

# News

About Northwest Suburban Integration School District

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**Welcome back!** Northwest Suburban Integration School District is excited to partner with our collaborative districts again this year with student groups, inter-district partnership meetings and field trips, multicultural experiences, as well as college tours! In this issue, take a look back at our 2017-18 highlights and a peek at what we have coming up this year.

We will continue to offer our Inter-district Partnerships Series throughout the school year starting with a not to be missed event - Everyday Racism - MSNBC Town Hall Meeting and discussion on October 3. We will take a field trip to the Somali Museum on November 7. Watch your emails for our *Connecting Innovators* newsletter announcing dates and details.

As our staff starts gearing up for the current school year, the priority magnet application for 2018-19 will open on Monday, October 15, 2018. It will remain open for applications through December 31, 2018. We will continue to post updates on our website as well as communicate with district families about the opportunities at each of our district's magnet schools.



## Welcome new Superintendents!



### Welcome Dr. Kim Hiel to Fridley

Dr. Kim Hiel began her role as Fridley Public Schools Superintendent on July 1, 2018. Dr. Hiel brings a passion for equitable student achievement for every child and nearly 25 years of experience in education. She previously served as an Assistant Superintendent for Osseo Area Schools where she co-led the Division of Leadership, Teaching and Learning, and Research, Assessment and Accountability. Dr. Hiel co-led the development and implementation of the voluntary pre-kindergarten program at eight elementary schools in Osseo. Previously, Dr. Hiel worked as a teacher and principal in the Robbinsdale Area Schools, and served as principal in Osseo Area Schools. To read more about Dr. Kim Hiel, [follow this link](#).

### Welcome Dr. Kim Riesgraf and Dr. Jim Bauck to Osseo

**Dr. Riesgraf** served Osseo Area Schools for 28 years as a teacher, principal, special education director, student services director, and assistant superintendent until she retired in 2016. She holds a doctorate from the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, a master's degree from the University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire, and a bachelor of arts from the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities. **Dr. Bauck** has served public education in Minnesota for 39 years as a middle and high school teacher, assistant principal, principal, assistant superintendent, and superintendent. Bauck's superintendent experience spanned 24 years serving the Owatonna, Lakeville, Buffalo, and Eastern Carver County school districts prior to his retirement in June 2017. He holds doctoral and master's degrees from the University of Minnesota and an undergraduate degree from Concordia College in Moorhead.



**THE YEAR IN REVIEW** - NWSISD year in review by the numbers. Check out how our programs have impacted families. Read more on page 2.



**STUDENT ACTIVITIES** - Enjoy pictures and stories about Student Leadership, Step-Up Summer Summit and graduation. Read more on page 3.



**NEWS FROM AROUND THE NWSISD COLLABORATIVE** - Read all about it on page 4.

# Northwest Suburban Integration School District Year in Review

**Our year in review by the numbers!! NWSISD continues to have an impact on students, families, and staff in our member districts.**

- ☑ We served more than **19,500 students** through our magnet school placements, programs, and events.
- ☑ Our Multicultural Resource Center impacted more than **32,000 students** who were able to view, experience, and learn about other cultures through artifacts, curriculum, and art.
- ☑ We provided **nine** magnet schools with Reflection and Review which showcases the positive impact in programming magnet schools have on their students.
- ☑ We also partnered with **234** individuals and organizations within the greater NWSISD community to positively impact students and families through family events, student leadership events, and professional development.

The chart below showcases NWSISD student participation by school district and program opportunity.



District	College Tours	Essence	Educators Rising	Magnet Lottery 2017 Placement	Multi district students events	Step-Up	Total Students Served
Anoka-Hennepin	215	119	171	2,002	212	87	2,806
Brooklyn Center	137	0	0	216	73	22	448
Buffalo	42	53	0	376	50	37	558
ISD728	326	41	18	325	156	45	911
Fridley	69	0	0	56	66	46	237
Osseo	215	37	4	2,389	48	0	2,693
Rockford	20	42	5	10	44	9	130
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1,024</b>	<b>282</b>	<b>198</b>	<b>5,374 - placed 17,199 total</b>	<b>649</b>	<b>233</b>	<b>7,760</b>

\*\* Not all districts participated in all 2017-18 programs offered by NWSISD

## Congratulations to our award winning schools!

### Magnet Schools of America 2018 Schools of Excellence Award

- ★ Anoka Middle School for the Arts
- ★ Salk Middle School
- ★ University Avenue Aerospace, Children's Engineering, and Science

### Magnet Schools of America 2018 Schools of Distinction Award

- ★ Birch Grove Elementary School for the Arts
- ★ Weaver Lake Elementary: A Science, Math, and Technology School



## Education & Leadership: Our Secret to Success

Northwest Suburban Integration School District hosted their 8th annual Student Leadership Conference on Monday, May 15, 2018 at the Marriott Minneapolis Northwest in Brooklyn Park. This annual conference unites a diverse group of high school students from across the NWSISD collaborative.



