



# White Bear Lake Area Schools



2021-22  
Elementary Guide  
Grades K through 5

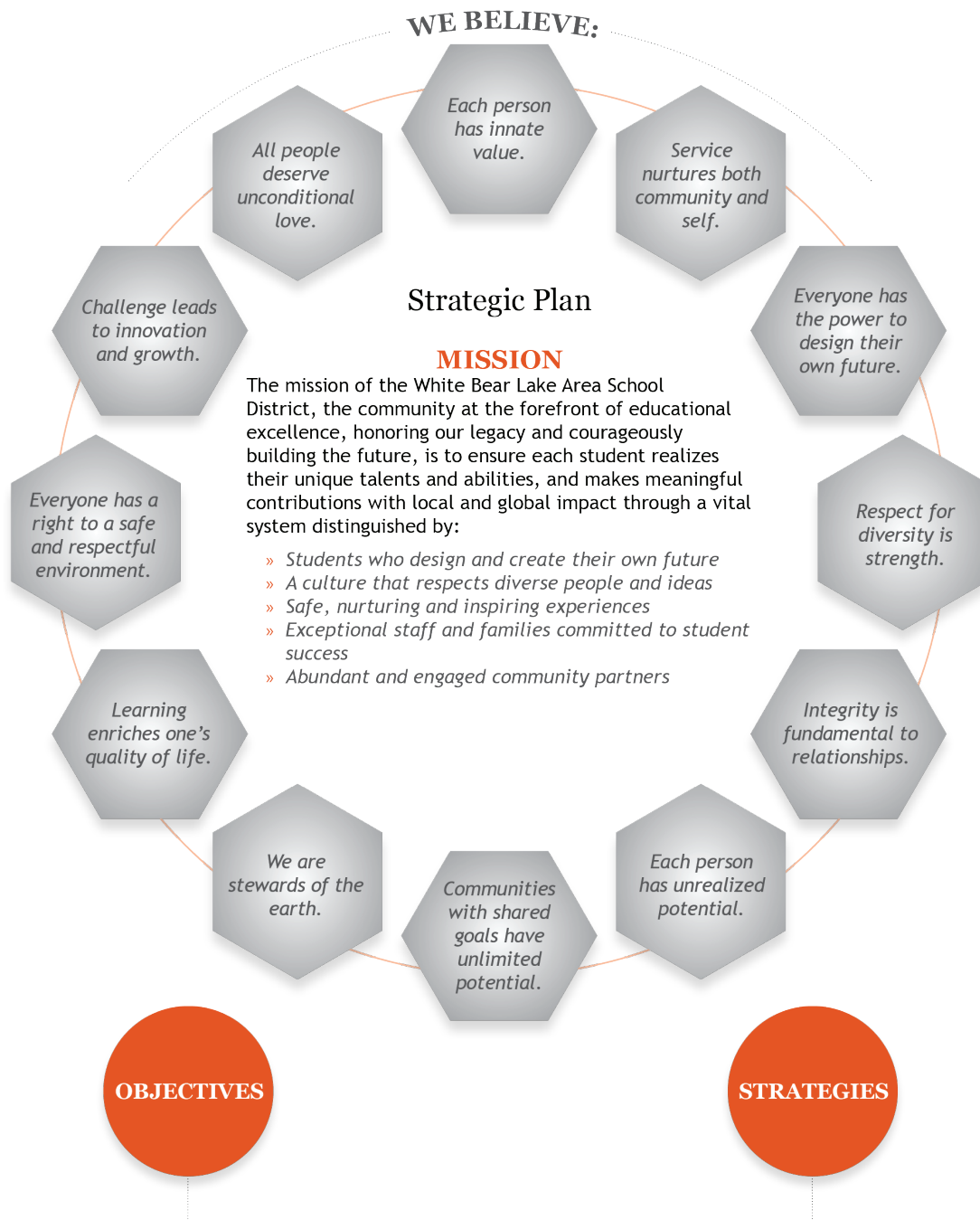


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sau npe kawm  
ntawv nyob rau  
[www.isd624.org/hmong](http://www.isd624.org/hmong)  
Información en español sobre la  
matriculación/registración escolar  
está disponible en la página web  
[www.isd624.org/espanol](http://www.isd624.org/espanol)

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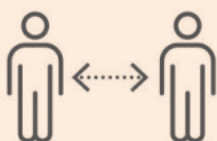
Each student meaningfully contributes to community.

**100% OF STUDENTS:**

- feel valued.
- accomplish their personalized learning plan.
- are prepared for and implement their design for their future.
- graduate.
- creatively adapt to an ever-changing world.

**WE WILL:**

- ensure that each student is the primary agent in their learning.
- provide expanding access to a broad range of opportunities for all students.
- foster community engagement and partnerships.
- build organizational capacity.
- embrace all cultures with humility and respect.
- ensure learning environments enhance students' educational experience.
- engage families as partners in the education of their children.
- ensure the social and emotional growth of each student.
- imagine new concepts in learning and teaching at White Bear Lake Area High School.



Many of the photos used throughout this publication were taken before the COVID-19 pandemic.



