Arlington School District

2026-2027

The report lists and ranks the SPI scores and ACT scores for Arlington as well as Dakota Valley Conference schools when possible.

Mission Statement:

The mission of the Arlington School district is to educate all students in a safe, challenging, and disciplined environment and to provide each student the opportunity to develop the skills and knowledge necessary to be a productive citizen in an ever-changing society.

The Arlington School consists of a PK, K-6, 7-8, and 9-12 schools all housed in one building.

In 2023-24, Arlington High School seniors had the 4th highest ACT composite score of 24.30.

School Contact Information:

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Demographic Profile

Arlington School District 38-1
306 South Main
Arlington, SD 57212

Home County: Kingsbury

Area in Square Miles: 231

School Names:

- Arlington Pre-School
- Arlington Elementary School (K–6)
- Arlington Jr. High School (7-8)
- Arlington High School (9-12)

Student Demographics

	2025-2026	2024-2025	2023-2024	2022-2023	2021-2022
Total Enrollment (PreK-12) official count date	285	292	310.43	303	300
Elementary School Enrollment (K-6) official count date	148	152	163	155	145
Middle School (7-8) official count date	47	47	39.14	38	36
High School Enrollment (9-12) official count date	73	76	90.29	88	95
% Special Needs Students	14.6%	15.6%	10.3%	10.9%	15.3%
Economically Disadvantaged Enrollment (% Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch)	13.3%	17.5%	15.1%	14.9%	8.3%

Staff Demographics

	Certified Instructional Staff (#FTE)	% with Advanced Degrees	Student to Staff Ratio	Average Years of Experience	Classes Not Taught by Highly Qualified Teachers
2021-2022	23.62	42%	12.70	15	0%
2022-2023	23.62	38%	12.83	15	0%
2023-2024	23.62	38%	12.74	16	0%
2024-2025	24.50	37%	11.92	16	0%
2025-2026	24.50	45%	11.63	16	0%

Student Testing Results - Elementary

Elementary ELA Performance			
SMARTER BALANCE Results in ELA Grades 3-6 (Elementary School)			
	Number of students tested	**% Proficient and Advanced**	**Attendance Rate Entire Elementary (148 Students)**
Year Tested	**All Tested**	**All Tested**	**All**
2021-22	82	77%	99%
2022-23	88	61%	99%
2023-24	87	59%	97%
2024-25	92	71%	97%
2025-26	89	66%	98%

Elementary MATH Performance			
SMARTER BALANCE Results in MATH Grades 3-6 (Elementary School)			
	Number of students tested	**% Proficient and Advanced**	**Attendance Rate Entire Elementary (148 Students)**
Year Tested	**All Tested**	**All Tested**	**All**
2021-22	82	80%	99%
2022-23	88	66%	99%
2023-24	87	78%	97%
2024-25	92	75%	97%
2025-26	89	73%	98%

Elementary School Performance Index Scores (SPI)					
Smarter Balance Testing					
	Achievement		Attendance	Overall Score and Rankings	
Subject/Points possible	Student Performance (45)	Student Progress (45)	Attendance (10)	Total SPI (100)	Designation
2025-2026	40.9	26.2	9.8	**77**	**General Support**

Designations: ***General Support*** *– not designated for school improvement and receives all the support from the Department of Education available to all schools* ***/ Comprehensive Support & Improvement*** *– lowest-performing 5% of Title I schools, based on SPI; public high schools with a graduation rate less than 67%; Title I ATSI schools who do not exit within four years* ***/ Targeted Support & Improvement*** *– public schools with a subgroup or its Gap group performing disproportionately below the performance of all the students group on all indicators over a period of three years.*

Student Testing Results – Junior High

Jr. High ELA Performance			
SMARTER BALANCE Results in ELA Grades 7 & 8 (Jr. High School)			
	Number of students tested	**% Proficient and Advanced**	**Attendance Rate Entire JH (47 Students)**
Year Tested	**All Tested**	**All Tested**	**All**
2021-22	36	78%	92%
2022-23	38	70%	89%
2023-24	37	84%	95%
2024-25	47	57%	96%
2025-26	47	56%	98%

