



Mequon  
Thiensville  
SCHOOL DISTRICT

2022-2023

# Quality Report

The Launchpad to Success 

## Our Mission

Together, we ignite each student's passion for learning, preparing for a life of infinite possibilities.

## Our Vision

Each student, every time, empowered to succeed.

## Our Commitment to Educational Equity

As a public school system, we have responsibility for the future success of each student, regardless of background, home situation, or family resources. We embrace a culture of educational equity and inclusion, and actively work to serve each student according to his or her needs. In a barrier-free learning environment, each student gets what they need, at the right moment in their education, in order to find their path to success. Our commitment to success for each student is rooted in the ideals of educational equity, opportunity, and excellence for all.

## Our Guiding Principles

Our guiding principles delineate the core values and beliefs that set the foundation for how our organization will operate. In the Mequon-Thiensville School District, we believe:

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Education must address every facet of a child's being.

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Each student is valued, will learn, and will experience personal success.

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Staff is our most valuable asset in achieving our mission and vision.

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Respect, responsibility, fairness, citizenship, equity, diversity, and inclusion are essential for a safe and successful learning environment.

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Seeking innovation and working to constantly improve all practices increases the value of our organization for all stakeholders.

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Research, assessment and measurement must inform decision-making and accountability.

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Sustaining fiscal strength is necessary for the vitality of our schools and community.

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Engaging our community through meaningful relationships fosters trust and accountability.



# The Launchpad to Success

I hold an unwavering belief that thriving communities are created and sustained by strong public school districts. We are a school district fortunate to serve incredible students and engaged families, who are supported by talented staff members. As we celebrate the conclusion of the 2022-23 school year, I am excited to share with you the successes our school community has realized, together, both in and out of the classroom.

Our students across our schools are making great strides in their learning. Again on the State Department of Public Instruction's Annual School District Report Card, the Mequon-Thiensville School District (MTSD) received the highest rating of "Significantly Exceeds Expectations." In fact, there is not a year in which the state report card has been produced that the school district hasn't received this top billing. When comparing overall scores on the report card, the MTSD ranked #6 compared to all other K-12 public school districts in the state. When considering student proficiency in English/language arts and mathematics, MTSD students perform in the top 5% of those across the state of Wisconsin.

Such accomplishments are an example of how we benefit from the strong partnership that our staff members share with our students' parents and guardians. Our dedicated educators and support staff, share a deep commitment to supporting the needs of children in our community in preparing each of them for success and a life full of possibilities. This year, our staff members joined the families of the Homestead High School graduating class of 2023 to celebrate 91% of seniors continuing their education at a 2- or 4-year college or university and 9% entering the workforce, military, or taking a gap year. Congratulations to our seniors!

This publication, our annual Quality Report, provides us with the opportunity to share these accomplishments and so much more. It provides an overview of the data, achievements, initiatives, and financial state of the Mequon-Thiensville School District for all Mequon and Thiensville community members. We are fortunate that Mequon-Thiensville is a community that prioritizes education, and we need all hands on deck to continue making strides forward on our students' behalf. I am proud of what we have accomplished as a school community thus far, and I am motivated by the work that lies ahead.



With appreciation,



**Matthew Joynt, Ph.D.**  
Superintendent of Schools

**7** Board of Education Members

**2** Municipalities Served

**50** SQUARE MILES  
District Boundaries

**192**  
Total Acreage

**1,014,111**

Total Square Footage of Facilities

**3,557**  
Total Enrollment

**100%**  
2023 Graduation Rate

**3-Year**

Strategic Plan

**395**

Full Time Equivalent Employees

**\$70.8M**

Total Budget

**Aaa**

Bond Rating

## Budget Hearing and Annual Meeting

Members of the community are invited to attend the Mequon-Thiensville School District Budget Hearing and Annual Meeting.

**Learn more about meeting guidelines at [www.mtsd.k12.wi.us/annualmeeting](http://www.mtsd.k12.wi.us/annualmeeting).**

**Monday, July 24, 2023  
at 7 p.m.**

### Meeting Location:

Range Line Conference Room  
11040 N. Range Line Road  
Mequon, WI 53092

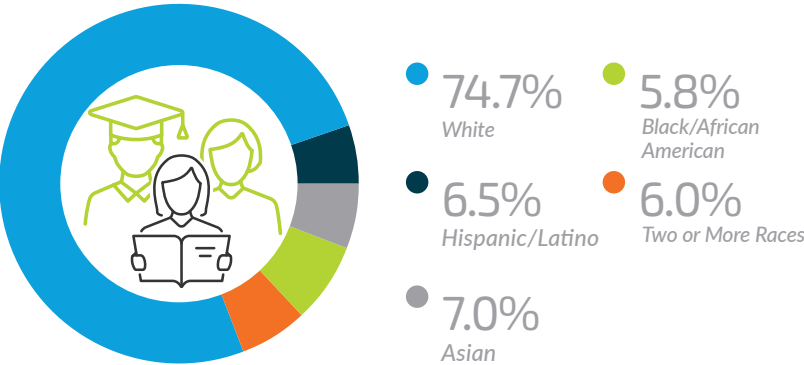


1:1  
DEVICE RATIO  
FOR STUDENTS IN  
GRADES 3-12

# OUR STUDENTS

Our educational program builds on students' interests and challenges them to grow as individuals and become independent, confident, self-advocates. Students experience a wide array of possibilities in and out of the classroom through exposure to core content areas, art, music, theatre, world languages, STEM curriculum, athletics, and co-curriculars activities. MTSD also offers a dynamic half-day 4K program, band, choir, and the only school orchestra program in Ozaukee County. By learning across a wide array of content areas, students are empowered to explore their points of view and lean into their passions. MTSD students are involved and invested in their own growth and achievement.