## DISTRICT DIRECTORY

White Bear Lake Area Schools  
4855 Bloom Avenue  
White Bear Lake, MN 55110  
651-407-7500, [www.isd624.org](http://www.isd624.org)

### 2021 SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

Scott Arcand Donald Mullin  
Deborah Beloyed Margaret Newmaster  
Kim Chapman Angela Thompson  
Jessica Ellison

### DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Wayne Kazmierczak - 651-407-7563  
Superintendent of Schools

Dr. Alison Gillespie - 651-407-7567  
Assistant Superintendent  
for Teaching and Learning

Tim Wald - 651-407-7516  
Assistant Superintendent  
for Finance and Operations

Marcellus Davis - 651-407-7683  
Director of Equity and Engagement

Lisa Ouren - 651-407-7552  
Director of Student Support Services

Steve Asper - 651-407-7612  
Director of Technology and Innovation

Matt Mons - 651-407-7550  
Director of Human Resources &  
General Counsel

Tim Maurer - 651-407-7509  
Director of Community Services & Recreation

Marisa Vette - 651-407-7695  
Communications Director

### DISTRICT ELEMENTARY PRINCIPALS

Birch Lake Elementary - 651-653-2776  
Jonathan Luknic, Principal

Hugo and Oneka Elementary Schools  
651-653-2798, 651-288-1800  
Brian Morris, Hugo Principal  
Lori Mosser, Oneka Principal

Lakeaires Elementary - 651-653-2809  
Cary Krusemark, Principal

Lincoln Elementary - 651-653-2820  
Dan Schmidt, Principal

Matoska Int'l IB World School  
651-653-2847  
John Leining, Principal

Otter Lake Elementary - 651-653-2831  
Cynthia Mueller, Principal

Vadnais Heights Elementary - 651-653-2858  
Sara Svir, Principal

Willow Lane Elementary - 651-773-6170  
Matt Menier, Interim Principal



*The White Bear Lake Area School District  
builds quality lives and strong communities  
through the core values of compassion, integrity,  
respect, responsibility and service.*

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### Translations:

Para Español por favor llame al 651-407-7625  
Xav tau ntawv Hmoob hu rau 651-407-7623



Dear Families,

Whether you are searching for a school for your child or simply trying to better understand the options in White Bear Lake Area Schools, we want you to have the information you need.

This publication provides an overview of our elementary school program. All of our elementary schools have the rigorous curriculum and excellent teaching that has contributed to strong student performance in mathematics, science and reading. Each elementary school also offers a world language experience in all grades; Chinese is offered at Lincoln and Vadnais Heights Elementary, and Spanish is available at all other district elementary schools.

Students at every school participate in our innovative and award-winning partnerships, including professionally taught watercolor, drawing and fabric-based lessons from the White Bear Center for the Arts and water safety at the White Bear Area YMCA. Other partnerships include those with the Tamarack Nature Center, the University of Minnesota, Hangzhou (China) World Languages School, Lakeshore Players and MacPhail Center for Music.

Each school also has unique characteristics - including one with an International Baccalaureate program, one offering schoolwide Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID), others with strong nature and STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, Mathematics) components, and others with enhanced music offerings including strings and piano. All buildings have innovative programming in science and technology and an elementary orchestra that starts at fifth grade, and our elementary schools are supported by engaged parent communities.

Beyond elementary school, our middle schools (grades 6-8) challenge students to become inquiring, balanced, and compassionate young people with the skills to succeed in the interconnected world. Our students explore how what they learn is connected to their lives, their community, and the wider world. We offer the opportunity for students to choose from a variety of arts, music, and design classes (technology, engineering, etc.), in addition to taking classes in English, math, science, social studies, physical education and more. They can earn high school credit through our middle school world language offerings.

At the high school level, White Bear students have access to more than 50 college credit classes and Career Pathways opportunities, thrive in an exciting and academically stimulating environment, and participate in a wide range of athletic and enrichment activities that consistently earn state level and national recognition.

This publication will help give you an overview to get you started, but please take the opportunity to contact us to learn more about our schools!

Sincerely,

Dr. Wayne Kazmierczak  
Superintendent

*Leading minds to learning, hearts to compassion  
and lives to community service.*

## Videos

We invite you to check out information and videos showcasing our elementary programs!



[www.isd624.org/  
Kindergarten/](http://www.isd624.org/Kindergarten/)

## I'm a Bear!

Enroll to receive a Kindergarten Welcome Packet, including a special "I'm a Bear" t-shirt!





# KINDERGARTEN ENROLLMENT

## ENROLLMENT

Enroll online at [www.isd624.org/Kindergarten](http://www.isd624.org/Kindergarten). For assistance, email [parenttechhelp@isd624.org](mailto:parenttechhelp@isd624.org).

Those who wish to enroll in person can do so at our Centralized Enrollment Center located at District Center (4855 Bloom Avenue, White Bear Lake) or at any of the District's elementary schools.

For additional information or for printed enrollment materials, please call 651-407-7674.