Jr. High MATH Performance			
SMARTER BALANCE Results in MATH Grades 7 & 8 (Jr. High School)			
	Number of students tested	**% Proficient and Advanced**	**Attendance Rate Entire JH (47 Students)**
Year Tested	**All Tested**	**All Tested**	**All**
2021-22	36	75%	92%
2022-23	38	86%	89%
2023-24	37	87%	95%
2024-25	47	72%	96%
2025-26	47	64%	98%

Jr. High School Performance Index Scores (SPI)

Smarter Balance Testing

	Achievement		Attendance	Overall Score and Rankings	
Subject/Points possible	Student Performance (45)	Student Progress (45)	Attendance (10)	Total SPI (100)	Designation
2025-2026	41.0	21.6	9.8	**72**	**General Support**

Designations: ***General Support*** *– not designated for school improvement and receives all the support from the Department of Education available to all schools* ***/ Comprehensive Support & Improvement*** *– lowest-performing 5% of Title I schools, based on SPI; public high schools with a graduation rate less than 67%; Title I ATSI schools who do not exit within four years* ***/ Targeted Support & Improvement*** *– public schools with a subgroup or its Gap group performing disproportionately below the performance of all the students group on all indicators over a period of three years.*

Student Testing Results – High School

High School ELA Performance		
2021-25 SMARTER BALANCE Results in ELA Grade 11 (High School) 2025-26 ACT Results in ELA Grade 11 (High School)		
	Number of students tested	% Proficient and Advanced
Year Tested	All Tested	All Tested
2021-22	17	75%
2022-23	29	59%
2023-24	21	71%
2024-25	18	71%
2025-26	18	59%

High School MATH Performance		
2021-25 SMARTER BALANCE Results in MATH Grade 11 (High School) 2025-26 ACT Results in MATH Grade 11 (High School)		
	Number of students tested	% Proficient and Advanced
Year Tested	All Tested	All Tested
2021-22	17	63%
2022-23	29	52%
2023-24	21	67%
2024-25	18	65%
2025-26	18	47%

High School Performance Index Scores (SPI)					
ACT Testing					
	Student Performance	**High School Completion**	**College and Career Readiness**	**Overall Score and Rankings**	
Subject/Points possible	Overall Student Performance (43.34)	Total HS Completion (28.33)	College and Career Readiness (28.33)	Total SPI (100)	Designation
2025-26	35.0	28.33	17.5	**81**	**General Support**

***Designations:* General Support** – *not designated for school improvement and receives all the support from the Department of Education available to all schools* **/ Comprehensive Support & Improvement** – *lowest-performing 5% of Title I schools, based on SPI; public high schools with a graduation rate less than 67%; Title I ATSI schools who do not exit within four years* **/ Targeted Support & Improvement** – *public schools with a subgroup or its Gap group performing disproportionately below the performance of all the students group on all indicators over a period of three years.*

Below are the 2025-2026 testing comparisons to DVC schools using SPI scores, ranking schools from high to low with all schools in the Conference. Overall school SPI scores were not reported in the 2025-2026 public report card. SPI points were only reported on the private report card to each school.

DVC School	*DVC Rank (Elem)*	*Elem SPI Score*	*DVC Rank (MS/JH)*	*MS/JH SPI Score*	*DVC Rank (HS)*	*HS SPI Score*
Arlington	*2*	*77*	*3*	*72*	*2*	*81*
Castlewood	*4*	*74*	*6*	*58*	*1*	*86*
Colman-Egan	*8*	*61*	*8*	*52*	*4*	*77*
De Smet	*5*	*72*	*1*	*73*	*8*	*72*
Dell Rapids St. Mary	*Information not available*					
Deubrook	*6*	*70*	*7*	*54*	*4*	*77*
Elkton	*9*	*59*	*9*	*49*	*9*	*67*
Estelline	*3*	*76*	*4*	*61*	*4*	*77*
Lake Preston	*1*	*82*	*1*	*73*	*7*	*76*
Oldham-Ramona-Rutland	*7*	*64*	*4*	*61*	*3*	*79*