## Ethnicity Breakdown



7.7%  
Students who are  
linguistically diverse (ELL)

11.8%  
Students who receive  
free or reduced-price meals

10.9%  
Students who receive  
special education services

3.2%  
Students who reside  
outside school district boundaries

1.7%  
Students who receive  
speech and language services

3,557  
TOTAL ENROLLMENT

- 3 ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS (Grades 4K-5)
- 2 MIDDLE SCHOOLS (Grades 6-8)
- 1 HIGH SCHOOL (Grades 9-12)

## Student Attendance By School

18 Early Childhood | 5 4K Community Partner

492 Donges Bay Elementary School

505 Oriole Lane Elementary School

552 Wilson Elementary School

395 Steffen Middle School

329 Lake Shore Middle School

1,261 Homestead High School



# OUR STAFF

Our dedicated employees hold a passion for teaching that doesn't simply create an environment where students learn - they ignite each student's potential. MTSD staff members embrace a growth mindset and an understanding that there is no limit to learning. We actively recruit top-quality educators from diverse backgrounds to support an inclusive educational experience where each student's capacity for learning is realized on a daily basis. Our employees are our most valuable asset - the connections that our educators forge with our students on a personal level guides an understanding of who they are and what drives them to succeed. It is through these relationships and trust-building attitudes that success is achieved and a positive school culture is fostered.

**87%** EMPLOYEE RATE OF RETENTION

**73%** Report MTSD is a Great Place to Work

**86%** Feel a Sense of Purpose in their Work

**9.7** AVERAGE STAFF YEARS OF SERVICE TO MTSD

CERTIFIED TEACHING STAFF

**14.5** Average Total Years of Experience

**56.3%** With Advanced Degrees



**Number of Full-Time Equivalent Employees**

**285** Educational Professionals

**76** Educational Support Staff

**14** Administrative Support Staff

**+ 20** Administrative Staff

**395** Employees

Figures indicate the number of full-time equivalent employees



**13:1**  
STUDENT TO CERTIFIED STAFF RATIO

# OUR COMMUNITY

The Mequon-Thiensville School District serves students and their families in a community that embraces world-class learning opportunities, rich fine arts, competitive athletics, and robust co-curricular offerings. In the MTSD, we are proud of our partnership with the Mequon-Thiensville Recreation Department in providing community-wide programming for all ages, as well as our work in building out our Academic and Career Planning Program to grow connections between our students and the local workforce. We believe that thriving communities are created and sustained by strong public schools - in Mequon and Thiensville we have much to celebrate!



## M-T RECREATION DEPARTMENT

11040 N Range Line Road  
Mequon, WI 53092  
262-238-7535

## COMMUNITY RECREATION DEPARTMENT

The Mequon-Thiensville Recreation Department bolsters the connection between school and community through greater use of school facilities and resources that benefit all residents and taxpayers. The Recreation Department provides lifelong learning opportunities by offering educational, cultural, and recreational events and activities for citizens of all ages. All Recreation Department activities take place outside the 4K-12 instructional and co-curricular operations. In addition to regular programming activities, the Recreation Department oversees the Kids' Campus Before & After School Care and the 4K Wrap Care program. The Mequon-Thiensville Recreation Department provides an important revenue stream for the district.



MEQUON-THIENSVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
& RECREATION DEPARTMENT

278 STUDENTS  
ENROLLED IN  
KIDS' CAMPUS

BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL CARE

### M-T Recreation Programs (2022-23)

18 + 115 + 142 = 275

Preschool Programs      Adult/Senior Programs      Youth Programs      Community Recreation Programs



MEQUON-THIENSVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
& RECREATION DEPARTMENT

### M-T Recreation Program Participants (2022-23)

216 + 2,386 + 5,867 = 8,469

Preschool Participants      Adult/Senior Participants      Youth Participants      Community Recreation Participants

68 STUDENTS  
ENROLLED IN  
4K WRAP CARE



REGISTER AT  
[www.mtsd.k12.wi.us/4K-wrap](http://www.mtsd.k12.wi.us/4K-wrap)

### Community Service Fund - Fund 80

#### Where the Money Comes From

The proposed tax levy for 2023-2024 is \$227,580. The levy has remained unchanged since the 2009-2010 fiscal year.

80%

Program fees,  
investment income

20%

Property taxes





# ACADEMIC & CAREER PLANNING (ACP)

## ACP in MTSD

Each student has his or her own constellation of talents, interests and strengths. Academic and Career Planning, or ACP, is an adult-supported process that provides students in grades 6-12 with the opportunity to uncover their unique interests and strengths and investigate careers that dovetail with their passions and abilities. The process continues through the identification of middle and high school instructional activities aligned to a student's particular field of interest, and the development of a plan for understanding next steps in planning for the future.

Our ACP program authentically engages students in developing their future identity by providing meaningful experiences and making learning connections to build confidence, gain focus, and develop the passion that informs their career pathway. Our objective is that students will develop their sense of internal motivation and a vision for their future so that each student graduates with a sense of purpose, capable of taking advantage of vast opportunities to reach his or her career aspirations.



**9** Career Conversation Events at Homestead High School

**3** Career Path Speaker Series Events at Lake Shore & Steffen Middle Schools

**9** Workforce Readiness Skills Regularly Incorporated Into Classroom Instruction

Career Conversation topics range from science/technology, law, manufacturing, arts, healthcare, trades, finance, and sales/marketing



**52** Career Path Speakers across 16 industries participated in the 2022-23 Speaker Series

**22** Homestead Students Participating in the Ozaukee Youth Apprenticeship Program





Mequon-Thiensville School District

# 2021-2024 Strategic Plan Update

Our three-year strategic plan unifies the efforts of our organization around our shared mission and vision, and it guides improvement efforts. It establishes priorities for the use of resources, strengthens operations, enhances organizational coherence, and provides clarity and focus on our desired future. Following is a year two update on the progress made toward our 2021-2024 strategic plan goals. Visit [www.mtsd.k12.wi.us/district/strategic-plan-clone](http://www.mtsd.k12.wi.us/district/strategic-plan-clone) for more information.

## PLANNING FOR THE 2024-2027 STRATEGIC PLAN WILL BEGIN IN THE 2023-24 SCHOOL YEAR.

As part of the strategic plan development process, we engage parents, students, alumni, employees, community members, business and organization leaders and government officials. Please stay tuned for more information about participating in an engagement opportunity during this school year to help inform MTSD's next Strategic Plan.



## GOAL 1

### Academic Achievement & Growth for Each Student

Provide instruction and support informed by achievement and progress measures to ensure the academic growth of each student.



#### Objectives:

A

Identify priority academic standards and establish proficiency scales to produce high-quality instructional lessons.

B

Refine academic assessment practices to inform instruction and support student goal setting and teacher feedback.

C

Enrich professional collaboration practices to accelerate students' learning as we emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### Key Accomplishments:

- Provided one-on-one or targeted learning opportunities for students in need of extra math and reading help.
- Held meetings for teachers to go over student data and test results, equipping them with the information needed to increase student performance in math and reading.
- Increased teacher effectiveness through additional training and coaching.
- Completed a two-year Academic Recovery Plan to directly address unfinished learning by our students as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic.