## DISTRICT ENTRANCE REQUIREMENTS

Students must have the following to enroll:

- **Proof of Residency** - Examples: copy of driver's license, utility bill, lease agreement, purchase agreement, etc.
- **Birthdate Verification** - Children who are five years of age on or before September 1 of the school year are eligible to attend kindergarten. Parents are required to provide birthdate verification. A birth certificate, baptismal certificate, or hospital certificate may be used as verification, as well as adoption papers and passports. For children who were born in Minnesota, a birth certificate may be obtained from the Minnesota Department of Health. Find information at [www.health.state.mn.us/people/vitalrecords/birth.html](http://www.health.state.mn.us/people/vitalrecords/birth.html).
- **Early Childhood Screening** - Minnesota Statute, Section 123.701, requires children to participate in Early Childhood Screening before entering kindergarten. The White Bear Lake Area School District provides this service. Your preschool child needs to be screened only once. If your child has not participated in Early Childhood Screening or you have not received a letter in the mail, please contact 651-653-3100, to schedule an appointment.
- **Minnesota School Immunization Law** - Minnesota Statutes Section 121A.15 and Minnesota Rules Chapter 4604 requires that each student enrolled in and remaining in an early childhood program, elementary school or secondary school, must submit a record stating that they have received immunizations consistent with medically accepted standards. Immunization records from parents or a health care provider stating the month, day, and year of each dose are acceptable. If the student meets one of the legal exemptions: contraindication for medical reasons or contraindication for conscientiously held beliefs, the health care provider or notary needs to sign an appropriate exemption.



## 2021 Kindergarten Enrollment Events:

### Welcome to White Bear Week

Our elementary principals and kindergarten teams will host virtual tours during the windows of times listed below. Each virtual tour will last approximately 30 minutes.

Find online links to reserve spots on virtual tours at [isd624.org/kindergarten](http://isd624.org/kindergarten).

- » 10-11:30 a.m. rolling-schedule virtual tours  
Jan. 12 and Jan. 14 for all elementary schools
- » 6-7:30 p.m. rolling-schedule virtual tours on the following days:
  - » Jan. 11 for Matoska International
  - » Jan. 12 for Lakeaires and Lincoln
  - » Jan. 13 for Vadnais Heights
  - » Jan. 14 for Birch Lake, Hugo, Matoska, Otter Lake and Willow Lane

### Kindergarten Gatherings

Students will have a chance to meet the kindergarten teachers and tour their schools at in-person events planned at the district's elementary buildings later this spring.

If the opportunities listed above do not work in your family's schedule, please contact any of our schools directly to set up an individual tour or ask any questions.



# ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

## School Directory

### SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL

- 1 WBLAHS - NORTH CAMPUS (Grades 9-10)
- 2 WBLAHS - SOUTH CAMPUS (Grades 11-12)

