

**PROFILE: Westwood Intermediate School**

- Principal's message, school highlights, demographics
- School purpose, vision, priorities
- Easy-to-Read Summary of data, test results



# Westwood Intermediate School

701 91st Avenue NE  
Blaine, MN  
763-785-8551

[SpringLakeParkSchools.org](http://SpringLakeParkSchools.org)



# PROFILE WESTWOOD INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

## Message from the principal

The learning community of Westwood Intermediate School welcomes you and your family to our school. Westwood strives for excellence every day and I look forward to working with you throughout the 2008-2009 school year.

Our school is fortunate to have staff, students, and parents working together to create partnerships for learning. Each morning I am inspired by the 650 fourth and fifth graders who eagerly arrive for a day of learning in their classrooms. It is the goal of the staff to ensure the academic success of each individual student and help foster every child's social and emotional growth.

Every day we focus on creating a learning environment that encourages Cooperation, Assertion, Responsibility, Empathy and Self-Control (C.A.R.E.S. skills). The learning targets are consistently communicated to students. Each and every child knows what they're learning each day.

*We make learning come alive for our students through the use of:*

- Active learning through our adopted curriculum of Houghton Mifflin, Everyday Math, 6+1 Traits of Writing, and FOSS/DELTA Science
- Technology rich classrooms with SMART boards, and LCD projectors to reach our 21st Century learners

The Westwood Intermediate School staff's commitment and dedication are evident on a daily basis in all that we do. We are committed to continually improving to achieve the Spring Lake Park purpose to ensure that every child is college ready.

### Principal

Tom Larson

### Westwood Intermediate School

701 91st Avenue NE  
Blaine, MN  
763-784-8551

### Enrollment

653 students

### School Hours

8:50 am – 3:15 pm

### Office Hours

8:00 am – 4:00 pm

### Website

[Springlakeparkschools.org](http://Springlakeparkschools.org)

## School demographics

- Percent of students eligible for free or reduced lunch 29%
- Percent of students receiving special services
  - Special Education 15%
  - English as a Second Language 11%
  - Gifted/Talented: 10%
- Diversity of student population (by percent)
  - Native American: 3%
  - Asian: 11%
  - Hispanic: 9%
  - Black: 10%
  - White: 68%
- Graduation Rate 99%

## School highlights

- Gifted & Talented and Early Language Learners students are clustered into classrooms that are staffed with specially trained teachers
- Accelerated math classes offered at both grades four & five to continue to challenge our gifted math students
- A focus on the whole child with art, music, and Phy. Ed. taught by certified teachers
- All students participate in daily morning meeting to prepare them for the day by connecting to their peers and teacher
- Students are placed on teams to create small learning environments for kids
- Students take pride in their school through leadership provided by student council, patrols, and service learning projects
- Weekly Professional Learning Community meetings where staff engage in dialogue on improving the learning of your child
- A systemic approach to meet students' needs so no child is left behind
- Teacher leaders in the areas of language arts, math, social studies, and science to ensure quality instruction and curriculum every day to your child
- An active PTO, committed to improving the education and family connections at Westwood, last year contributing over \$10,000 dollars to partner with the school district in providing a technology rich learning environment for students

# PROFILE WESTWOOD INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY



## School Purpose

High expectations,  
High achievement  
For all.

No excuses.



## School Vision

Westwood Intermediate School is a supportive community focused on working together to ensure our students' academic, social, and emotional growth to achieve Spring Lake Park School District learning outcomes.

### We believe:

- it is essential for staff, students, parents, and community to work together.
- in meeting the individual needs of all students.
- all students can and have the right to learn.
- students learn best when they are in a safe, supportive environment.
- students learn when engaged in relevant meaningful work.



## School priorities

- All students will improve achievement in the area of literacy
- All students will improve achievement in the area of math
- We will continue to close the learning gap between our white students and our students of color
- We will implement our Professional Learning with fidelity

*Priorities were identified through ongoing review of school and student data and alignment with district strategic directions. To view the data, visit the School Information Report found on the Westwood Intermediate School or Accountability home pages.*



# PROFILE WESTWOOD INTERMEDIATE SCHOOL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

Our district success system defines indicators of success within each of four strategic areas. At the core of our success system is the area of *Improving Student Learning and Development*. Regular review of our results across this success system results in the identification of improvement projects that will directly or indirectly improve student learning results by building on successes and addressing areas of needed improvement.

## Areas of our Success System

- Core: Improving Student Learning and Development
- Effective operations, processes, and stewardship of resources
- Family and community connections and partnerships
- Professional Learning Community

## Easy-to-Read Executive Summary of data, test results

### Improving student learning and development

#### Accomplishments

- All groups making Adequate Yearly Progress
- Decreased the number of students in math that do not meet the standard over the past three years
- Three-fourths of the students in reading are meeting standard on the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCAII)
- Students score above the national and state average in reading and math of the MAP test

#### Challenges

- Continue to close the learning gap between students of color and white students
- Increase the percentage of students performing at grade level in the areas of math and language arts

- All staff trained in Assessment for Learning to utilize real time data to make instructional decisions to meet the learning needs of students
- Daily learning targets posted in every classroom to communicate to students what they are learning on a daily basis

#### Challenges

- Implementation of guided reading as intended so all students are reading and receiving instruction at their instructional level
- New Social Studies and Science curriculum

#### Priorities & Projects

- Implementation of Professional Development with fidelity
- Implementation of new curriculum in social studies and science

### Effective operations, processes, and stewardship of resources

#### Accomplishments

- Technology embedded into the learning process as an instructional tool to engage learners and personalize instruction
- All classrooms remodeled and safe, creating positive learning environments for students
- Parents can choose a looping program where their child remains with the same teacher for two years in grades 4 and 5

#### Challenges

- Balancing the academic and construction management issues on a daily basis

### Family and community communications and partnerships

#### Accomplishments

- Weekly school newsletter to communicate school events, information to parents and connect families to the school
- Volunteers working with individual students on a daily basis
- Active Parent Teacher Organization focused on improving family connections and enriching the education of our students

#### Challenges

- Continued communication with parents on how their children are doing in school

#### Priorities & Projects

- Analyze school communications and partnerships to and with parents and make adjustments based on their feedback to the school

### Professional learning community: curriculum, instruction, staff learning, student support

#### Accomplishments

- All staff meet in weekly Professional Learning Community meetings to meet the needs of students