## GOAL 2

### Students' Future Success



Provide each student with the information, opportunities, and skills needed to understand and access pathways toward their future career aspirations.

#### Objectives:

A

Design opportunities for students to learn about a variety of careers and the pathways taken to attain those careers.

B

Embed activities that develop students' universal work readiness skills in the design of daily classroom instruction.

C

Facilitate students' exploration of diverse post-secondary educational opportunities in grades 6-12.

#### Key Accomplishments:

- Increased efforts to prepare students for future success in the workforce.
- Promoted our partnership with the Ozaukee Youth Apprenticeship program to ensure that all 11th and 12th grade students are aware of the opportunity to gain workforce experience while still in school.
- Developed and promoted the Ozaukee Job Fair opportunities for all high school students, bringing greater awareness to career exploration.
- Continued to build connection to "Notable 9" Skills for Workforce Readiness in daily instruction.



## GOAL 3

### Student Belonging & Well-being



Foster collaboration and develop relationships to enhance the safety, connectedness, and well-being of our students.

#### Objectives:

A

Define and implement culturally responsive principles and best practices in the school environment to foster the connectedness and belonging of our students.

B

Cultivate authentic and positive relationships amongst students, staff and families to enhance our students' physical and psychological safety.

C

Integrate social and emotional learning practices within the instructional environment to strengthen student engagement and well-being.

D

Respond with urgency, flexibility, and compassion to the individual social and emotional needs of students as we emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic.

#### Key Accomplishments:

- Increased awareness of communication tools for non-English-speaking families.
- Provided additional training for staff on managing social and emotional health issues.
- Updated threat and risk assessment forms and response procedures.
- Increased monitoring of and responsiveness to students in danger of failing a course.



## GOAL 4 Workforce Environment



Cultivate a workplace environment where professional growth is a priority to strengthen employees' belonging and impact.

### Objectives:

- A** Enhance employee experiences through improved systems for onboarding, professional growth and recognition.
- B** Increase employee knowledge and effective use of technology to grow professional capacity and support our evolving educational environment.
- C** Promote safe, well-maintained, and flexible working and learning environments to enhance the experiences of our stakeholders.

### Key Accomplishments:

- Provided targeted professional development opportunities for substitute teachers.
- Continued to increase the effectiveness of our safety and emergency preparedness.
- Systematized our efforts regarding employee recognition and celebration.
- Created a draft Employee Experience Action Plan to formalize next steps in response to employee focus group feedback.

## GOAL 5

### Stakeholder Relationships



Produce meaningful communication and engagement opportunities with all stakeholders to build strong relationships and trust across the school community.

### Objectives:

- A** Develop accessible, consistent, and purposeful media for all stakeholders to grow an understanding of school district efforts.
- B** Nurture stakeholder relationships through systematic, two-way engagement opportunities.
- C** Promote community and business partnerships to broaden support for student learning.
- D** Engage internal and external stakeholders in long-term planning to ensure appropriate resources for programming and facilities.

### Key Accomplishments:

- Created periodic mailed fliers to update the community on district initiatives and information.
- Increased MTSD's social media presence.
- Developed a formalized system for reporting out family survey and student assessment results.
- Increased advertising of MTSD to greater Milwaukee area.
- Refined plans to support spending of the district's capital improvement trust fund and review of our long range technology plan.





# ACADEMIC MILESTONES

## Milestones for Post-Secondary Success (2022-2023)

As students move through their 4K-12 academic careers, they strive for and reach a number of key milestones. We have identified seven milestones that benchmark and guide our efforts in ensuring that each student will experience college and future career success. Our Milestones for Post-Secondary Success include measurable outcomes that allow us to monitor student progress so that when students graduate from high school, they have the knowledge and skills necessary to succeed. Each milestone is rigorous, encouraging our students to develop higher-level thinking and problem-solving skills. **For more information about these milestones, please visit [www.mtsd.k12.wi.us/milestones](http://www.mtsd.k12.wi.us/milestones).**



## ACHIEVEMENT

87%

### **MILESTONE 1:** *Reading to Grade-Level Proficiency (K-2nd Grade)*

Each year the school district documents progress toward this goal by reporting on the percentage of students reading to instructional level - this is the ability at which the student can read without additional support, as measured by the Fountas & Pinnell Text Level Gradient.

64%

### **MILESTONE 2:** *Reading Achievement (3rd-8th Grade)*

This milestone reflects the percentage of MTSD students who score in the top third in reading proficiency nationwide. Students who score at or above the 66th percentile at grade level on Measure of Academic Progress (MAP) tests demonstrate reading skills that will likely lead to college and career success.

59%

### **MILESTONE 3:** *Math Achievement (3rd-8th Grade)*

This milestone reflects the percentage of MTSD students who score in the top 30% in math proficiency nationwide. Students who score at or above the 70th percentile at grade level on Measure of Academic Progress, (MAP) tests demonstrate math skills that will likely lead to college and career success.

%

### **\*MILESTONE 4:** *ACT Benchmark Attainment (8th-11th Grades)*

The ACT series of assessments can be used to assess college readiness. Students who meet or exceed the ACT Benchmarks in English, math, reading, and science associated with this exam have a high probability for success in respective college credit-bearing courses.

*\*This data point not available at the time of publication.*

## ACCESS

%

### **\*MILESTONE 5:** *Algebra 2 Success (10th Grade)*

Students who take advanced math in high school are more likely to attend and graduate from college. By completing Algebra 2 by the end of the 10th grade with a C or higher, students will have access to rigorous pre-college mathematics courses in grades 11 and 12.

*\*This data point not available at the time of publication.*

%

### **\*MILESTONE 6:** *Success in Advanced Coursework (9th-12th Grade)*

Students who successfully complete advanced coursework perform better in college as measured by a score of 3 or better on Advanced Placement exams or through the attainment of a B or better in dual-credit courses.

*\*This data point not available at the time of publication.*

## ENGAGEMENT

57%

### **MILESTONE 7:** *Student Engagement (4th-12th Grade)*

Students who are engaged at school are on track for post-secondary success as measured by five indicators including Connectedness, Drive, Leadership, Social & Emotional Aptitude, and Wellness on an annual student engagement survey. On-track student engagement is defined as an average aggregate survey score greater than or equal to 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.

