

## Stay in the Know

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Westonka Public Schools prohibits sex discrimination in any education program or activity that it operates. Individuals may report concerns or questions to the District's Title IX Coordinator. The complete nondiscrimination policy and grievance procedures can be found at [www.westonka.k12.mn.us/TitleIX](http://www.westonka.k12.mn.us/TitleIX).

## Upcoming Events



Nov. 11	<b>2025-26 Enrollment Opens</b>	Westonka Public Schools K-12 enrollment opens for the 2025-26 school year on Monday, Nov. 11. Learn more at <a href="http://www.westonka.k12.mn.us/enroll">www.westonka.k12.mn.us/enroll</a> .
Nov. 12	<b>Prospective Family Night</b>	Join us for a quick and convenient evening to learn about the exciting things Westonka has to offer your family. Dinner and childcare provided! Learn more inside.
Nov. 21-24	<b>"Newsies Jr."</b>	Grandview Middle School presents "Newsies Jr." at the Westonka Performing Arts Center. Purchase tickets at <a href="http://www.WestonkaPAC.com">www.WestonkaPAC.com</a> .
Nov. 29	<b>"Christmas with Lorie Line"</b>	Spend an intimate evening with Lorie around the piano as she shares heartwarming stories and music. Purchase tickets at <a href="http://www.lorieline.com">www.lorieline.com</a> .
Jan. 9 & 14	<b>Kindergarten Round-Up</b>	The Westonka Class of 2038 and their families are invited to explore their neighborhood school. Watch for more information at <a href="http://www.westonka.k12.mn.us/kindergarten">www.westonka.k12.mn.us/kindergarten</a> .



# Headlines & Happenings

FALL 2024



### Westonka students earn top-in-state test results

According to data released in August by the Minnesota Department of Education, Westonka Public Schools remains a high academic performer, with Westonka students scoring among the top in the state on spring 2024 assessments.

Overall, Westonka #3 in the state in reading, #3 in the state in math and #4 in the state in science of districts testing at least 100 students in a grade level.

### NEW: K-12 Prospective Family Night Nov. 12

Parents with students of all ages are invited to attend the K-12 Prospective Family Night on Tuesday, Nov. 12 at Mound Westonka High School.

Join us for quick and convenient evening to learn about the exciting things Westonka Public Schools has to offer your family. A pizza dinner and childcare for ages 3-12 will be provided. Find out how to register inside.

### Westonka earns top school district rankings

In its new rankings for 2024, SchoolDigger ranks Westonka as the #5 Minnesota school district overall and #1 traditional school district in the state. The annual SchoolDigger rankings are based on the most current state standardized test results.

### Athletic Hall of Fame welcomes new members

The Mound Westonka High School Athletic Hall of Fame Class of 2024 was officially inducted Sept. 20 at a morning ceremony at the Westonka Performing Arts Center.

On hand to receive their awards were: Angela (Baack) Johnson, Class of 2004; Jill (Esse) Johnson, Class of 2005; Harley Olstad, coach; and Oliver White, Class of 2009. Also inducted with the Hall of Fame class was Dave Kragthorpe, Class of 1951.

EXPLORE MORE INSIDE >>







# Superintendent's Report

WESTONKA SUPERINTENDENT KEVIN BORG

## District unveils new logos, branding

After months of research, broad community input and careful design, we unveiled the new graphic identity of Westonka Public Schools in August. Some common themes emerged during the market research process from people's hopes for a refreshed look for the school district: name recognition, simplicity and consistency. Stakeholders emphasized the importance of a unified identity that would proudly represent Westonka to both internal and external audiences. You can find more details about our new logos and their usage at [www.westonka.k12.mn.us/brand](http://www.westonka.k12.mn.us/brand).



## Board to review school names

The branding review revealed significant inconsistencies in how individuals inside and outside our district refer to our schools. Mound, Mound Westonka, and Westonka are used interchangeably for both our high school and district. In the news media, we have been referred to as everything from Mounds/Westonka to Mound-WestTonka to West Mound Minnetonka. When people struggle to accurately remember our name, it signals that our brand identity is not as strong or clear as it should be.

