

Big Lake Schools

Small School Advantage. Big School Opportunities.



1 + 1 + 1 + 1 = 4
Primary School EC-2 Intermediate STEM School 3-5 Middle School 6-8 High School 9-12



169 teachers



90% have been teaching for 3+ years



students **19** per teacher



3,050 students

70%

of teachers hold a Master's Degree



2-to-1 ratio
students to computers



30
Google-certified teachers



Learning Systems
Google, Otus and Osmo



10-YEAR
technology-dedicated revenue stream

Wide Course Selection

Our high school students choose from 150+ courses including AP, PSEO, college-in-the-classroom, STEM, online and technical education classes.



10% of students in gifted program



93%
graduation rate

PLTW District

All schools offer Project Lead the Way (PLTW) courses that focus on computer science, engineering and robotics. Students engage in hands-on activities that empower them to solve real-world challenges.

Good Citizenship

Students districtwide experience curriculum focused on good citizenship, from learning what it means to be part of a community to actively engaging in the community.

Focused on Support

We pride ourselves on having incredible licensed support staff who help students navigate life's challenges so they can focus on what's important - learning. This includes school counselors, social workers, psychologists, etc.



Top-Rated
Preschool



Very Popular
ECFE Program



Before, During & After School
Child Care



Activities
40+ After-School Activities

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Source: MN Dept of Education School Report Card 2018-2019

Small School Advantage. Big School Opportunities.

At Big Lake Schools, we pride ourselves on being the perfect size. We are small enough to offer the many benefits that come with being a small school district, but we are large enough to be able to offer exceptional programming that only large districts are able to offer.

ACADEMIC BENEFITS OF SMALL SCHOOLS

- Dropout rates are significantly lower
- Students have higher grade-point averages
- Students have better attendance records
- Fewer students fail courses
- Students demonstrate persistence toward graduation

Did you know we have less disciplinary issues than most MN districts of a similar size?

Source: MDE Website 2017-18

GREATER EXPECTATIONS

Our teachers expect more from their students because they take the time to learn about each student and develop an interest in each student's success. Teachers also expect more out of each other because of increased collaboration and professional development opportunities.

Additionally, our staff have greater contact with parents and see them as an important element in student success.

WHERE EVERYONE KNOWS YOUR NAME

Anonymity doesn't exist at Big Lake Schools. Our staff are proud to know students by name. Research has shown that being known by your teachers and peers makes a difference in both student achievement and creating a safe environment.

Because students know one another, they take more responsibility for their own behavior and the behavior of their classmates.

Did you know Big Lake is #1 in the state for the ratio of National Board Certified teachers to students?

OFFERINGS ABOVE & BEYOND THE BASICS

- At Big Lake Schools, the core subjects of math, language arts, social studies and science take center stage; however, we also offer courses that go outside the basics and challenge students.
- Unique to Big Lake is our focus on citizenship. Students at all grade levels are exposed to curriculum aimed at teaching the importance of good citizenship, being part of a community, and healthy relationships; both in-person and online.
- Districtwide, students take part in physical education, STEM, art, music, media and technology classes. We also offer a wide variety of gifted and talented programming for those students whose academic abilities have surpassed their peers.
- Our high school offers a nationally-acclaimed apprenticeship program that pairs students with local businesses interested in teaching students about their industry, and workplace technical and soft skills.