# ACHIEVEMENTS OF STUDENTS AND STAFF



The **Mequon-Thiensville School District** was named one of the 2023 Best Communities for Music Education by the National Association of Music Merchants (NAMM) Foundation.

Several Homestead students were recognized as winners in the 2023 National Latin Exam including: **Emily Taylor, Anya Mikhailenko, William Harwood, Luke LaLonde, Michelle Imas, Anna Prokhina, Addison Drumm, Charlotte King, Will Simon, Rosalie Kojis, Aleksey Mikhailenko, Peter Chromy, Lucas Mersky, William Gefke, Eliana Pope, Sara Wypiszynski, Wolf Smallwood, Matthew Seiberlich, Hanna Malec, Lauren Strifling, London Boettcher, Joseph Eisner, Emersyn Sehnert, George Zhu, Olivia Rembert, Mary Giersch, Drew Testin, and Brian Franks.**



Homestead senior **Alexa Bremmer** received a scholarship from the Herb Kohl Educational Foundation.



Homestead High School seniors **Nathan Moldavsky** and **Anastasia Raykova**, both members of the National Honor Society (NHS), were selected as NHS Scholarship semifinalists.

Homestead students **Michelle Dubrovsky, Madeline Frank, Julia Gaskin, and Alison Kellner**, were recognized by the National Center for Women & Information Technology (NCWIT) Aspirations in Computing (AiC) Awards.

Homestead senior **Ilia Mikhailenko** received the 2022 Heisman High School Scholarship Award, honoring the nation's most accomplished, community-minded high school senior athletes.



MTSD Autism Specialist **Danielle Ozimek** and Homestead High School senior and advocate **Nathan Moldavsky** received honorary awards from the Wisconsin Council of Administrators of Special Services (WCASS) for their outstanding contributions to supporting the lives of students with special needs.

Lake Shore Middle School Social Emotional Coach and AVID 7 teacher, **Beula Sundararajan** was recognized as MTSD's 2023 Outstanding Educator.

Four MTSD Educators received the MTEF Excellence in Education Awards for 2023: **Amy Bongard, Sean Crider, Nicholas Schueller, and Kelly Zimmermann.**

Homestead High School announced eight National Merit Semifinalists: **Isaac Bloomgarden, Abigail Horwitz, Henry Kroft, Jonathan Lim, Ilia Mikhailenko, Nathan Moldavsky, Maura Whitaker, and Adam Yesufu.**

The **Homestead High School One-Act theatre program** swept the State One-Act Play contest with their performance of "Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead," which received 8 awards, including the highest honor of Critics Choice Award.

Homestead students **Addison Drumm, Julia Gaskin, Clare Pepke, Emma Rader, Angela Vang, Meghan Eckl, Delaney Melgaard, Meredith Niedfeldt, Olive Ramsey, Elsa Heinrich, Kalina Longworth, and Steffen Middle School student, Sylvia Moser** were recognized as Scholastic Art Award winners.





Homestead senior **Adam Yesufu** received the Princeton Club of Wisconsin Book Award. This award is given to a high school junior who displays a concern for the opinion of others while demonstrating exceptional leadership, talent, and competence in both academic and nonacademic pursuits.

Homestead sophomore **Kevin Wan** was one of only 558 students nationwide to qualify for the USA Junior Mathematical Olympiad (USAJMO).

Homestead senior **Charlie Millard** was the 2023 WIAA State Wrestling Champion. Charlie was coached by his father, Homestead head wrestling coach and social studies teacher, **Mr. Ernie Millard**.



Homestead High School students **Amaya Tucker, Adam Pawelec, Liam Aicher, Elsa Heinrich, Addison Drumm, and AJ Faber**, as well as Steffen Middle School teacher, **Susan Gattoni**, received recognition from the Ozaukee County Art Show.

**Homestead High School Chamber Orchestra** performed at Carnegie Hall during Easter weekend in partnership with the Shorewood High School Chamber Orchestra.



**Deb Apel**, 4K Paraprofessional at Oriole Lane Elementary School, received MTSD's Charleen Perry Award, recognizing her dedication to supporting MTSD's youngest learners.

Homestead High School Defensive Coordinator and Academic & Career Planning Coordinator, **Matt Wolf**, received the United States Marine Corps' Semper Fi Coach Award, honoring a high school coach who models the Marine Corps leadership values of honor, courage, and commitment.



Homestead robotics team, **Kraken Pinion**, placed 4th in the overall world ranking at the Global Championship in Houston, Texas.



The Homestead **JV and Varsity math teams** won the North Shore Conference Math Meet in their respective divisions. Individual honors for the varsity team went to **Kevin Wan, George Zhu, Jasmine Xu, and Aditya Kosaraju** who all finished in the top 5 among 64 competitors. Individual honors for the junior varsity team went to **Siddharth Kosaraju, Jeremy Miller, Sara Yesufu, and Misha Auchynnikau** who all finished in the top five among 54 students.



Seven Homestead High School seniors earned academic honors from the College Board National Recognition Programs: **Julia Gaskin, Jalen Herndon, Livia Lathen, Justin Robinson, Amaya Tucker, Adam Yesufu, and Quinten McLaughlin**.

Homestead juniors **Eli Devorkin** and **Jasmine Xu** each received the Milwaukee North Shore Rotary "Service Above Self" award.



Homestead senior **Julia Gaskin** won a Silver Medal at the National Scholastic Art Competition for her digital artwork, "Airplane Sketches."

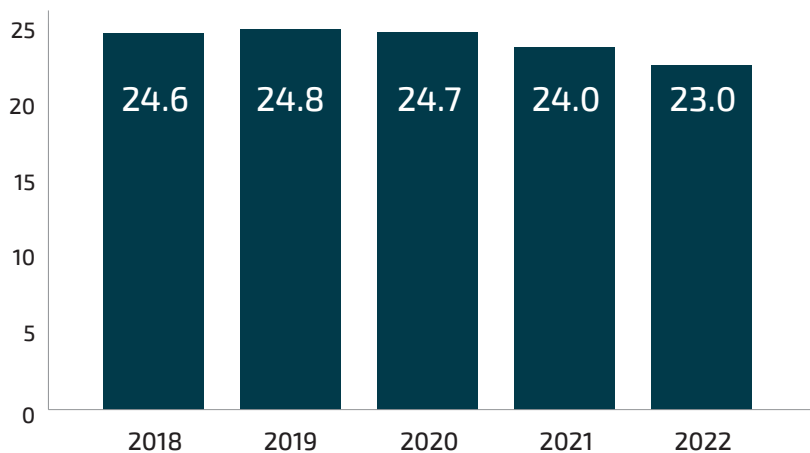


## MEASURING OUTCOMES

Our students engage in academically rigorous coursework and participate in a broad range of co-curricular activities. The accomplishments our students achieve are as diverse as our students themselves. Guided by the principle that research, assessment, and measurement must inform decision-making and accountability, we continue to monitor student growth using the data available to us. Our organization is committed to continuous improvement in pursuit of excellence in education and we take great pride in being recognized as an exemplary educational leader year after year.

