

# Minnetonka Public Schools

## See why we're a district of choice

Welcome to Minnetonka Schools! Our district is focused on world-class, child-centered excellence in early childhood, elementary, and secondary education. Minnetonka is known for academic rigor, excellence in the arts and athletics, and choice and flexibility for students and families. Strong schools are vital to a strong community and serving the greater good is a key component of our mission.



MINNETONKA  
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Proudly serving the  
communities of:

Chanhassen  
Deephaven  
Eden Prairie  
Excelsior  
Greenwood  
Minnetonka  
Shorewood  
Tonka Bay  
Victoria and  
Woodland

Minnetonka welcomes  
non-resident students  
through Minnesota's  
Open Enrollment  
Program.

[www.minnetonkaschools.org](http://www.minnetonkaschools.org)  
952-401-5000



INSPIRE



EXCEL



# Minnetonka Public Schools

*Inspiring in Everyone a Passion to Excel*

5621 County Road 101  
Minnetonka, MN 55345  
[www.minnetonkaschools.org](http://www.minnetonkaschools.org)  
952.401.5000

**P K 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12**

Staff work to ensure all students envision and pursue their highest aspirations

Focus on early literacy

Focus on reading and writing as a foundation for learning

Differentiated math instruction raising all children to higher levels

Special Education services for students from birth to age 21, meeting the unique needs of every child

Classroom music

Orchestra, band, choir or classroom music choices

Early childhood and family education, preschool, recreation and community events for all ages

Service projects inspire students to understand and serve the greater good

Chinese and Spanish Immersion, the largest Immersion program in the state of Minnesota

Global experiences raise cultural awareness and teach skills to succeed in a global economy

Hands-on science curriculum

High Potential services: Wings, Independent Investigations, advanced curriculum & support

Navigator Program  
for exceptionally gifted

Honors and  
accelerated courses

AP & IB courses

Musical theatre program

1:1 iPad® Program (Apple Distinguished Award)

Personalized guidance and college counseling

Traditional world language options

Advanced Placement courses

Tonka Online

Project Lead the Way

International Studies

Minnetonka Research

International  
Baccalaureate (IB)

VANTAGE  
Professional  
Studies



**Begin the school enrollment process!**  
Scan the QR code to learn more about our schools and community, schedule a tour and more!

**98% of Minnetonka parents rate the quality of education as excellent or good.**



# Elementary **K-5**

Minnetonka is a district of **equally excellent schools**, with specialized programs designed to meet the learning needs and interests of each child.

**Clear Springs:** *English and Spanish*  
**Deephaven:** *English and Spanish*  
**Excelsior:** *English and Chinese*  
**Groveland:** *English and Spanish*  
**Minnewashta:** *English and Spanish*  
**Scenic Heights:** *English and Chinese*



## ACADEMIC CHOICE, ACADEMIC RESULTS

# 22

K-5 class size average

Minnetonka's K-5 class sizes are among the smallest in the metro area. Families choose **Chinese, English or Spanish language immersion** beginning in Kindergarten (more than 50% elect immersion).

Minnetonka offers High Potential and Special Education services at all schools. A unique Navigator Program, for the exceptionally gifted, is at Excelsior and Scenic Heights. Our focus on STEM includes hands-on science curriculum for all grades. Early intervention and support are available to any student who struggles to succeed.

By the end of **5th grade**, students perform at or above the **11th grade** level in reading and math.

## TECHNOLOGY ACCELERATES LEARNING

Minnetonka is nurturing **creators and users** of technology who understand digital citizenship.



Minnetonka is a national leader putting **educational technology tools** in the hands of students and master teachers. Minnetonka is the first district in Minnesota to offer a K-5 coding curriculum, **Tonka<codes>**, to introduce all students to computer science. All classrooms are equipped with SMART boards, sound field solutions and mounted projectors. All students receive an iPad in fifth grade to allow anywhere, anytime learning.

## WORLD-CLASS FINE ARTS CULTIVATE CREATIVITY



Minnetonka is committed to excellence in Fine Arts and has been named one of the **Best Communities for Music Education** by the NAMM Foundation. Our visual arts specialists cultivate creativity through hands-on projects and arts education.

Classroom and choral music instruction begin in kindergarten. Students can participate in instrumental music in grades 4 (orchestra) and 5 (orchestra or band).

Minnetonka is unique!  
We offer the joy and challenge of **musical theatre** to students in grades 4-5 at all elementary schools.

Learn more! Download a copy of the **Elementary School Brochure**.

# Middle School <sup>6-8</sup>

Our middle schools offer rigor, choice, flexibility and support for students to **discover talents** and explore interests.

## Minnetonka Middle School East

Fed by: Deephaven  
Groveland  
Scenic Heights

## Minnetonka Middle School West

Fed by: Clear Springs  
Excelsior  
Minnewashta



## ACADEMIC CHOICE, ACADEMIC RESULTS

Language immersion in Chinese or Spanish continues at both middle schools, with the addition of French and German introductory courses for grades 7-8. Students may qualify for challenging coursework based on interest and ability. Minnetonka offers **general, honors and some accelerated courses** in English, math, science and social studies. Students are carefully placed to ensure they are appropriately challenged all three years of middle school.

More than 80% of our middle school students are involved in at least one after-school activity, including seven competitive sports, Art Club, Jazz Band, Musical Theatre, Science Olympiad, Student Government, Yearbook and more.

Among West Metro school districts, our students rank **#2 in math**, **#2 in science** and in the top three for reading on state tests.

