

# from the superintendent

**Dear Neighbor,**

Thank you for your interest in Westonka Public Schools! We would love for you to visit us and learn more about our small schools with big opportunities for you and your children.

Westonka Schools give students the edge they need to succeed in college and careers by offering personalized learning experiences and competitive class sizes, along with the same advanced courses and extracurricular opportunities seen in larger districts. In a district the size of Westonka, your child won't have to compete with 600 others just to experience the thrill of performing on stage, competing in DECA or playing hockey. Every child has a chance to shine.

Westonka students—from the primary schools to the high school—consistently rank among the best in the state on MCA tests. We are home to two National Blue Ribbon primary schools, an award-winning middle school and a high school ranked among the top in the state by national publications. We also offer a four-star rated early childhood program and a vibrant community education program.

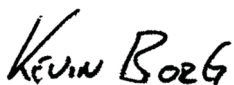
We have many initiatives that are changing the way our teachers teach and our students learn. Our Edge21 technology plan includes 1:1 mobile devices for grades K–12. We have also expanded our engineering curriculum to offer students career readiness in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math).

In November 2023, Westonka residents approved \$93.4 million in bond funding to improve safety and security at all schools; address districtwide deferred maintenance needs; and redesign our high school to enhance the learning environment and improve functionality, safety and pride. In my 27 years in the district, I have never been more excited to see what comes next for our students, staff and community.

Finally, even with the passage of the referendum, Westonka residents continue to have the lowest total school property taxes in Hennepin County. Our schools are a great return on the community's investment.

For more information about Westonka's award-winning schools, please call (952) 491-8000 or visit [www.westonka.k12.mn.us](http://www.westonka.k12.mn.us).

**Sincerely,**



Kevin Borg, Superintendent  
(952) 491-8001  
[borgk@westonka.k12.mn.us](mailto:borgk@westonka.k12.mn.us)



[www.westonka.k12.mn.us](http://www.westonka.k12.mn.us) | 952.491.8000

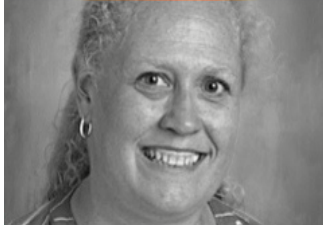
# contact us



## Superintendent Kevin Borg

952.491.8001

[borgk@westonka.k12.mn.us](mailto:borgk@westonka.k12.mn.us)



## Early Childhood Family Education

Sarah Grimm, coordinator

952.491.8044

[grimms@westonka.k12.mn.us](mailto:grimms@westonka.k12.mn.us)



## Hilltop Primary School

Michael Moch, principal

952.491.8500

[mochm@westonka.k12.mn.us](mailto:mochm@westonka.k12.mn.us)



## Shirley Hills Primary School

Scott Eidsness, principal

952.491.8400

[eidsnesss@westonka.k12.mn.us](mailto:eidsnesss@westonka.k12.mn.us)



## Grandview Middle School

Christine Keeley-Zachow, principal

952.491.8300

[zachowc@westonka.k12.mn.us](mailto:zachowc@westonka.k12.mn.us)



## Mound Westonka High School

Joele Herfel, principal

952.491.8100

[herfelj@westonka.k12.mn.us](mailto:herfelj@westonka.k12.mn.us)



[www.westonka.k12.mn.us](http://www.westonka.k12.mn.us) | 952.491.8000

# westonka fast facts



## Top-in-State Test Scores

Westonka students scored in the Top 5 districts in the state on the Minnesota statewide assessments in 2023. Overall, Westonka was #3 in the state in math, #4 in the state in reading and #3 in the state in science of districts testing at least 100 students in a grade level.

## 'Best Public School' Recognitions

Westonka Public Schools is ranked seventh out of 448 Minnesota districts (and first among traditional public school districts) by SchoolDigger in 2023 and has a 5-star overall rating. Additionally, Westonka ranks 10th in the state in the 2023 Niche.com "Best School Districts" ranking.

Mound Westonka High School ranks as the #17 "Best High School" in Minnesota (and the #12 traditional high school), according to U.S. News & World Report for 2023-24. U.S. News also ranks Grandview Middle School as the #5 "Best Middle School" in the state.

## National Blue Ribbon Awards

Both of Westonka's primary schools—Hilltop and Shirley Hills—are National Blue Ribbon schools.

## 21st Century Skills

- Westonka's Edge21 Technology Plan transforms the method by which curriculum is delivered to students and personalizes the learning experience for students.
- Westonka students in grades K-12 are 1:1 with mobile devices.
- From the primary schools to the high school, Westonka offers engineering courses that help all students develop a competitive advantage for their post-high school education and careers.
- The Project Lead the Way engineering program at Mound Westonka High School offers two- and four-year college credit.



# westonka fast facts

## Strong College Prep Program

- College counseling and planning begins in 7th grade
- 11 Advanced Placement courses
- College-in-the-Schools (CIS) Spanish
- Post-secondary enrollment options
- 41 AP Scholar Awards in 2023, including 6 AP Scholars with Honor and 6 AP Scholars with Distinction

## Competitive Class Sizes

Average Class Sizes in 2022-23:

- Kindergarten: 20.88
- Primary School: 22.10
- Middle and High School: 21.69

## High Ability Student Choices

- Full primary school Gifted and Talented program
- Strong portfolio of advanced, accelerated and honors courses for older grades

## Global Leadership Opportunities

- Student leadership programs at all schools
- Preschool Spanish; grades K-7 before- and after-school Spanish; high school Mandarin Chinese and CIS Spanish
- Foreign exchange mentorship program

## Generous Community Support

- Westonka receives financial support from a local educational foundation
- An operating levy increase approved in 2019 secured 10 years of stable funding for Westonka
- Over \$285,000 in locally-sponsored scholarships were awarded to the class of 2023
- Thanks to our community's generous support, Westonka opened a new activity center and state-of-the-art performing arts center on the high school campus in 2018.
- In 2023, Westonka residents approved \$93.4 million in bond funding to improve safety and security at all schools; address districtwide deferred maintenance needs; and redesign the high school to enhance the learning environment and improve functionality, safety and pride.