### Graduating Class ACT Composite Average

The Department of Public Instruction requires all students to take the ACT, a requirement which was initiated in 2016.



**23.0**

Class of 2022  
Composite Average



**19.3**

2022 Statewide  
Composite Average

### Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction Accountability Report Cards (2016-2022)

*DPI report cards were not issued during the 2019-2020 school year.*

**100%**

of Mequon-Thiensville schools have exceeded or significantly exceeded expectations on DPI Accountability Report Cards since their inaugural 2012-2013 school year.

### MTSD Significantly Exceeds Expectations!

2021  
2022

**85.4**

MTSD Significantly Exceeds Expectations!

2020  
2021

**85.8**

MTSD Significantly Exceeds Expectations!

2018  
2019

**89.5**

MTSD Significantly Exceeds Expectations!

2017  
2018

**87.9**

MTSD Significantly Exceeds Expectations!

2016  
2017

**86.9**

MTSD Significantly Exceeds Expectations!



## Advanced Placement Exams (2021-2022)

553

Students took one or more AP Exam

1,078

AP Exams Taken

74.6%

Of Students Earned a Passing Score of 3 or Better

## College & Career Planning

100%

Of students in Grades 6-12 participate in academic and career planning

97%

Of Class of 2023 graduates completed the full cadre of MTSD college and career planning tasks



**HOMESTEAD**  
— HIGH SCHOOL —

**CONGRATULATIONS**

**CLASS OF 2023**

336

SENIORS IN THE  
CLASS OF 2023

100%

GRADUATION  
RATE

83%

4-YEAR COLLEGE/  
UNIVERSITY

8%

2-YEAR COLLEGE/  
TECHNICAL SCHOOL

9%

WORKFORCE/MILITARY/  
GAP YEAR/OTHER



### SPECIAL CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR DISTINGUISHED GRADUATES:

Isaac Bloomgarden, Alexa Bremmer, Emily Erickson, Abigail Horwitz, Henry Kroft, Jonathan Lim, Quinten McLaughlin, Ilia Mikhailenko, Nathan Moldavsky, Hana Nasir, Emma Rader, Zakariya Tfaili, Maura Whitaker, Adam Yesufu, and Renee Zaiss.

## HOW WE OPERATE

# Development of the School District Budget

Each year, we develop a budget that reflects our strategic priorities to ensure our financial foundation supports organizational growth and improvement. The budget planning process is cyclical, beginning annually in November and continuing through the following October.





## Plan Development

**MAR.**

3

- Analysis of budget scenarios & budget development
- Development of district staffing plan
- School Board action of recommended new budget initiatives

**APR.**

4

## Plan Development

- District staffing plan formalized

**MAY**

5

## Plan Development & State Budget Alignment

- Adjust budget and begin forecasting in response to state-level public school funding decisions

**JUN.**

6

## Finalize Proposed Budget

- Present proposed school district budget to School Board
- Preparation for budget presentation at annual meeting and budget hearing (July)

## Stakeholder Feedback

**JUL.**

7

- Budget hearing conducted by the School Board
- School Board action on the proposed budget
- Annual school district meeting and certification of tax levy
- School district receives preliminary aid estimate

## Plan Development & Implementation

- Preparations for the upcoming school year

**AUG.**

8

## Plan Development & Implementation

**SEPT.**

9

- School District 3rd Friday Count conducted
- Adjust budget and begin forecasting in response to state-level public school funding decisions

**OCT.**

10

## Final Budget Approval

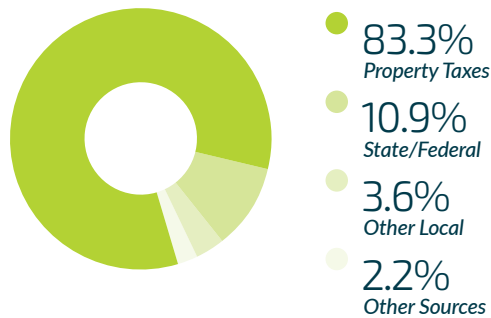
- Receive final equalized home values & aid amount
- School Board action on final budget adjustments (if any) & certification of final tax levy

HOW WE OPERATE

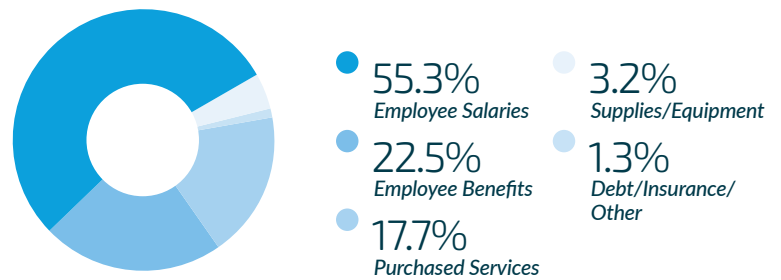
We strive to build trust and add value among all members of our community through effective management of resources while creating and maintaining the best possible environment for growth. The school district budget reflects the labor, materials and resources required to maintain the strength of our schools, and it serves as an operational plan for carrying out our mission and vision. A financially strong public school system benefits all stakeholders and we are proud to contribute to our community's continued vitality.



Where the Money Comes From



Where the Money Goes



How the Money is Spent

56.1%  
Instructional Services

12.0%  
Business Services/  
Operations/Maintenance

14.0%  
Student/Staff Services

7.6%  
Administrative Services

10.3%  
Other Support Services





### Maintenance of Facilities

Our facilities department is committed to providing a safe, secure, comfortable, functional and attractive environment, conducive to student learning. Studies have linked the impact of school building conditions to student productivity and performance. Ensuring our buildings and equipment are in good working order is a priority in the management of our facilities and promotes healthy school environments for our students and educators. Our buildings and grounds leadership is committed to using taxpayer funds efficiently while providing a good return on each investment. Each year, a needs assessment is completed for all buildings to determine items that need to be included in the 10-year maintenance plan. Annually, the District allocates funds towards projects within the 10-year maintenance plan.

