

News

About Northwest Suburban Integration School District

9201 W Broadway, Suite 690, Brooklyn Park MN 55445
763-450-1300 | www.nws.k12.mn.us

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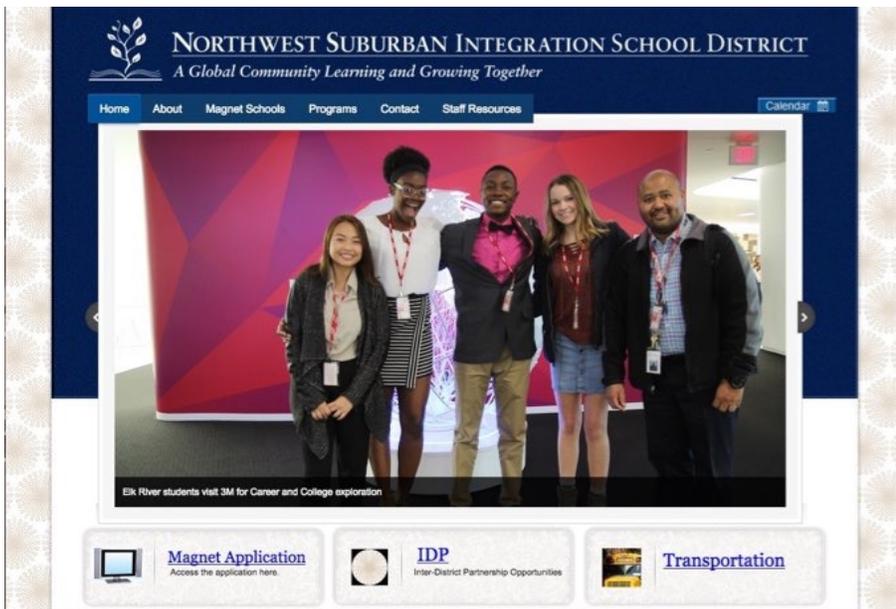
NORTHWEST SUBURBAN
INTEGRATION SCHOOL DISTRICT
A Global Community Learning and Growing Together

Welcome back to the new school year!

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 2016-17 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 full day Sacred Sites Tour on October 4. We will take a field trip to the Penumbra Theater on November 1 and enjoy the production of "Wedding Band." 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 16, 2017. It will remain open for applications through December 31, 2017. 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.



We launched a new

website!

Northwest Suburban Integration School District's new website is up and running. We will continue to update our site with current events, news items, plus our magnet application link will be front and center.

We hope you find our new website comprehensive with easy to find menus with information on all of our programs.

Webmaster contact:

ksikkila@nws.k12.mn.us



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 **21,000 students** through our magnet school placements, programs, and events.
- ☑ Our Multicultural Resource Center impacted more than **39,000 students** who were able to view, experience, and learn about other cultures through artifacts, curriculum, and art.
- ☑ We provided **four** magnet schools with Reflection and Review which showcases the positive impact in programming magnet schools have on their students.
- ☑ We also partnered with **207** individuals and **87** 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	AVID	College Tours	Essence	Educators Rising	Magnet Lottery 2016 Placement	Multi district students events	Step-Up	Total Students Served
Anoka-Hennepin	854	449	113	130	2,108	255	153	4,062
Brooklyn Center	100	47	20	0	235	127	47	576
Buffalo	111	135	61	12	406	33	31	789
Elk River	490	336	42	30	299	137	63	1,397
Fridley	153	21	0	0	48	83	42	347
Mounds View	0	88	57	24	57	41	0	267
Osseo	72	123	26	0	2,631	19	0	2,871
Rockford	26	20	34	10	8	16	33	147
TOTAL	1,806	1,219	353	206	5,792 - placed 17,081 total	711	369	10,456

** Not all districts participated in all 2016-17 programs offered by NWSISD

Congratulations to our award winning schools!

Magnet Schools of America 2017 Schools of Excellence Award -

- ★ *Anoka Middle School for the Arts*
- ★ *Salk Middle School*
- ★ *University Avenue Aerospace, Children's Engineering, and Science*
- ★ *Weaver Lake Elementary: A Science, Math and Technology School*

Magnet Schools of America 2017 Schools of Distinction Award -

- ★ *Birch Grove Elementary School for the Arts*





Leadership Opens Doors to Opportunity

Northwest Suburban Integration School District hosted their 7th annual Student Leadership Conference on Tuesday, April 25, 2017 at the Crowne Plaza Minneapolis Hotel in Plymouth. This annual conference unites a diverse group of high school students from across the NWSISD collaborative.