The Westonka School Board plans to take action on school names at the November 18, 2024 board meeting. The board will vote on a proposal to adopt Westonka Middle School and Westonka High School as the middle and high school names starting in the 2025-26 school year, while preserving our primary school names.

The name Westonka is unique and has long been embraced by both for-profit and non-profit organizations to represent the cities along Lake Minnetonka's western shore. It also equally represents the eight lake communities within our school district boundaries. The proposed name changes will bring consistency and a sense of unity across our schools and community.

Our district's success today is built on the achievements and contributions of countless individuals who have walked the halls of our schools. As we engage in discussions about potential name changes, our goal remains: to proudly represent our entire community while honoring the rich history that defines us. Together, we continue to build on the legacy that the graduates of Mound High School and Mound Westonka High School created.



## Join Us!

WESTONKA PUBLIC SCHOOLS K-12 PROSPECTIVE FAMILY NIGHT

Join us for a quick and convenient evening to learn about the exciting things Westonka Public Schools has to offer your family. Dinner and childcare provided!

### K-12 Prospective Family Night Tuesday, November 12, 2024

Mound Westonka High School

- Pizza dinner: 5:30-6:15 p.m.
- Presentation: 6:15-7:00 p.m. (free childcare for ages 3-12)
- Q&A with Superintendent and Principals/Directors: 7:00-7:30 p.m.

We encourage prospective families to let us know if you are able to attend by registering at [www.westonka.k12.mn.us/enroll](http://www.westonka.k12.mn.us/enroll) or by scanning the QR code. We hope to see you there!



# Construction Updates

2023 BOND REFERENDUM PROJECTS

HIGH SCHOOL  
REDESIGN AND  
MIDDLE SCHOOL  
SECURITY  
IMPROVEMENTS  
ARE UP NEXT IN THE  
CONSTRUCTION  
TIMELINE



Wold Architects & Engineers rendering of high school north entrance

Construction has begun on several key projects across the Westonka District. We are grateful for the community's support of the 2023 bond referendum, which is allowing us to improve safety and security at all schools; address significant deferred maintenance needs of our 50- to 70-year-old buildings; and redesign the high school to enhance the learning environment and improve functionality, safety and pride.

Summer 2024 projects included security improvements at Hilltop and Shirley Hills primary schools and the Early Learning Center, as well as the start of construction of 12 new tennis courts (with six of these courts also lined for pickleball) across Sunnyfield Road E from the high school and maintenance to the district bus garage and parking lot.

Security improvements now complete include:

- **Lockdown capacity** - Buildings now have a centralized lockdown function that, at the push of a button, will immediately secure security doors and hallways and limit access by an intruder. Schools are also able to isolate specific areas within the building, providing public access only where it's needed.
- **Intrusion resistant glass** - Hardened glass in main entrances and other select areas will help prevent unauthorized access.
- **Door alerts and notification lights** - Alarms and strobes will activate when a locked door has been propped open or not fully closed. Alert lights will also be used in the event of a lockdown.

The new tennis courts are scheduled to be fully complete next spring. The current courts will remain operational until the new courts are finished, avoiding impacts to the boys and girls tennis seasons. When the current courts are no longer needed, they will be removed in order to expand the high school's north parking lot.

## What's Next in the Project?

### OCTOBER 2024

- Designs finalized for the high school redesign and middle school safety/security improvements and renovation
- Bidding opened for the high school project

### NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2024

- Bidding opens and closes for the middle school project
- Bidding closes for the high school project
- Design continues for the high school stadium and Shirley Hills and Hilltop deferred maintenance projects

### SPRING 2025

- New tennis/pickleball courts set to open for school and community use
- Construction set to begin on the high school and middle school projects

LEARN MORE: [WESTONKA.K12.MN.US/BONDPROJECTS](http://WESTONKA.K12.MN.US/BONDPROJECTS)