### Facilities Update

The Mequon-Thiensville School District is committed to investing in our facilities to keep community members safe and improve the longevity of our shared spaces. The Homestead High School Pool is currently undergoing maintenance and will be closed to the public until Monday, August 28th. During this time, a new 25-year liner and updated piping is being installed. This closure affects the weekday AM Open Swim Program. Arrangements have been made to allow community members from Mequon & Thiensville to swim at the Rite Hite YMCA pool from 6:00 - 7:30 a.m., during weekdays through August 25. If you have any questions, please contact the MT Rec Dept at 262-238-7535.



 **The Facilities Department Maintains**

1,014,111

*Total Square Footage of Facilities*

7

*Buildings*

192

*Total Acres*



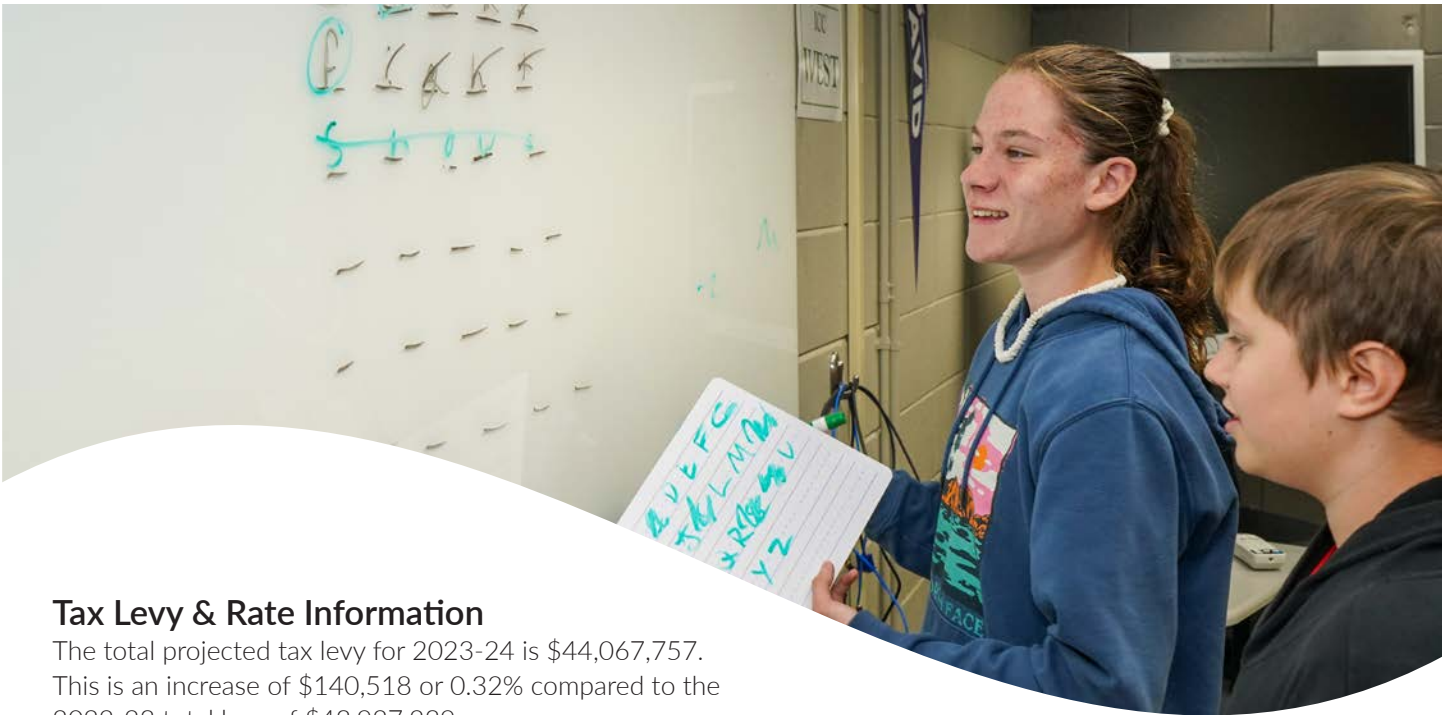
## 12 YEARS IN A ROW!

*MTSD has held the top Aaa rating since 2010*

### District Maintains Highest Possible Bond Rating

The Mequon-Thiensville School District has been affirmed at the highest rating possible, Aaa, by the bond rating agency Moody's, making it one of only three of Wisconsin's 421 public school districts to hold the top rating. Moody's notes the following strengths in its ratings rationale for MTSD:

- Strong management team with multi-year budget forecasting plans
- A commitment to retaining current fund balance levels
- Demonstrated ability to outperform budgeted projections
- Moderate debt and pension burden
- Strong local tax base



### Tax Levy & Rate Information

The total projected tax levy for 2023-24 is \$44,067,757. This is an increase of \$140,518 or 0.32% compared to the 2022-23 total levy of \$43,927,239.

FUND	2023-24 PROPOSED LEVY	RATE	2022-23 LEVY	RATE	LEVY INC/(DEC)	PERCENT CHANGE IN LEVY
GENERAL	\$39,395,867	\$6.19	\$38,833,292	\$6.98	\$562,575	1.45%
DEBT SERVICE	\$4,444,310	\$0.70	\$4,866,367	\$0.79	-\$422,057	-8.67%
COMMUNITY SERVICE	\$227,580	\$0.04	\$227,580	\$0.04	\$0	0.00%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$44,067,757</b>	<b>\$6.93</b>	<b>\$43,927,239</b>	<b>\$7.81</b>	<b>\$140,518</b>	<b>0.32%</b>