Well renowned comedian, actor, and radio personality, Shed G, was again, this year's keynote speaker. Known for his clean, faith-based comedy, Shed brought his inspiration, wit, and comedy to the conference and also shared his life story with the students. He told students to "clear your mind and have a good mindset on what you want to achieve. Believe in yourself and do NOT let yourself down!"

Students had the opportunity to participate in workshops, competitions, and a college and career fair. Workshops included everything from yoga and power posing, overcoming pressure, understanding your personal leadership type, hands on with police equipment, leveraging diversity and inclusion, as well as how to maximize your opportunities. 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-four students across the NWSISD collaborative, graduation happened early this year - thus ending their tenure in the Step-Up Mentorship Program.

On May 2, 2017, 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 ...

"...focused me on different career paths, gave me a foundation."

"...help me accomplish it, I did make it!"

"...taught me I could do it! Taught me to take risks!"

"...showed me the way and to realize that I've worked hard and that hard work won't stop me."

"...helped me to develop as a person."

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

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 2017!**



Summer Summit Enjoys 7th Year at University of St. Thomas

NWSISD along with University of St. Thomas Minneapolis Campus (UST) hosted the 7th Annual Summer Summit. Over 70 young men from the NWSISD collaborative spent a week at the Minneapolis Campus of UST June 12-16, 2017. This intense educational experience helps prepare just graduated 8th graders for high school by focusing on four key educational constructs: Aspirations, Expectations, Opportunities, and Achievement.



Each day started with students gathering in the auditorium discussing the main themes of the day, viewing motivational videos, and then listening to keynote speakers stress the importance of education as a way of maintaining control over one's future. Students then spent the morning participating 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.

On the first day of the Summit, students were divided into teams which consisted 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."

Step-Up students receive additional guidance throughout the year and are involved in mentorship activities during their high school careers. To learn more about Step-Up visit our website <http://www.nws.k12.mn.us/step-up-mentorship.html/>.

Schools, Staff, and Students in the News!



Welcome to Dr. Dan Bittman, new superintendent of ISD728 - Elk River | Otsego | Rogers | Zimmerman
Bittman was the 2016 Superintendent of the Year for Minnesota Association of School Administrators. Known for forging relationships within his communities, his leadership, and his excitement and passion for education, Bittman looks to lead ISD728 into the future.

Salk History Day students cash in at state competition ... The highest performing group of middle school students from Salk was the eighth-grade performance team of Lucy Leither and Lindsay Strecker. They took fourth place in the junior group performance category with a play they wrote about Irena Sendler and her role in taking a stand against anti-semitism and the Nazis during the Holocaust. Read more [here](#).

Park Center teacher participates in national program focused on teaching across cultures Emily Bollinger, English teacher at Park Center High School, is one of nine teachers across the country who participated in the Bridging Cultures Initiative. Bollinger had the opportunity to learn to infuse global perspectives into her teaching. Read more [here](#).

Lucas Sargent: Coon Rapids High School He humbly exceeds expectations in and out of the classroom. Lucas Sargent is an incredibly dedicated student who is not one to talk about - or even acknowledge - his own accomplishments. Described as a leader in the classroom, Sargent goes above and beyond in whatever he does. Read more [here](#).

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

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.



NWSISD Contact Information

Melissa Jordan
Executive Director
763-450-1307
mjordan@nws.k12.mn.us

Sue Anderson
Executive Assistant
763-450-1302
sanderson@nws.k12.mn.us

Ayenna Davis
Multicultural Educational Specialist
763-450-1331
jdavis@nws.k12.mn.us

John Warren
Family/Community Empowerment Specialist
763-450-1306
jwarren@nws.k12.mn.us

Candace Whittaker
Family/Community Empowerment Specialist
763-450-1336
cwhittaker@nws.k12.mn.us

Krisanthi Sikkila
Communications/Magnet Specialist
763-450-1303
ksikkila@nws.k12.mn.us

Linda Ryden
Administrative Assistant
763-450-1304
lryden@nws.k12.mn.us

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