### WHITE BEAR LAKE AREA LEARNING CENTER

- 3 WHITE BEAR LAKE AREA LEARNING CENTER
- 4 CENTRAL MIDDLE SCHOOL

### MIDDLE SCHOOLS

- 5 SUNRISE PARK MIDDLE SCHOOL

### ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

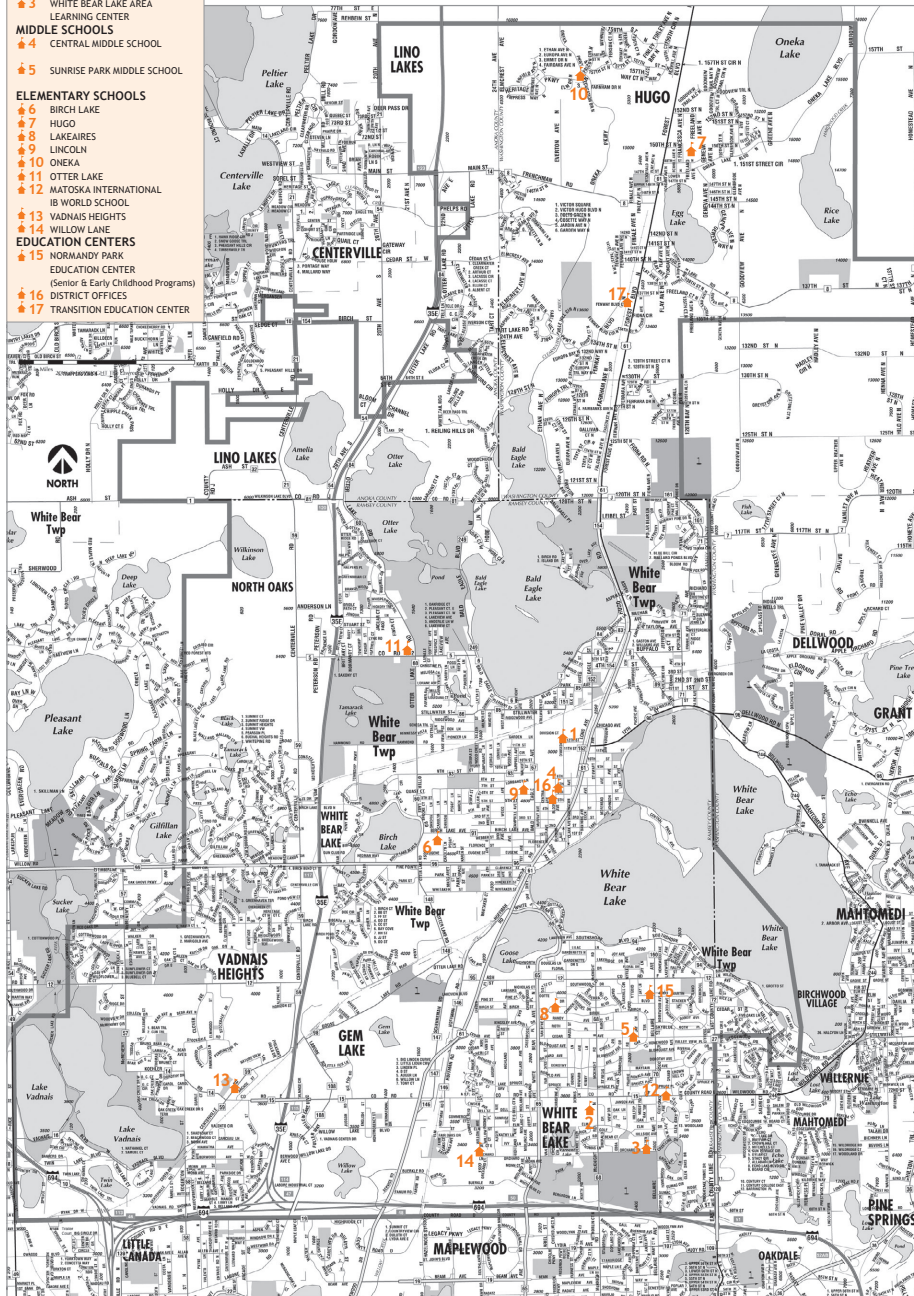
- 6 BIRCH LAKE
- 7 HUGO
- 8 LAKEAIRES
- 9 LINCOLN
- 10 ONEKA
- 11 OTTER LAKE
- 12 MATOSKA INTERNATIONAL IB WORLD SCHOOL
- 13 VADNAIS HEIGHTS
- 14 WILLOW LANE

### EDUCATION CENTERS

- 15 NORMANDY PARK EDUCATION CENTER (Senior & Early Childhood Programs)
- 16 DISTRICT OFFICES
- 17 TRANSITION EDUCATION CENTER



WHITE BEAR LAKE AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT ISD#624  
DR. WAYNE KAZMIERCZAK, SUPERINTENDENT  
4855 BLOOM AVENUE  
WHITE BEAR LAKE, MN 55110



## Birch Lake Elementary

1616 Birch Lake Avenue, White Bear Lake  
651-653-2776

## Hugo and Oneka Elementary Schools \*

14895 Francesca Avenue North, Hugo  
651-653-2798  
4888 Heritage Parkway North, Hugo  
651-288-1800

## Lakeaires Elementary

3963 Van Dyke Street, White Bear Lake  
651-653-2809

## Lincoln Elementary

1961 Sixth Street, White Bear Lake  
651-653-2820

## Matoska International IB World School

2530 Spruce Place, White Bear Lake  
651-653-2847

## Otter Lake Elementary

1401 County Road H2, White Bear Lake  
651-653-2831

## Vadnais Heights Elementary

3645 Centerville Road, Vadnais Heights  
651-653-2858

## Willow Lane Elementary

3375 Willow Avenue, White Bear Lake  
651-773-6170

\* Students who live in the northern Hugo/Oneka part of the School District attend Hugo Elementary for kindergarten and first grade. Hugo is paired with Oneka Elementary, which has grades 2-5.

## Students can look forward to outstanding opportunities at the District's secondary schools:

- Rigorous **Project Lead the Way** engineering classes for middle school and high school students
- Opportunities for **Career Pathways** experiences and more than 50 **college credit courses**
- **World language** and **fine arts** programs at the secondary level
- District-wide **international partnerships**, international travel and learning opportunities
- The **Advancement Via Individual Determination (AVID)** offers rigorous instruction in academic "survival skills" and college-level skills to our secondary students





# KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM

## Kindergarten Program

A strong kindergarten program is offered at each elementary school in the District.

All kindergarten classes use curricula that differentiates literacy and math instruction to challenge each student. Students are immersed in the world of language and reading while applying their skills in cooperative, small group activities. Hands-on science activities provide children with an opportunity to explore the world around them. Social studies, world language, health, music, and the arts are integrated throughout the curriculum.

Specialists teach music, media, physical education and world language experiences (Chinese at Lincoln and Vadnais Heights Elementary Schools and Spanish at all other district elementary schools). Art lessons are taught by professional staff from White Bear Center for the Arts.

Anticipated class sizes for the 2021-22 school year will be in the 18-22 range. Students will be taught by a licensed kindergarten teacher full-day, five days a week. Please contact your school's principal if you have questions.

## KINDERGARTEN CURRICULUM

White Bear Lake Area School District's kindergarten curriculum is based on the belief that all children are valuable, unique and capable of learning and achieving. Our kindergarten programs focus on the academic, social and personal development of all students.

