

GET TO KNOW YOUR DISTRICT-WIDE SCHOOLS/PROGRAMS

What is a district-wide school/program?

District-wide schools/programs are schools or programs located within Rochester Public Schools that may deliver the curriculum in a different manner than neighborhood schools. District-wide schools and programs are tuition free to students. Transportation is provided to eligible students that are enrolled in a district-wide school or program.

How do I enroll my child into a district-wide school/program?

To enroll, you must fill out and submit an application to the Department of the Assistant Superintendent. There are various ways in which you can do this.

1. Visit www.rochester.k12.mn.us/districtwide and follow the instructions. Fill out the form online, and press submit.
2. Print the PDF form and mail or drop it off at the Department of the Assistant Superintendent, Edison Administration Building, Second Floor, 615 7th Street SW, Rochester, MN, 55902.
3. Fill out the form either online or in person at the Edison Administration Building.

Why do I need to apply?

Students are automatically assigned to their neighborhood school and the application process allows us to learn about a family's interest in attending a district-wide school/program. At particular grade levels we may have a waiting pool due to a greater demand than the number of spots available.

What if my child has a sibling already enrolled in a district-wide school/program?

Siblings of students currently attending a district-wide school will have preference in the selection process. However, you will still need to use the same application process listed above. Be sure to indicate on the form that your child has a sibling currently enrolled in a district-wide school/program.

What is the time frame for 2016-2017 Applications?

Applications are available online and at the Department of the Assistant Superintendent. The deadline for the initial selection period is Monday, January 9, 2017 at 4:45pm with the random selection taking place on Tuesday, January 10, 2017. Any additional random selections will be based on vacancies. Parents will be notified by phone during the week of January 9 if their child is selected. Applicants MUST reapply every year if not selected, including siblings.



What are the district-wide schools/programs?

Rochester Public Schools offer five district-wide elementary schools/programs.

Gage Spanish Immersion District-Wide Program

Hola! Gage offers the Spanish Immersion district-wide program in Rochester Public Schools. Our Spanish Immersion program follows a 90-10 model, meaning 90% of the day is in Spanish and 10% of the day is in English. Our teachers are licensed elementary teachers proficient in both Spanish and English. The Spanish Immersion program covers the same curriculum and is held to the same standards for success as our traditional kindergarten programs.

To arrange a tour, call 507.328.3400.
Principal: Jared Groehler

Lincoln K-8 District-Wide School

The mission of Lincoln is to educate and empower our children in a family-oriented and creative community by cultivating excellence. Staff use a thematic approach to deliver curriculum which support the individual learning styles of the whole child. Our innovative science curriculum supports academic excellence and is fostering the next generation of talented and creative scientists. We are a creative community that incorporates visual arts, music and class productions in grades K-8.

To arrange a tour, call 507.328.3550.
Principal: Jim Sonju

Longfellow 45/15 District-Wide Elementary School

Longfellow follows a 45/15 instructional calendar with school beginning the last week of July after a six-week summer vacation. Students attend school each of the four instructional quarters for approximately 45 days followed by 15 days of vacation. Benefits of the 45/15 schedule include greater student retention and less re-teaching due to the strategically placed breaks, consistent teaching time, and positive school culture. Our staff is highly creative with the infusion of research based differentiation models to meet the needs of our learners.

To arrange a tour, call 507.328.3600.
Principal: Kris Davidson

Montessori at Franklin District-Wide Elementary School

The Montessori approach to education embraces individualized instruction for children, mixed-age groupings, a structured curriculum, and a prepared environment using specialized Montessori teaching materials. The Montessori classrooms allow children to move, touch, manipulate, and explore the specifically designed learning materials with both direct and indirect teaching to foster their journey from the concrete to the abstract. Since Montessori education is based on the inner motivation of the child, it is the teacher's role to work with this motivation in ways that will enhance each child's learning experience.

To arrange a tour, call 507.328.3300.
Principal: George Nemanich

Washington Core Knowledge District-Wide Elementary School

Washington uses a curriculum based on the Core Knowledge Sequence, a rich and rigorous body of information in American and world history, geography, science, literature, music and art. It is our belief that the most effective elementary education balances high expectations for mastery of basic reading, math, writing, and technology skills with a solid foundation of factual information in the content areas. The area of reading stresses systematic phonics instruction in the primary grades and builds vocabulary, comprehension and reading fluency throughout the grades and reading instruction is supplemented with classic literature recommended in the Core Knowledge Sequence. Math instruction uses a traditional style focused on the MN state standards with an emphasis on mastery of basic math facts, computation skills, concepts, and problem solving.

To arrange a tour, call 507.328.3800.
Principal: Chad Schroeder