### Tax Impact Comparison

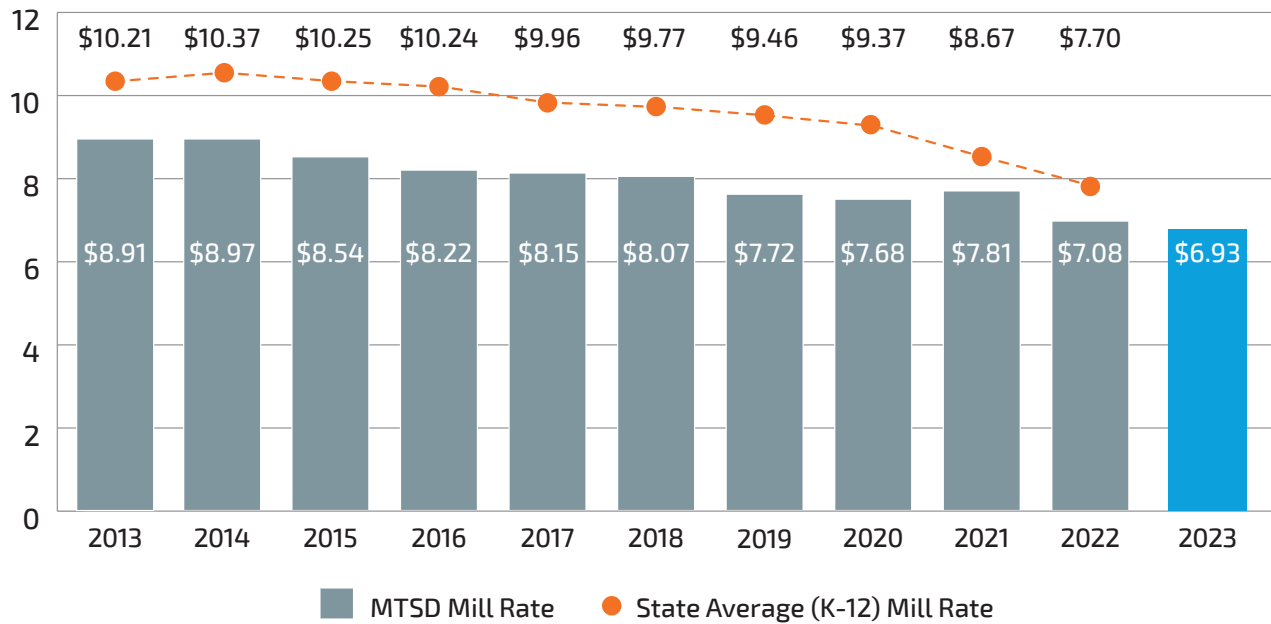
School district property taxes can include levies for general operations, debt service, capital expansion, and community services. Property values are equalized to reflect market value rather than local assessed value, which homeowners receive from their municipality in January of each year. **The proposed 2023-2024 budget projects a decrease in the mill rate of 15 cents per \$1,000 over the prior year.**

IMPACT OF SCHOOL TAX LEVY	
Value of Home	2023-2024 (proposed)
\$200,000	\$1,386
\$400,000	\$2,772
\$600,000	\$4,158
\$800,000	\$5,544

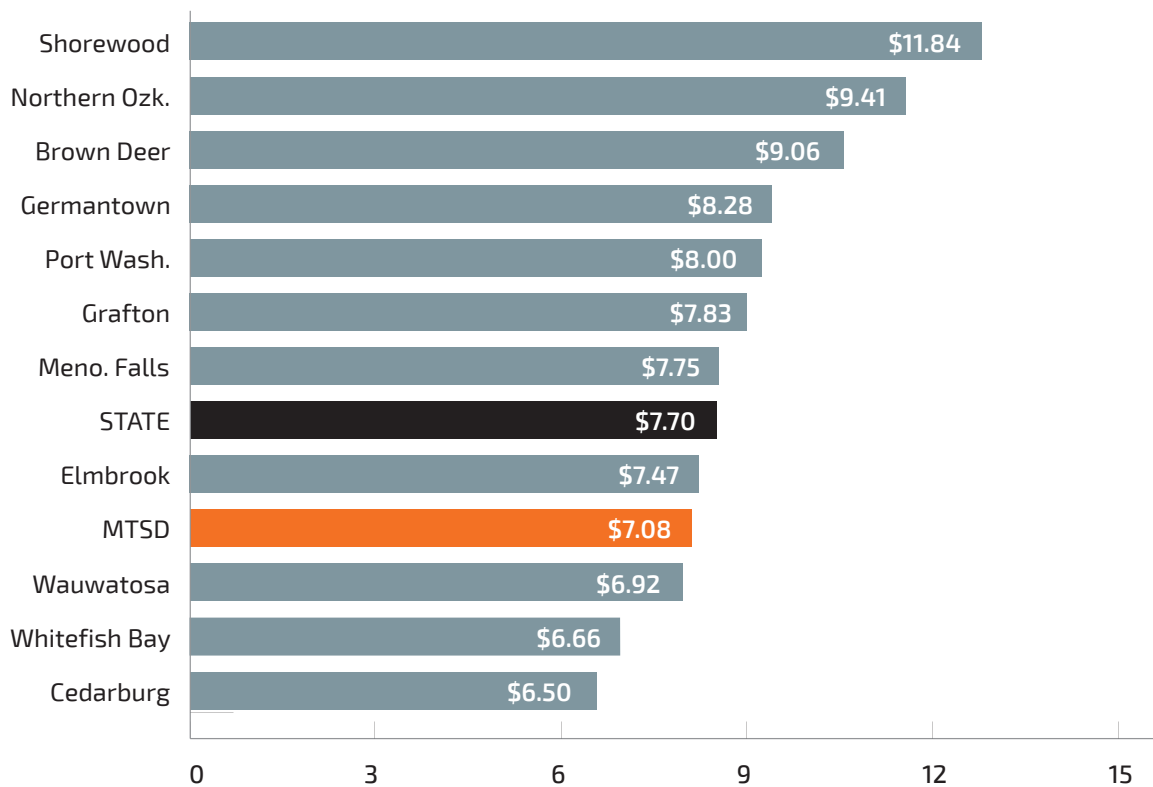
$$\begin{array}{c} \bullet \\ \bullet \\ \bullet \\ \bullet \\ \bullet \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \text{Total} \\ \text{School-Based} \\ \text{Tax Levy} \end{array} \div \begin{array}{c} \text{Equalized} \\ \text{Property} \\ \text{Value} \end{array} \times \$1,000 = \begin{array}{c} \text{MILL} \\ \text{RATE} \end{array}$$



## Mill Rate Analysis



## 2022-23 Mill Rate Comparison





[www.mtsd.k12.wi.us/board](http://www.mtsd.k12.wi.us/board)

### Board of Education

Shelley Burns, President

Jason Levash, Vice President

Paul Buzzell, Treasurer

Andrew Hopkins, Clerk

Kate Barikmo

Wendy Francour

Paula Taebel

### Join Us for Fall and Winter Board Office Hours!

If you have questions about school board operations, responsibilities, and/or wish to provide feedback in a more relaxed setting than during our Regular Business Meetings, Office Hours are for you!