College Admission and Placement Performance

Five Year Trends – Average ACT Scores

This report reflects the achievement of Arlington graduates on the ACT over time and an indication of the extent to which they are prepared for college-level work. The ACT consists of curriculum-based tests of educational development in English, mathematics, reading, and science designed to measure the skills needed for success in first-year college coursework. This table shows the five-year trend of Arlington High School's ACT-tested graduates. From this table you can determine:

- Changes in the number and percentage of participants
- Score changes in subject areas and the ACT composite
- How Arlington graduates compare with state averages

	Number Tested	English		Math		Reading		Science		Composite Score	
		Dist. Avg	State Avg	Dist. Avg	State Avg	Dist. Avg	State Avg	Dist. Avg	State Avg	Dist. Avg	State Avg
2022	9	**20.8**	20.5	**24.0**	21.2	**21.9**	22.2	**23.4**	21.7	**22.6**	21.5
2023	7	**20.4**	19.9	**24.7**	20.8	**22.4**	21.8	**21.6**	21.4	**22.4**	21.1
2024	15	**21.7**	20.0	**24.2**	20.8	**23.6**	21.9	**23.5**	21.3	**23.4**	21.1
2025	5	**21.4**	19.8	**24.4**	20.7	**22.8**	21.8	**22.2**	21.2	**22.8**	21.0
2026	9	**22.2**	21.1	**25.0**	21.1	**25.1**	21.9	**25.3**	21.8	**24.2**	21.1

2026 Graduates - Dakota Valley Conference School ACT Scores
(most recent available on the DOE site)

School Name	Number Tested	English	Math	Reading	Science	Composite Score
Arlington	**9**	**22.2**	**25.0**	**25.1**	**25.3**	**24.2**
Castlewood	18	20.3	20.5	19.8	20.1	20.2
Colman-Egan	11	17.4	17.7	20.5	18.5	18.7
De Smet	27	16.8	18.5	19.4	19.9	18.3
Deubrook	13	20.2	21.8	22.0	22.9	21.5
Elkton	13	16.9	21.2	22.6	21.7	20.4
Estelline	9					
Lake Preston	6					
Oldham-Ramona-Rutland	6					

** No scores were submitted when number of students tested is under 10. Blank score means not reported at time of printing.

Student Post Graduation Plans

Are Arlington Students Ready for College?

Through collaborative research with postsecondary institutions nationwide, ACT has established the following as college readiness benchmark scores for designated college courses.

A benchmark score is the minimum score needed on an ACT subject-area test to indicate a 50% chance of obtaining a B or higher or about a 75% chance of obtaining a C or higher in the corresponding credit-bearing college courses. These scores were empirically derived based on the actual performance of students in college.

- English Composition: 18 on ACT English Test
- Algebra: 22 on ACT Mathematics Test
- Social Sciences: 22 on ACT Reading Test
- Biology: 23 on ACT Science Test

Percent of ACT-Tested Students Who Met College Readiness Benchmarks

Graduate Year	Number Tested	English Composition		Algebra		Social Sciences		Biology	
		Arlington	State	Arlington	State	Arlington	State	Arlington	State
2021-22	9	67%	66%	78%	45%	44%	52%	67%	44%
2022-23	7	71%	63%	86%	43%	57%	49%	57%	41%
2023-24	15	87%	63%	87%	43%	67%	50%	73%	42%
2024-25	5	80%	62%	100%	42%	40%	49%	60%	41%
2025-26	9	78%	62%	56%	45%	67%	52%	67%	46%

Post-Graduation Plans

	# of Graduates	% 4-year College	% Voc/Tech College	% Employment	% Military	% Miscellaneous
2022	22	41%	36%	13%	5%	5%
2023	18	33%	28%	33%	0%	6%
2024	31	39%	39%	16%	0%	6%
2025	20	40%	45%	15%	0%	0%
2026	15	74%	13%	13%	0%	0%