 71

July 2026
BPS HR

Retention Rates

Administration

95%

Teachers

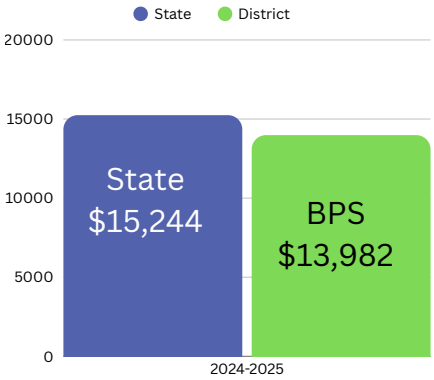
94%

Instructional Aides

70%

*Includes retirements & resignations

Cost per Pupil



Child Nutrition

2025-2026 Meals Served

Breakfast: **592,369**

Lunch: **1,588,369**

Transportation

(DPI -Transportation Report)

Total Annual Miles **916,975**

That is enough miles to nearly travel to the moon and back twice.

DISTRICT DATA

Planning for the Future of our Schools

BPS completed an extensive review of 32 district campuses and identified facility needs related to safety, accessibility, building systems, learning environments, and responsible growth. Although the June 2026 bond proposal received 58.6% support, it fell just short of the 60% required for approval. The strong community support was not in vain. BPS is using the feedback received to refine its plans, prioritize the most urgent needs, and determine a responsible path forward.

Transportation Improvements Deliver Results

The transition to new school start times and a two-tier transportation system produced significant improvements during the 2025–26 school year. The beginning of the year presented challenges, particularly with pickup times and communication with families. We appreciate the patience and understanding of our families as routes were adjusted and those early issues were addressed. A new transportation contract with Harlow's will provide newer buses and improved tracking technology, allowing families to monitor their child's bus more reliably through the transportation app.

Revised Bell Times

Elementary - 8:00 - 2:30
Middle School - 8:40 - 3:30
High School - 8:30 - 3:38
(LHS 8:30-3:50)

ELEVATING Educators

Great schools are built by great educators. As the demands and expectations placed on them continue to grow, it is more important than ever for our community to lift up those who serve students each day. A kind word, a note of appreciation, or a willingness to share a positive story can have a meaningful impact. Our educators do far more than teach, they build relationships, create belonging, and help students discover their strengths and potential. By showing gratitude, offering encouragement, and treating educators with trust and respect, we strengthen not only our schools but our entire community.

Preparing Students for a Changing World

Technology, artificial intelligence, and digital learning tools continue to reshape education and the world students will enter after graduation. BPS is bringing educators, parents, students, community members, and state leaders together to examine the appropriate use of technology in our schools. The work will include focused conversations about screen time in the early grades and the responsible use of artificial intelligence in middle and high school classrooms. Our goal is to protect what matters most in learning while preparing students to thrive in a rapidly changing world.

THE FUTURE

This past year, the district renewed our Strategic Plan, which serves as a roadmap for Bismarck Public Schools. It guides our efforts to meet the goals set by the Bismarck School Board under its coherent governance model. It outlines clear strategies and actions to help every student, educator, and stakeholder thrive in a culture defined by:

Excellence – Innovation – Leadership – Inclusion

At the center of the plan are our **Drivers of Excellence**. The drivers represent the core outcomes we want to achieve.

LEARNING EXCELLENCE

- Empowering Learners
- Strengthening Teaching Practices
- Preparing the Future Workforce

PERSONAL EXCELLENCE

- Nurturing Well-Rounded Learners
- Elevating Educators

OPERATIONAL EXCELLENCE

- Building Partnerships
- Providing Efficient & Responsive Services

ENVIRONMENTAL EXCELLENCE

- Strengthening Our Community
- Enhancing Communication
- Ensuring a Safe Environment

Reporting

Within the Strategic Plan is a timeline to identify how the district will be reporting out on our progress in meeting our expectations and aligning our work to the drivers. This report is just one means of sharing information with our stakeholders on how the district is performing.

SUMMER

- **Superintendent's Annual Report**
- Mega Results – R-1 Board Report
- Global Operations Expectations – OE-1 Board Report