## Award-Winning Activities (2022-23)

### Athletics:

- 6 state tournament teams, including one state champion—High Kick Dance (1st), Jazz Dance (3rd), Girls Swim & Dive (3rd), Gymnastics (4th), Wrestling (4th) and Boys Track & Field (4th)
- Westonka also sent individuals to state in boys swim & dive, girls Nordic skiing, boys golf and girls track & field

### Co-Curriculars:

- 155 students competed at the state DECA meet
- 28 students qualified for DECA Internationals

### Music:

- 2 All-State band members
- Superior and “Best in Site” recognitions from Region 2AA band and choir concerts

### Arts:

- 6 Superior awards and five Awards of Excellence at the 2023 MSHSL Visual Arts Festival
- 5 Spotlight recognitions from Hennepin Theatre Trust for the MWHS fall musical, “Oliver!”
- 13 Hennepin Theatre Trust Spotlight awards for the MWHS spring play, “The Play that Goes Wrong,” including an Achievement in Theatre honor





# Where students truly matter, learning thrives.



## Grace Peterson

Mound Westonka High School  
Class of 2021

*“Westonka Public Schools allowed me to participate in a wide variety of activities that a smaller district provides and gave me the opportunity to gain important leadership skills.”*

Grace studies and plays D1 lacrosse at the U.S. Naval Academy

**Activities:** 3-sport varsity captain - hockey, tennis and lacrosse, DECA vice president, RISE Westonka unified sports program, Link Crew

**Awards:** *summa cum laude*; AP Scholar with Distinction; National Honor Society; Athena Award; Academic All-State (hockey, tennis and lacrosse); 2021 Ms. Lacrosse Finalist



Small school advantages. Big school opportunities. Real-life success stories.

# westonka school district



Elective courses like American Sign Language match student interests.

## Small school advantages, big-school opportunities

Westonka offers lower class sizes and individual attention along with a wide variety of co-curricular opportunities and a portfolio of honors and college-level courses.

## Academic all-stars

Westonka students in grades 3-11 consistently rank in the Top 10 in the state on the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCAs).



Westonka students are 1:1 with mobile devices.



Westonka DECA students compete at the state and international levels.

## College prep for the real world

By equipping our students with 21st Century Skills, we work to ensure that all Westonka students graduate positioned for success in higher education. Our students receive college counseling starting in 7th grade.

## Contact us:

Phone: 952.491.8000

Fax: 952.491.8012

5901 Sunnyfield Rd E  
Minnetrista, MN 55364

Learn more about Westonka Schools.  
Visit: [www.westonka.k12.mn.us](http://www.westonka.k12.mn.us)



White Hawks athletics and activities give each student a chance to shine.

# 2023 test scores

## Among the Best in the State & Neighborhood

### Overall

#3 in state in math  
#4 in state in reading  
#3 in state in science

	Math	Reading	Science
Wayzata	76	74	61
Minnetonka	76	74	67
<b>Westonka</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>73</b>	<b>63</b>
Orono	69	72	60
Waconia	64	62	43
Statewide Average	45	50	39

### Grade 3

#2 in state in reading  
#4 in state in math

	Math	Reading
Orono	86	71
<b>Westonka</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>73</b>
Wayzata	83	68
Minnetonka	82	69
Waconia	79	63
Statewide Average	59	47

### Grade 4

#2 in state in reading  
#11 in state in math

	Math	Reading
Minnetonka	85	73
Wayzata	83	70
Orono	81	67
<b>Westonka</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>75</b>
Waconia	75	63
Statewide Average	57	48

### Grade 5

#3 in state in math  
#6 in state in reading  
#3 in state in science

	Math	Reading	Science
<b>Westonka</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>76</b>
Wayzata	69	75	62
Minnetonka	69	82	74
Waconia	67	73	58
Orono	66	84	73
Statewide Average	44	59	48

*\*Rankings reflect 2023 combined MCA and MTAS statewide results from school districts testing at least 100 students in the grade level. Results show percentage of students scoring "proficient" and above.*



# 2023 test scores

## Grade 6

#4 in state in math  
#10 in state in reading

	Math	Reading
Minnetonka	75	81
<b>Westonka</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>70</b>
Wayzata	69	77
Orono	66	80
Waconia	55	64
Statewide Average	40	53

## Grade 7

#1 in state in math  
#2 in state in reading

	Math	Reading
<b>Westonka</b>	<b>78</b>	<b>74</b>
Wayzata	77	74
Minnetonka	73	72
Waconia	72	61
Orono	71	74
Statewide Average	40	45

## Grade 8

#5 in state in math  
#5 in state in reading  
#6 in state in science

	Math	Reading	Science
Minnetonka	75	71	56
Wayzata	74	69	55
<b>Westonka</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>50</b>
Orono	58	63	50
Waconia	56	60	33
Statewide Average	40	45	28

## Grade 10

#6 in state in reading  
#9 in state in science

	Reading	Science
Wayzata	82	68
Minnetonka	72	73
<b>Westonka</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>59</b>
Orono	65	57
Statewide Average	52	42
Waconia	47	36

## Grade 11

#3 in state in math

	Math
Wayzata	78
Minnetonka	69
<b>Westonka</b>	<b>68</b>
Orono	56
Waconia	46
Statewide Average	36