## TECHNOLOGY IMPROVES ORGANIZATION AND RAISES ACHIEVEMENT

Integrated technology allows teachers to offer students **immediate feedback** on critical concepts and raise achievement for all.

In Minnetonka, technology is integrated with standard teaching methods to develop the 21st century learner. The **1:1 iPad® program** (grades 5-12) offers digital curriculum, student collaborative tools, and a choice of planning applications to stay organized.

Students can access assignments, documents and study tools from teacher websites; grades and research tools are always available online.



## WORLD-CLASS FINE ARTS BUILD SELF-ESTEEM



Students choose from band, choir, orchestra or classroom music all three years. Small group and individual lessons are available to help students excel in vocal and instrumental music. Students can further **develop their passion for the arts** through drawing and painting, art and design, 3D art, woods, creative writing and drama—all available as 8th grade electives.

**Music education** supports skills in critical thinking, creative problem solving, teamwork and communication.

Get all the details! Download a copy of the **Middle School Course Catalog**.

# High School <sup>9-12</sup>

Class of 2016 average  
**ACT composite**  
**26.7**

Students excel in the four A's: **academics, arts, activities and athletics** while developing a moral compass that will guide them beyond high school.

**Minnetonka High School** is ranked among the **best high schools in America** with nearly unlimited opportunities for students to find and pursue their passions. Eighty-one percent of students participate in co-curricular activities.

**Minnetonka**  
**Top 100**  
33.0  
**Top 200**  
31.5  
**Top 400**  
29.2

## ACADEMIC CHOICE, ACADEMIC RESULTS

- 79% of MHS seniors have taken **at least one AP or IB course** during high school.
- Thirty-one **Advanced Placement** courses are offered beginning in 9th grade.
- As an **International Baccalaureate (IB) World School**, MHS offers 33 IB courses, including the full IB and IB Bilingual Diploma Programmes.
- **VANTAGE** melds rigorous curriculum with hands-on learning in professional settings.
- **Project Lead the Way** certification focuses on engineering curriculum/activities.
- **Tonka Online** offers flexibility & online learning through 40 courses—from AP to PE
- **Minnetonka Research** offers an authentic scientific inquiry and discovery experience for highly motivated students

**Graduation rate**

**97%**

**College bound**

**91%**

attend two- or four-year colleges after high school

## TECHNOLOGY BUILDS 21<sup>ST</sup>-CENTURY SKILLS FOR HIGHER EDUCATION AND THE WORKPLACE

An online District portal gives students, parents and staff **24/7 access** to files, grades, resources and software, offering full technology integration with daily routines.

Minnetonka's 1:1 iPad program, a recipient of the Apple Distinguished award, gives all high school students access to technology at school and at home. Students report **improved organization, planning and achievement**. Students can complete and submit homework, download books, watch recorded lessons, take notes and complete quizzes and assessments directly from the iPad. Highly trained staff use technology to enhance and personalize student learning.



**Download the Minnetonka Public Schools App** (Apple/Android) to follow top stories, lunch menus, District calendar and more.

## WORLD-CLASS FINE ARTS GARNER RECOGNITION AND AWARDS



The **award-winning Fine Arts programs** at Minnetonka High School enable students to find their creative niche in theatre, choir, instrumental music or the visual arts.

Bands, choirs and orchestras perform and compete locally, nationally and internationally. Studio art students learn artistic expression through art production, art history and aesthetics.

**Arts Center on 7** has an elegant 670-seat main stage, studio theatre and art gallery to showcase student talent all year.

Download the **Skipper Log Course Catalog** for details.

# Minnetonka Preschool

At Minnetonka Preschool, children explore the world around them and grow in a safe environment that focuses on **social, emotional and cognitive development**. Preschool curriculum aligns with District curriculum, making the transition to Kindergarten smooth and familiar.



- All preschool teachers **are licensed** in Early Childhood Education
- NAEYC accredited
- 4-Star Parent Aware Rating
- Combine with Junior Explorers for full-day care

# Community Education

- Hundreds of enrichment, recreation, music and academic classes
- Explorers Club childcare at all elementary schools
- Parent-child classes for children birth to five years through ECFE

Minnetonka Community Education offers early childhood, enrichment, recreation, music and academic programs for children birth to 18 years. From art to archery, STEM to soccer and everything in between—there's a class or program that appeals to every child's interests and passions. Visit [www.minnetonkacommunityed.org](http://www.minnetonkacommunityed.org) for more information.



## COMMUNITY OF CHARACTER

In Minnetonka, **servicing the greater good** is part of our mission, starting with our youngest students.



Minnetonka students devote thousands of **volunteer hours** every year, from rake-a-thons and food drives to graduating-class legacy projects.

By understanding and serving the greater good, our students contribute to a strong community.

## FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

Moody's Bond Rating

# Aaa

Minnetonka is one of only three school districts in Minnesota (and about 70 school districts in the nation) with a Moody's Aaa Bond Rating—the highest bond rating possible for any government or corporate entity.

School Board Policy directs **77% of the District's annual operating budget to instruction**. District administration consumes only 4% of the budget.

Minnetonka has received a Certificate of Excellence in Financial Reporting each year since 1995 and received another clean audit report in December 2016.

In 2015, voters approved local operating & technology funding which is expected to provide budget stability through 2025.

Buildings are **renovated** for long-term use and collaborative learning.

Thanks to generous **private community funding**, kids enjoy modern sports fields and facilities.

Download the **Minnetonka Public Schools Annual Report** for additional information.