Our elementary program provides safe, nurturing and challenging environments in which children can acquire knowledge and skills, think critically and creatively, appreciate diversity and develop positive attitudes toward self and others.

The curriculum includes:

- Literacy
- Math
- Social Studies
- Science
- Health
- Music and the Arts
- Technology
- Physical Education
- World Language



## Enrollment

Enrollment is accepted online at [www.isd624.org/Kindergarten](http://www.isd624.org/Kindergarten). Those who wish to enroll in person may do so at the District's Centralized Enrollment Center (District Center, 4855 Bloom Ave., WBL) or at any White Bear Lake Area elementary school.

For additional information, contact any White Bear Lake Area school or go to [www.isd624.org](http://www.isd624.org).

## Hmong Sau Npe Kawm Ntawv

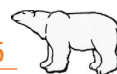
Muaj ntaub ntawv sau npe kawm ntawv nyob rau [www.isd624.org/hmong](http://www.isd624.org/hmong).

Yog xav paub ntxiv, hu tuaj rau cov tsev kawm ntawv los mus nyeem rau hauv [www.isd624.org](http://www.isd624.org).

## Matriculación/ Registración Escolar

Información en español sobre la matriculación/registración escolar está disponible en la página web [www.isd624.org/espanol](http://www.isd624.org/espanol).

Para más información, favor de comunicarse con cualquier escuela de White Bear Lake, o visite nuestra página web: [isd624.org](http://isd624.org). O si prefiere hablar con alguien en español, usted puede llamar a nuestro enlace cultural para familias Latinas, Kinder-12, Briana Santoscoy, al 651-407-7625.



# ELEMENTARY PROGRAM

White Bear Lake Area Schools elementary students benefit from a vast array of District-wide program offerings.

## CORE CURRICULUM

Our students are challenged with innovative literacy, math, science, and social studies curriculum.

- Students benefit from a comprehensive literacy program that includes phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary and comprehension.
- The math curriculum allows students and parents/guardians access to online supports and online modules that supplement daily instruction.
- “Engineering is Elementary” curriculum allows students to explore concepts with hands-on labs. Students also have an interdisciplinary science experience through the use of scientific notebooks.
- The social studies curriculum builds from the students’ understanding of their personal role in the community in the early grades to larger understanding of government in the later elementary years.

## TECHNOLOGY

Students leverage technology resources for learning to communicate, collaborate, think critically, and express their creativity. Students also gain information literacy and media skills throughout their elementary experience. These important skills ensure our students live up to our mission as they realize their unique talents and abilities, and make meaningful contributions with local and global impact through a vital system distinguished by:

- Students who design and create their own future
- A culture that respects diverse people and ideas
- Safe, nurturing and inspiring experiences
- Exceptional staff and families committed to student success
- Abundant and engaged community partners

## ELEMENTARY WORLD LANGUAGES

Students in kindergarten through fifth grade receive world language experiences. Chinese is offered at Lincoln and Vadnais Heights Elementary, and Spanish is available at all other district elementary schools. Long-term exchange teachers from Hangzhou Foreign Languages School, located in Hangzhou, China, have served residencies in each of the elementary schools and provided instruction in Chinese culture and language.

## ART

Areas of focus in elementary art education include: response to visual stimuli, the creation of visual images, learning about past and present art styles, and the development of critical evaluation skills. In addition to their classroom-based art lessons, all elementary students receive watercolor, drawing, and fabric-based lessons from professional artists through a partnership with the White Bear Center for the Arts. The partnership received a Local Government Innovation Award from the University of Minnesota’s Humphrey Institute.

## MUSIC

Music is provided to all District elementary students. Students experience music through singing, playing, moving, listening, reading, writing and creating. The music classroom encourages exploration, playfulness, imagination, and spontaneity. The music curriculum supports the development of the whole child and students develop essential knowledge and skills necessary for lifelong enjoyment of music.

String orchestra is offered to all of the district’s students in grades five through nine, with expansion through the high school levels in the coming years. Birch Lake Elementary partners with MacPhail Center for Music to offer an enhanced music program, with piano and violin lessons, to the school’s students. Additional afterschool and weekend MacPhail music lesson opportunities are offered to the whole community.

## PHYSICAL EDUCATION

All elementary students are engaged in learning how to pursue and practice a variety of physical activities that will contribute to a healthy lifestyle. Students learn fitness and wellness awareness, motor skill development, safety awareness, self-expression, understanding and acceptance of others, sportsmanship concepts, social development, and knowledge about games and sports that will last a lifetime.

