

# NOTICE OF EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS FOR CHILDREN WHO RESIDE IN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF WEST DE PERE

The School District of West De Pere offers a variety of educational options to children who reside in the District. The mission of the School District of West De Pere is to create a safe comprehensive educational and social environment for students and staff which will produce life-long learners with the capacity to succeed in the local and global community.

The District's primary educational pathway and instructional program for students involves a progression from 4-year-old kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade, leading to a high school diploma.

The District's schools and performance categories are listed below:

**Elementary Schools (grades 4K\* - 5):**

- Westwood Elementary School (4K-5): Meets Expectations
- Hemlock Creek Elementary School (K-5): Exceeds Expectations

**West De Pere Middle School (grades 6-8): Exceeds Expectations**

**West De Pere High School (grades 9-12): Exceeds Expectations**

**Phantom Knight School of Opportunity (grades 7-12): Alternative Rating: Satisfactory Progress**

*Note: The District offers its 4K program at one or more community-based locations other than the elementary school listed above.*

Some of the specific education programs offered to eligible students who are enrolled in and attending the District's schools include the following:

- Early childhood special education (for students who are at least 3 years old but not yet school-age)
- Special education for students with disabilities
- At-risk education (for students identified as being at-risk of not graduating from high school)
- English language learner/bilingual-bicultural education
- Gifted and talented education
- Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs
- Individualized program and curriculum modifications
- Alternative High School education program
- Fallen Timbers Environmental Classroom
- Summer school programming
- Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) Education
- Post-secondary course options
- Articulated classes offering dual credit with area Universities and Colleges

The full version of the District's most recent school and school district accountability report, as issued by the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction under section § 115.385 of the state statutes, can be accessed via the following page on the District's website (if the report has been issued by DPI): <http://www.wdpsd.com/about/District-Information.cfm> or <https://apps2.dpi.wi.gov/reportcards/>

Educational options for students who are enrolled in the School District of West De Pere that involve part-time attendance at an educational institution other than a school of the School District of West De Pere include the following:

The Course Options Program, which

- provides opportunities to apply for approval to take up to 2 courses at a time at another educational institution;
- is subject to state and local eligibility requirements, including the limitation that the courses must satisfy a high school graduation requirement; and
- includes certain District-approved dual credit opportunities that the District offers in conjunction with a partner institution of higher education.

The Youth Options Program, which

- provides opportunities to apply for approval to take courses at certain institutions of higher education; and
- is available only to students who are enrolled in the 11th or 12th grade.

Additional educational options for children who reside in the District that involve full-time enrollment / attendance at a school, program, or other educational institution that is not a school or instrumentality of the School District of West De Pere include the following:

- High school students meeting certain age and other eligibility requirements may be permitted to attend a technical college or certain other programs for the purpose of completing a program leading to the student's high school graduation or to a high school equivalency diploma.
- Full-time Open Enrollment involving physical attendance in a public school of a nonresident school district or attendance through a virtual charter school that is associated with a nonresident school district.
- Beginning in the 2016-2017 school year, a child with a disability who meets the program's specific eligibility requirements may apply to attend an eligible, participating private school under a scholarship awarded through the state's "Special Needs Scholarship Program," as established under section 115.7915 of the state statutes.
- Enrollment in a private school participating in the Wisconsin parental choice program. The following participating private schools are located within the District's boundaries and each school's most recent state-assigned performance category is provided, if available (parental choice program schools were not subject to school accountability report cards in the 2013-2014 school year.):
  - Green Bay Montessori Children's World
  - Our Lady of Lourdes – GRACE
- Enrollment in a private school of the family's choosing (at the family's own cost, as applicable).
- Enrollment in a home-based private educational program as provided under state law.
- Enrollment in a tribal school.

Educational options for children who reside in the School District of West De Pere but who are enrolled in and attending a private school, tribal school, or home-based private educational program include the following:

- Such students have the opportunity to attend summer school classes/programs offered in the District.
- Private school students in the high school grades have the opportunity to apply for approval to take up two courses per semester in a District school, pursuant to section 118.145(4) of the state statutes.
- Students who are enrolled in a home-based private educational program have the opportunity to:
  - Apply for approval to take up two courses per semester in public schools as provided under section 118.53.
  - Participate in District interscholastic athletics and other District extracurricular activities as provided under section 118.133.

The State of Wisconsin has established the Special Needs Scholarship Program for students with disabilities. Under this scholarship program and as further specified in state law, a child with a disability who has been denied the opportunity to attend a nonresident school district under the fulltime open enrollment program may be eligible to receive a scholarship from the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) that allows the child to attend an eligible private school that is participating in the Special Needs Scholarship Program.

This is a state administered program. A parent or guardian who is interested in the Special Needs Scholarship Program should independently verify the participating private schools and the specific terms, eligibility criteria, and application procedures of the scholarship program with the DPI.

The Special Needs Scholarship Program is further defined under Wis. Stat. §115.7915. However, special eligibility requirements not found in that statute exist for program scholarships that are awarded for private school attendance that initially begins in the 2016-17 school year. Additional information about the program should be available on the website of the Wisconsin Department of Public instruction. <http://dpi.wi.gov/>.

For more information about any of the educational options listed in this notice, please contact the District's main administrative office at (920) 337-1393 or the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction at (608) 266-3390 or (800) 441-4563.