

westonka fast facts



Westonka offers lower class sizes and individual attention along with a wide variety of co-curricular opportunities and a full portfolio of honors and college-level courses. Our passion for innovation and academic excellence means our graduates leave prepared for college and success in the 21st century. Learn why Westonka is the district of choice for so many families in the western suburbs.

12 Consecutive Years of Best in State MCA Performance

Westonka students scored in the top 10 districts in the state on 2014 MCAs. Overall, Westonka is ranked #5 in the state in reading and #8 in the state in math.

- Grade 3 is ranked Top 10 in state in reading, #5 in state in math
- Grade 4 is #4 in state in reading
- Grade 5 is #1 in state in reading, #7 in math and #9 in science
- Grade 6 is #7 in state in reading, #2 in math
- Grade 7 is #2 in state in reading, #5 in math
- Grade 8 is Top 10 in state in science
- Grade 10 is #7 in state in reading
- Grade 11 is above state average in math

National Blue Ribbon Awards

Hilltop Primary School was selected as a National Blue Ribbon winner for 2012—one of only seven schools in Minnesota. Shirley Hills Primary School is a 2008 Blue Ribbon winner.

'Best High School' Recognitions

Mound Westonka High School is recognized as one of the best high schools in the country. MWHS is ranked No. 104 in the nation on Newsweek's list of "America's Top 500 High Schools" and earned a "Best High Schools" Silver Award from U.S. News & World Report.

AP District Honor Roll

Westonka was one of only 11 Minnesota districts named to the College Board's 2012 AP[®] District Honor Roll for increasing access to AP Exams as well as the percentage of students earning scores of 3 or higher (usually the minimum to earn college credit).

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
- 1:1 Google Chromebook integration for grades 5-12 and increased technology integration district-wide
- Project Lead the Way engineering program offers two- and four-year college credit
- Middle school Future City & Future Problem Solvers engineering/critical thinking/problem solving courses
- Engineering is Elementary (Eie) at the primary level



www.westonka.k12.mn.us | 952.491.8000

westonka fast facts

America's Most Challenging High Schools

Mound Westonka High School ranks 23rd in Minnesota on the Washington Post's 2014 list of America's Most Challenging High Schools.

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
- 49 AP Scholar Awards in 2013
- 72% of students taking AP Exams in 2013 scored a 3 or higher (usually the minimum to earn college credit)
- 2013 ACT composite score: 24.1—exceeds the 23.0 state average and 20.9 national average

Competitive Class Sizes

Average Class Sizes in 2012-2013:

Primary School: 22.33

Middle School: 26.29

High School: 25.7

High Ability Student Choices

- Full primary school Gifted and Talented program
- Accelerated and honors courses for middle school
- Strong portfolio of Advanced Placement courses and advanced, honors and CIS courses

Building Connections

- Student leadership programs at all schools
- Westonka Summer Institute—global immersion program for effective leadership in business, science, archeology, public service and education
- Preschool Spanish; grades K-7 before- and after-school Spanish; high school Mandarin Chinese and CIS Spanish
- Beijing Sister School
- Foreign exchange mentorship program

Generous Community Support

- Financial support from local educational foundation
- Seven of nine local operating levies passed since 1995
- Over \$64,000 in locally-sponsored scholarships awarded to the class of 2014
- Over \$540,000 in community donations in 2013-2014

Award-Winning Activities (2013-2014)

Athletics:

- Four state tournament teams—Boys Tennis (6th), Jazz Dance (6th), High Kick Dance (7th), Bowling Club (9th)
- 20 individual state tournament competitors, one All-American Nordic skier
- 37 All-Conference athletes; 12 honorable mentions
- Three Section Champion teams, three Section Coaches of the Year
- Nine MSHSL Coaches Association Team Academic Award winners—five Silver and four Gold

Business:

- 108 qualified for state DECA meet
- 23 went on to DECA Internationals
- Out of 16,000 competitors, six of the 10 MWHS teams placed in the Top 20—one 6th-place award, two 4th-place awards and a 2nd-place International trophy.

Band:

- Superior rating for MWHS Wind Ensemble at Region 2AA Large Group Contest
- 16 WCC Honor Band members, four U of MN Honor Band members, one All-State Orchestra member

Vocal:

- Superior ratings for Varsity Women's and Concert choirs in Region 2AA contests, perfect score for Madd Jazz auditioned vocal group
- ACDA State Conference performance, two ACDA Honor Choir selections
- Three All-State Choir members

Drama:

- Six individual SpotLight Awards for "Copacabana"
- Two individual Outstanding Performance awards
- Outstanding for Overall Performance, Honorable Mention Overall Production and Honorable Mention Performance by a Student Orchestra

Fine Arts:

- Nine Minnesota Scholastic Art Awards with one Gold Key, two Silver Keys and six Honorable Mentions
- 96 ribbons at the 2013 Minnesota State Fair; four Grand Prize winners

Future Leaders:

- Two Future Problem Solvers international competitors, two Future Cities regional awards