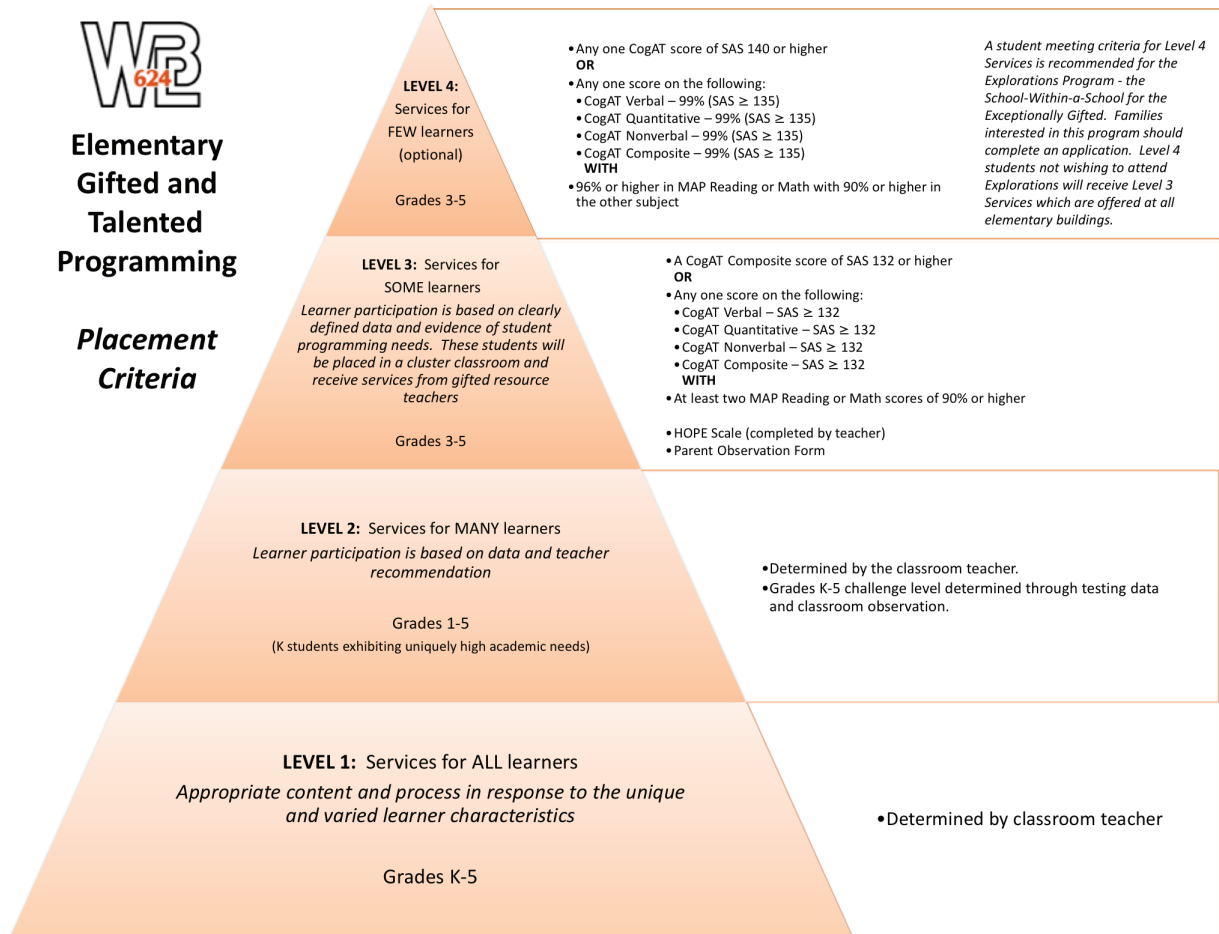


# ELEMENTARY PROGRAM

The district has a continuum of programming and supports in place for meeting individual student needs as we celebrate each individual student's growth on their pathway to academic success.

## COMPREHENSIVE GIFTED AND TALENTED PROGRAMMING

White Bear Lake Area Schools has a comprehensive gifted and talented program, tiered to provide a responsive learning experience for each gifted learner.



## RESPONSE TO INTERVENTION (RtI)

District elementary schools and middle schools use Response to Intervention (RtI), a multi-tier system of support to meet the needs of learners. High-quality, research-based instruction is matched to students' needs in reading, math and/or student engagement. Data is collected and reviewed often to inform teaching and monitor progress. The District worked on a national study with the U.S. Department of Education to further deepen the implementation of best practice strategies.

## ENGLISH LEARNER (EL) PROGRAM

The English Learner (EL) program supports students in acquiring the academic English needed to succeed in the classroom, in accordance with the MN state Language Arts standards and the World-Class Instruction Design and Assessment (WIDA) English Language Development Standards. Students who are eligible for the EL program are provided focused instruction in listening, speaking, reading and writing by a licensed EL teacher.

## SPECIAL EDUCATION

Students with special education needs are served in their neighborhood school and in the regular classroom whenever possible. There will be some instances when students are grouped for special education services within the District for the best instructional program. Student placement is determined by the Individual Education Plan (IEP) team (which includes parents). Some students are transported to other District schools or other districts for specialized programs. Parents and case managers work together for successful transitions.

# ELEMENTARY & DISTRICT PROGRAMS

## **DISTRICT INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE (IB) WORLD SCHOOL PRIMARY YEARS PROGRAMME (PYP)**

Matoska International, the District's IB World School site, is a program available to all students in the White Bear Lake Area School District. The District provides transportation from any point in the district for students enrolled at this school.

The IB program is recognized worldwide for academic excellence and a focus on developing the whole child. Students are engaged in inquiry and critical thinking, building a foundation to live, work and thrive in an interconnected world.

