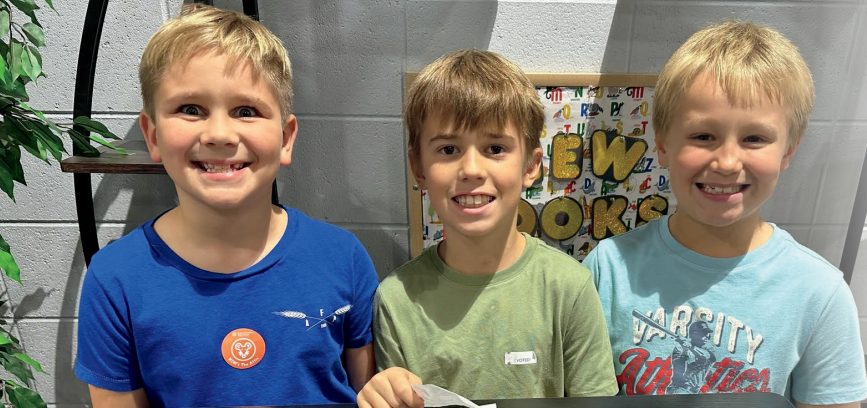




KNOW YOUR WRPS SCHOOLS

2026-27 School Year

A POSITIVE WORK PLACE ...TO WORK, LEARN, GROW...

- WRPS district “Meets Expectations” on state report card
- Grove Elementary rated “Significantly Exceeds Expectations” on latest school report card
- Howe, Grant, THINK, Washington elementary schools rated “Exceeds Expectations” on latest school report card
- WRPS students consistently excel at state and national levels in academics and athletics (DECA, FCCLA, HOSA, SkillsUSA, FBLA)

- Grove, Howe, and Mead Elementaries were recognized as Wisconsin’s Schools of Promise
- Lincoln High School and Howe Elementary were recognized as top schools by US News & World Report.
- Multiple elementary schools honored as “Wisconsin Schools of Recognition”
- Grove, THINK Academy, and Washington scored above the state average in Grade 4 Science
- National-level recognition in Noetic Math; strong results in Math 24 competitions

210 Scholarships and Awards
Presented to 64 graduating seniors,
totaling **\$317,225**

70 **90%** **70+**

Number of students
participated in YA and
Work-Based Learning
program in 2025–26

AP exam success
rate; many
students named
AP Scholars

Number of clubs,
athletics, and
student groups
offered at the high
school

314 Number of WRAMS students have
joined one or more club/activity

Staff Leadership Award

Joni Feidt, Student Engagement Facilitator and
Playworks Coordinator, received 2026 Herb Kohl
Award

\$724,747

Amount students saved in 2025–26
through **dual credit** opportunities



#RAPIDSPRIDE

DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

Ronald Rasmussen, Superintendent, 715-424-6701
Roxanne Filtz, Director of Teaching & Learning, 715-424-6721
Aaron Nelson, Director of Business Services, 715-424-6705
Steven Hepp, Director of Pupil Services, 715-424-6724
Julie Kolarik, AD of Pupil Services and Learning, 715-424-6724
Elizabeth Van Berkel Grosskopf, AD of Pupil Services, 715-424-6724
Brian Oswald, Director of Human Resources, 715-424-6710
Phillip Bickelhaupt, Director of Technology, 715-424-6715
Ed Allison, Director of Buildings & Grounds, 715-424-6718
Melanie Hanneman, Director of Food Services, 715-424-6703

Board of Education

John Krings, President April, 2029
Troy Bier, Vice President April, 2028
Elizabeth St. Myers, Clerk April, 2027
John Benbow, Treasurer April, 2027
Christopher Inda, Board Member April, 2027
Jaime Sparkes, Board Member April, 2028
Kathi Stebbins-Hintz, Board Member, April 2029



**CHECK OUT THE 2026-27
SCHOOL CALENDAR!**



WRPS FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP & COMMUNITY INVESTMENT

- Legacy Foundation donated \$1.2 million to create Woodside Elementary's Outdoor Play, Learning, Activity Center (OPLAC), which opened in fall 2023.
- Playground improvements were completed at Grant, Pitsch, and Mead (2024-25) and THINK, Washington, Howe, and Grove (2025-26), expanding inclusive outdoor learning and play opportunities.
- Voters approved a five-year operational referendum in April 2026, providing \$3.8 million annually to support student programs, services, and transportation.
- The referendum followed extensive community engagement, including a survey with more than 2,200 responses, helping stabilize the District's long-term financial planning.
- District has maintained its strong Aa3 "High Grade" credit rating from Moody's Investors Service, reflecting stable financial management and low debt burdens.
- Recent independent financial audits concluded with zero material findings or internal control weaknesses.
- To ensure a balanced budget prior to the referendum, the district enacted a 6.5% reduction in administrative costs and carried out a multi-year restructuring plan for staff positions, keeping our local mill rate consistently below both the state average and neighboring district averages.

ENROLLMENT TRENDS

March 2020
5,088

2021-22
4,826

2024-25
4,564

2025-26
4,423

SCHOOLS BY THE NUMBERS

12 Schools

9 EC/Elementary
1 middle school
2 High School

4,603
Students

<u>School</u>	<u>Grades</u>	<u>Number of Students</u>	<u>Principals</u>
 Grant Elementary	4K-5	266	Nicole Calteux
 Grove Elementary	EC-5	198	Tina Wallner
 Howe Elementary	KG-5	329	Steve Thayer
 Mead Elementary	EC-5	294	Kim Akey
 Pitsch Early Lrg Ctr/Off-Site 4K	EC-4K	223	Teri Thomas
 THINK Academy	4K-5	206	Christine Slattery
 Washington Elementary	KG-5	297	Rod Watson
 Woodside Elementary	EC-5	341	Bill Oswald
 Central Oaks Charter (virtual)	4K-8	96	Brian Oswald
 WR Area Middle School	6-8	909	Kelly Schaeffer
 Lincoln High School + virtual	9-12	1,371	Kelly Zywicki
 River Cities Alternative HS	9-12	73	Julie Kolarik

VISION STATEMENT

The Wisconsin Rapids Public Schools is the district of choice for prospective students, parents, and staff in Central Wisconsin. WRPS meets the needs of diverse learners, preparing them to compete and reach their full potential in an evolving and global economy while cultivating values of responsibility, respect, and citizenship to contribute meaningfully to their community and beyond.

MISSION STATEMENT

Working together with home and community, we are dedicated to providing the best education for every student, enabling each to be a thoughtful, responsible contributor to a changing world.