

## WELCOME

Welcome to Northfield! With a population that tops 20,000, two high quality liberal arts colleges, a vibrant arts scene, a thriving farm community and a growing business sector, the Northfield area is a wonderful place to call home. For generations, Northfield Public Schools has contributed to the town's tradition of excellence and we're excited that you're interested in learning more.



## ABOUT NORTHFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Northfield Public Schools seeks to engage students of all backgrounds and interests in an education that challenges them to appropriately strive for their best. Every aspect of our educational curriculum — both inside and outside the classroom — is designed to provide opportunities for learners to develop their skills in order to become productive members of society.



With three elementary schools (Bridgewater Elementary, Greenvale Park Elementary and Sibley Elementary), a middle school (serving grades 6–8), a high school and an alternative high school (Area Learning Center), the Northfield school district is well positioned to offer a high quality, well-rounded education that strives to meet the specific needs of each student and prepare its graduates for lifelong success.

In addition to our commitment to excellent K–12 programming, Northfield Public Schools extends its reach to learners of all ages through the Community Services Division. From Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) classes to swimming lessons to literacy and enrichment classes for adults and seniors, Northfield Public Schools offers a continuum of learning unlike any other.

## ACADEMICS

The mission of Northfield Public Schools is to deliver educational excellence that empowers all learners to participate in our dynamic world. By enlisting a team of professionals that seeks to improve the educational experience each and every day, students across the district are treated to high quality academic programming that will prepare them for lifelong success. Some key points of interest include:

- The average student-teacher ratio in the elementary schools is 23.75:1.
- The average student-teacher ratio in the middle school is 29.5:1.
- The average student-teacher ratio in the high school is 30.5:1.
- Compañeros, offered to students in grades 1–5, is Northfield's acclaimed Spanish immersion curriculum. The same experience is offered in the Middle School through Amistades.
- 16 Advanced Placement (AP) classes are offered at the High School. Last year, 88% of students who took AP exams for college credit scored 3 or higher.
- This year, 13 high school seniors received semi-finalist or commended student National Merit recognitions for their academic performance.
- The average ACT composite score: 25.2.
- Last year, on the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCAs), Northfield students scored above state averages at every grade level in reading, mathematics and science.
- Last year, on the Measures of Academic Progress (MAP tests), Northfield students scored above national averages at every grade level.
- In 2010–11, middle school students outperformed national averages on every section of the EXPLORE Grade 8 Exam.
- The Area Learning Center offers an innovative curriculum to support the unique needs of nontraditional students.
- Clustering of gifted/talented students at each level offers additional challenges to the district's highest-achieving students.
- The arts are alive and well – orchestra classes begin in fourth grade, and band classes in fifth grade.
- Graduating seniors:
  - 68% plan to attend a four-year college or university.
  - 20% plan to attend a two-year college.
  - 12% have other plans that include entering the workforce, enlisting in a military branch, traveling abroad or volunteering.

## CO-CURRICULAR OPPORTUNITIES

Northfield Public Schools offers students of all ages co-curricular opportunities to enhance their classroom learning. With more than 50 programs across the district, our highly regarded arts programs and competitive athletic endeavors will help students find their passions and develop their sense of purpose.

### ACTIVITIES OFFERED INCLUDE:

Alpine Skiing (Boys and Girls)	Gymnastics (Girls)	Ski Club
Athletic Training (Boys and Girls)	Hiliners Dance Team	Speech Team
Band	Hockey (Boys and Girls)	Soccer (Boys and Girls)
Baseball	Knowledge Bowl	Softball
Basketball (Boys and Girls)	Math Team	Strength & Conditioning (Boys and Girls)
Bowling (Boys and Girls)	Mock Trial	Student Council
Cheer Team (Girls)	Music Listening Team	Swimming (Boys and Girls)
Chess Team	National Honor Society	Tennis (Boys and Girls)
Cross Country Running (Boys and Girls)	Nordic Skiing (Boys and Girls)	Theatre
DECA Club	Orchestra	Track & Field (Boys and Girls)
Diversity Club	R.A.L.I.E.	Visual Arts
Fellowship of Christian Athletes	Robotics Team	Volleyball (Girls)
Football (Boys)	Rock 'n Roll Revival	Wrestling (Boys)
Golf (Boys and Girls)	Science Olympiad	



## COMMUNITY SERVICES DIVISION

Perhaps one of the most unique aspects of a Northfield Public Schools education is the continuum of programming offered through the Community Services Division. Whether it's a group of new mothers and their infants, a youth baseball team or adults learning to speak English, Northfield Public Schools gives people of all ages opportunities to engage in lifelong learning ventures. Families have also come to appreciate the after school childcare available inside all three of the district's elementary schools, the Middle School Youth Center and Connected Kids mentoring program, ensuring students' wellbeing and academic enrichment well after the final school bell rings.

## BY THE NUMBERS

- 3,896 students are currently enrolled in Northfield Public Schools.
- 72% of our general fund budget directly supports instruction in classrooms.
- 550 teachers and staff support the mission of Northfield Public Schools.
- Three elementary schools: Bridgewater, Greenvale Park and Sibley.
- One middle school: Northfield Middle School.
- One high school: Northfield High School.