IB emphasizes the development of the whole child - physical, intellectual, emotional and ethical. Learners strive to be:

- Inquirers
- Communicators
- Knowledgeable
- Caring
- Balanced
- Thinkers
- Risk-Takers
- Principled
- Open-Minded
- Reflective

Curriculum in an IB school revolves around six themes of: who we are, where we are in place and time, how we express ourselves, how the world works, how we organize ourselves, and sharing the planet.

District residents will receive priority enrollment in this program through January.

For more information about the IB program, visit [www.ibo.org](http://www.ibo.org) or call Matoska International at 651-653-2847.

## **SCHOOL AND FAMILY PARTNERSHIP**

White Bear Lake Area Schools values strong lines of communication between educators, students and families. Through an online portal, families are informed about their children's educational experiences. Families receive important notices instantaneously via voicemails and emails through an electronic alert system. The District's use of Schoology, Seesaw and Google Apps promote collaboration and allow anywhere, anytime access to class content.

## **COLLEGE AND CAREER READINESS**

White Bear Lake Area Schools has a strategic plan that prioritizes all students being ready for post-secondary success. Consistent with the World's Best Workforce statute, the District implements an aligned E-12 continuum of programming to ensure all students graduate college and/or career ready.





## BEFORE AND AFTERSCHOOL OPTIONS

### **Extended Day Program**

The Extended Day program provides high quality programming for students in grades K-5 at their elementary building before and after school, on school release days, school vacations and during the summer.

The program is youth-focused and choice-based, giving students the opportunity to develop strong social skills and positive relationships with peers, increase literacy and math skills, participate in individual and group activities, and work on special projects. In addition to this, off-site field trips and special events take place throughout the year. Extended Day staff work closely with the family and school staff to provide the best care for each individual child. Daily program activities are varied and diverse, and include health and fitness, service projects, arts and crafts, creative play, languages and literacy, cooking, science, and much more.

Extended Day students can attend the program up to five days a week. Parents registering for the Extended Day program may choose the days and schedule type that works for their family.

**Location:** All elementary schools.

**Cost:** Daily costs for the 2021-22 school year vary depending on contract type. See complete list of rates at <https://communityservices.isd624.org/youth/extended-day>

**Registration:** Registrations are accepted on an on-going basis. Visit <https://whitebear.ce.eleyo.com> to register online.

**Additional Info:** Contact Extended Day at 651-407-7511 or <https://communityservices.isd624.org/youth/extended-day>.

### **Youth Enrichment & Recreation**

The White Bear Lake Area Schools Community Services and Recreation Department offers a vast array of enriching classes and educational programs for local youth.

The White Bear Lake Area Schools (WBLAS) Community Services & Recreation Department offers a vast array of enriching classes, education programs and recreational opportunities for local youth.

Youth enrichment classes such as robotics, art, STEM, chess, and dance meet before or after school, on non-school days, and during the summer. There are several recreation leagues offered such as t-ball, baseball, softball, flag football, soccer, basketball, volleyball, tennis, and track, along with many other sports camps. All offerings are advertised in the WBLAS Community Services & Recreation Catalog mailed to District households three times a year. Flyers from local organizations that offer opportunities for youth are shared out via email on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of each month through the district's Digital Backpack. The Digital Backpack can also be found at: <https://communityservices.isd624.org>.

**Location:** Programs occur at various elementary buildings, local gyms, and fields.

**Registration:** Online at: <https://whitebear.ce.eleyo.com>, in person at the District Center, or by phone at 651-407-7501.

**Additional Info:** Contact us at 651-407-7501 or visit <https://communityservices.isd624.org>.



## DISTRICT PARTNERSHIPS

The White Bear Lake Area School District works in partnership with a variety of community organizations to expand student opportunities while efficiently employing community resources.



**BearPower** BearPower is a community-wide movement focused on making it easy and fun for White Bear Lake Area children to eat better and move more. ISD624 works with other community partners through BearPower to offer local events and programs.

**Century College** The district's award-winning partnership with Century College works to improve college readiness and increase concurrent enrollment options.

**Equity Alliance** The District's involvement in the Equity Alliance offers inter-district partnerships and support for students and educators. The partnership coordinates student and educator programs.

**H2O for Life** The district collaborates with H2O for Life on a Race 2 Reduce initiative, aligning curriculum and integrating local water resources and water conservation into schools.

**Hangzhou Foreign Languages School** The district partners with Hangzhou Foreign Languages School, located in China, for teacher and cultural exchanges. Visiting teachers have served residencies in each school.

**Lakeshore Players** The District works with Lakeshore Players, a highly-regarded community theater based in White Bear Lake, to provide afterschool classes and workshops for students.

**MacPhail Center for Music** Birch Lake Elementary partners with MacPhail Center for Music to offer an enhanced music program including piano and violin. MacPhail has provided free clinics for secondary band and choir students. Additional afterschool and weekend music lesson opportunities are also offered to the whole community.