This year, Halima Aden was the conference keynote speaker. The Somali-American, born in a Kenyan refugee camp, was the first contestant to compete in the Miss Minnesota USA pageant, her Miss USA state pageant, in a hijab and burkini. After garnering international media attention from the pageant for staying true to herself and practicing her interpretation of her Muslim faith, she was summoned to New York by fashion industry icon, Carine Roitfeld. She landed the cover of CR Fashion Book Issue 10 after her first professional photo shoot.

Students had the opportunity to participate in workshops, competitions, and a college and career fair. Students competed against their classmates as well as students from across district borders in competitions such as AVID jeopardy, educational games, college exploration, conference theme development, creative storybook writing, employability skills as well as a NWSISD "Shark Tank!"

Through these interactive events and competitions, the Student Leadership Conference supports efforts to help close opportunity gaps by providing a culminating experience to practice college and career readiness skills with professionals from all over the Twin Cities and beyond.



## Graduation season begins early for Step-Up Mentorship

Spring brings endings and new beginnings. For twenty-five students across the NWSISD collaborative, graduation happened early this year - thus ending their tenure in the Step-Up Mentorship Program.

On May 4, 2018, the graduating Step-Up students were brought together one last time for lunch at NWSISD along with their mentors and district superintendents. The prevailing theme among the students was how the Step-Up program impacted their lives.



Students said that this program ...

"...taught us the value of kindness and generosity."

"...was a great opportunity - I'll remember it the rest of my life."

"...helped me get through high school."

"...helped me to gain skills to talk in front of people."

"...shook my foundation!"

"...pushed us to be the men we could be!"

And for new beginnings? After high school graduation, almost all the young men plan to continue their education at a post-secondary school of choice and/or military. **Congratulations Class of 2018!**

## Summer Summit Enjoys 8th Year at University of St. Thomas

Another school year ended and another crop of nervous, just finished 8<sup>th</sup> grade boys disembarked their buses onto the University of St. Thomas Minneapolis Campus (UST)



NWSISD along with UST hosted the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Summer Summit. Over 80 young men from the NWSISD collaborative spent a week at the Minneapolis Campus of UST June 11-15, 2018. This intense educational experience helps prepare just graduated 8<sup>th</sup> graders for high school

by focusing on four key educational constructs: Aspirations, Expectations, Opportunities, and Achievement.

Keynote speakers stress the importance of education as a way of maintaining control over one's future. Students participate in classroom activities focused on introspection, learning how culture shapes expectations, setting goals for their high school careers and creating plans that will assist them in



accomplishing those goals.



Student teams consist of students from the varying schools/districts attending. The purpose of placing students together this way was to get them out of their comfort zones, examine commonalities they have with each other, and to capture some leadership qualities that each possess. The teams participated in

competitions throughout the week - including an "Amazing Race" style event and "Fear Factor" competition. Students joined in outdoor sports activities at Loring Park and ended the week with team presentations and trophy presentation to the "winning team."

# Schools, Staff, and Students in the News!



**Weaver Lake Elementary: A Science, Math, and Technology School** was recently named a **Nationally Certified Magnet School**. The rigorous application process and subsequent award is based on the National Magnet School Standards of Excellence - demonstrating an intention and investment in the five pillars of magnet schools: Diversity, Innovative Curriculum and Professional Development, Academic Excellence, High Quality Instructional Systems, and Family and Community Partnerships. Congratulations Weaver Lake Elementary!

**Fridley student selected for Bank of America's Student Leaders program** Tenzin Nyingpo, a rising senior at Fridley High School, was selected as part of Bank of America's Student Leaders program. Every year, the Bank of America Student Leaders program connects 225 community-minded high school juniors and seniors to employment, skill development and service. Nyingpo was one of five students in Minnesota to be selected and is currently interning at the Hennepin Theater Trust. Read more [here](#).



**New partnership to offer paid internships for Park Center Senior High Students** Students will have opportunities to prepare for future careers through paid internships with local businesses under a new partnership funded by a grant from the Minnesota Department of Labor and Industry. Osseo Area Schools will share the \$95,000 grant with five other partners, forming one of five pilot programs in the state. Through the Youth Skills Training pilot program, Osseo Area Schools students who are enrolled in designated classes at Park Center can apply for information technology-related internships with local businesses.

**Do you have news you'd like to share with the NWSISD Consortium?** Send your good news about what your students are doing in class, what innovative ideas you or your staff are creating in and out of the classroom to Krisanthi Sikkila at [ksikkila@nws.k12.mn.us](mailto:ksikkila@nws.k12.mn.us)

**An event filled year at NWSISD in pictures:** Northwest Suburban Integration School District, along with many community partners, hosted several multi-district student events throughout the year including eight Step-Up Mentorship events for grades 9-12, Middle School Girls Conference, High School Girls Conference, College Tours, Base Camp, Educators Rising Student Shadow Day, Essence Program, and Student Leadership Conference. Enjoy pictures from our events below.



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