The fall and winter sessions will take place on dates yet to be determined in the Egelhoff Community Room in the MTSD District Offices at 5000 W. Mequon Rd.

Please visit the Board of Education's website at [www.mtsd.k12.wi.us/board](http://www.mtsd.k12.wi.us/board) to check upcoming Office Hours dates.



### FOR YOUR INFORMATION

All MTSD Board of Education meeting agendas and video recordings of past meetings can be found on the MTSD Board of Education website.

## Public Notice of Nondiscrimination

The Mequon-Thiensville School District is dedicated to a policy of nondiscrimination and to the provision of equity in its educational programs, services and activities for all students and employees, and will comply with all applicable state and federal laws concerning nondiscrimination. The District will not tolerate discrimination in employment or in its educational programs and activities on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, pregnancy, marital or parental status, age, veteran status, or disability, physical, mental, emotional or learning disability, handicap or any other protected category as required by state and federal laws and regulations.

The District will remove any vestige of discrimination in employment, assignment and promotion of personnel; in educational opportunities and services offered students; in student assignment to schools and classes; in student discipline; in location and use of facilities; in educational offerings and materials; and in accommodating the public at public meetings.

The superintendent or designee shall appoint and make known the individual(s) to contact on issues related to civil rights and/or discrimination concerns. Discrimination complaints shall be processed in accordance with established procedures as outlined in Policy 9130.

The District encourages informal resolution of discrimination complaints. However, a formal complaint resolution procedure is available to address allegations of violations of the District's equal educational opportunities policy.

**Any questions concerning this policy, or policy compliance, should be directed to:**

Compliance Officer  
5000 W. Mequon Rd. Mequon, WI 53092  
262-238-8500 262-238-8520 FAX

The responsibilities of the Compliance Officer(s) include serving as the District's Title IX Coordinator, Section 504 Coordinator, and coordinator of all other student non-discrimination-related issues and complaints.





## MTSD BOARD OF EDUCATION: GOVERNANCE IN ACTION

# LEGISLATIVE ADVOCACY PRIORITIES IN 2023

## Legislative Advocacy Priorities

Earlier this school year, the MTSD Board of Education approved a legislative platform topic on public school funding and with it, developed two advocacy priorities related to the development of the Wisconsin State Biennial Budget for 2023-2025.

- 1. Increase the current funding for public school students in the form of per-pupil, categorical aid in the amount of \$908 per pupil for 2023-24 and in the amount of \$658 per pupil for 2024-25.**

Providing categorical aid (spendable dollars) vs. state aid (tax relief) ensures that every district in the state receives the same increase based on the number of students enrolled in their schools. With increased categorical aid schools can provide appropriate employee compensation and maintain comprehensive school programming, including support for students' mental health.

- 2. Reimburse school districts for 100% of special education costs to support all students.**

In MTSD, each student is valued, will learn, and will experience success. In comparison to states across the nation, funding to support special education services in Wisconsin is very low. Schools are currently reimbursed for only 27.5% of special education costs, creating a sizable deficit. This impacts all students, as schools must use general education funds to fill the gap. In MTSD, this results in annual spending of \$4.8 million dollars from the general education fund to support the required services provided to students receiving special education programming.

During the 2022-23 school year, MTSD leadership has done much work to publicize our advocacy priorities and make state lawmakers aware of the financial needs of MTSD and public school districts statewide. To find out more about our legislative advocacy priorities and see what you can do to voice your support for our public schools, please visit: [www.mtsd.k12.wi.us/state-budget](http://www.mtsd.k12.wi.us/state-budget)



## Budget Hearing and Annual Meeting

Members of the community are invited to attend the Mequon-Thiensville School District Budget Hearing and Annual Meeting. **Learn more about meeting guidelines at [www.mtsd.k12.wi.us/annualmeeting](http://www.mtsd.k12.wi.us/annualmeeting).**

**Monday, July 24, 2023  
at 7 p.m.**

### Meeting Location:

Range Line Conference Room  
11040 N. Range Line Road  
Mequon, WI 53092

### Why should you attend?

- Participate in the discussion of the 2023-24 budget
- Vote on the 2023-24 school district levy

*Notice on Meeting Access: The Budget Hearing and Annual Meeting will take place in person with a view-only livestream available via Zoom. Community members wishing to participate in the Budget Hearing and vote on the 2023-2024 Proposed Budget must attend in person.*

# REGISTER YOUR STUDENT TODAY!

*Ready to prepare your student  
for a life of infinite possibilities?*

Visit [www.mtsd.k12.wi.us/enroll](http://www.mtsd.k12.wi.us/enroll)  
to register a new or returning student for  
the 2023-2024 school year.



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**DONGES BAY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**  
2401 W Donges Bay Road Mequon, WI 53092  
262-238-7920



**ORIOLE LANE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**  
12850 N Oriole Lane Mequon, WI 53097  
262-238-4220



**WILSON ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**  
11001 N Buntrock Road Mequon, WI 53092  
262-238-4600



**LAKE SHORE MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
11036 N Range Line Road Mequon, WI 53092  
262-238-7600



**STEFFEN MIDDLE SCHOOL**  
6633 W Steffen Drive Mequon, WI 53092  
262-238-4700



**HOMESTEAD HIGH SCHOOL**  
5000 W Mequon Road Mequon, WI 53092  
262-238-5900



## IT TAKES A VILLAGE to help our children thrive!

*Looking for a rewarding career? Consider supporting the success of our students by becoming a bus driver, substitute teacher, paraprofessional, or food service worker!*

Searching for your next career opportunity in education? MTSD is hiring for the 2023-2024 school year! Our employees don't just create an environment for students to learn - they ignite each student's potential. We embrace a growth mindset and an understanding that there is no limit to learning. We value the diversity of the people in our school community and their ideas in order to prepare each child for a life of infinite possibilities. Please visit [www.mtsd.k12.wi.us/careers](http://www.mtsd.k12.wi.us/careers) or search for us on WECAN to learn more and apply for an exciting opportunity to serve the children of your community in the Mequon-Thiensville School District!