**Tamarack Nature Center** Otter Lake, Vadnais Heights and Willow Lane Elementary Schools and the District's middle schools partner with Tamarack Nature Center to provide students with experiential learning on environmental issues throughout the school year. The Early Childhood Program also benefits from a partnership with the Center, which serves as a program site for the collaborative "My Nature Preschool."





## DISTRICT PARTNERSHIPS

**United Way** The district partners with United Way to offer Career Pathways opportunities for high school students. Options currently include Manufacturing & Engineering, Information Technology, Construction and Health Care.

**University of Minnesota** White Bear Lake Area Schools have been identified as exemplary training sites for future teachers. Using a grant from the Bush Foundation, the University of Minnesota has designated District schools as Professional Development Sites and provided additional resources for teachers and students.

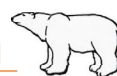
**Volunteers** Community volunteers provide important mentoring, math and reading help and classroom support. Families actively support students through parent-teacher organizations.

**White Bear Center for the Arts** Every elementary student receives watercolor, drawing and fabric-based lessons from professional artists through a partnership with the White Bear Center for the Arts. The partnership received a Local Government Innovation Award from the University of Minnesota's Humphrey Institute.

**White Bear Lake Area Educational Foundation** The Foundation supports our schools with the help of local businesses, alumni and community members. The Foundation provides teaching grants, scholarships, fellowships for teachers, an Angel Fund for families with special economic needs and works closely with the White Bear Lake Area Alumni Association.

The Foundation is providing major funding to support the High School's Writing Center and has provided substantial support for our District's music program and nature-based initiatives.

**YMCA** Through a partnership with the YMCA, elementary students receive water safety lessons during the school year. Extended Day participants receive summer swimming lessons. The YMCA serves as the home pool for our girls' and boys' swimming and diving teams and as a site for an outreach teen and senior center.





# PARENT TOOLS

The district offers family members a variety of tools to remain updated on their student's progress and on happenings throughout the district.

## SKYWARD FAMILY ACCESS

Skyward allows families to track their child's attendance, grades, and activities in order to keep up-to-date with his or her academic progress. Report cards are also used to periodically inform families about their child's progress.

## FEEPAY

FeePay allows families to deposit money directly into a child's meal account, register and pay for student activities, and make Community Services and Recreation payments - all from the convenience of home computers or mobile devices.

## TRANSLATIONS

Para Español por favor llame al 651-407-7625. Xav tau ntawv Hmoob hu rau 651-407-7623.

## DIGITAL BACKPACK

The Digital Backpack, emailed to families the first and third Thursday of each month, contains flyers from the school district, as well as local organizations that offer opportunities for youth.

## CLASSROOM-SPECIFIC COMMUNICATIONS

Teachers use classroom management systems to post assignments, class documents, resources and calendar events with upcoming projects. These tools can also serve as a digital extension of the classroom allowing for online discussion of course content, submission of assignments and more.

## SCHOOL-SPECIFIC COMMUNICATIONS

Principals communicate with families in a variety of ways, including school newsletters, voicemail calls, and emails.

## COMMUNITY E-NEWSLETTER - TEXT AND VIDEO EDITIONS

"SIGN UP FOR E-NEWSLETTER" on the Community e-Newsletter page of the district website ([www.isd624.org/about/community-e-newsletter](http://www.isd624.org/about/community-e-newsletter)) to receive the publication, shared weekly as alternating text and video editions. Text editions cover School Board proceedings, student and staff successes, and school and Community Education offerings.

## STAY SOCIAL

"Like" and "follow" White Bear Lake Area Schools on Facebook and Twitter to see daily "624 Facts" and "The Week in 62.4 Seconds" video updates on Friday during weeks that school is in session.

## COMMUNITY CHANNEL

The District has a presence on Cable Channel 20 in the local viewing area with District information and updates. School Board meetings are broadcast after regular business meetings on Wednesday at 7 p.m. and 11 p.m. and Thursday at 10 a.m.

## ACTIVITIES CALENDAR

White Bear Lake Area School District Activities Calendars are mailed to District families and community members who request copies at the beginning of each academic year.

## ANNUAL UPDATE TO THE COMMUNITY

An annual update is published each year for District residents. It provides a snapshot of the District, including information regarding student achievement, school climate, District finances, District profile, and School Board information.

## COMMUNITY SERVICES CATALOG

Community Services catalogs are sent to all district residents, three times a year. The publication contains a "Bear's Bulletin" flip-book portion that contains additional district news and information.







# White Bear Lake Area Schools

Leading minds to learning, hearts to compassion, and lives to community service.

Serving the communities of Birchwood, Gem Lake, Hugo, Lino Lakes, Little Canada, Maplewood, North Oaks, Vadnais Heights, White Bear Lake, and White Bear Township.



## OUR MISSION

The mission of the White Bear Lake Area School District, the community at the forefront of educational excellence, honoring our legacy and courageously building the future, is to ensure each student realizes their unique talents and abilities, and makes meaningful contributions with local and global impact through a vital system distinguished by:

- Students who design and create their own future
- A culture that respects diverse people and ideas
- Safe, nurturing, and inspiring experiences
- Exceptional staff and families committed to student success
- Abundant and engaged community partners