



Spring Lake Park School District 16

50 Reasons Why We're Proud Of Our Students and Staff, Parents and Community!

PRIDE! Spring Lake Park School District 16 is celebrating fifty years of excellence and pride. This includes pride in our students and staff, our parents and families, and our supportive communities of Blaine, Spring Lake Park, and Fridley.

With 4,500 students, we are personal in size, yet extra-large in opportunity. Our purpose statement reads: "High Expectations, High Achievement For All. No Excuses."

There is much to be proud of and excited about. The future is bright.

Our list is bigger, but here are 50 of the reasons why we are proud—and why we think you would be proud—of Spring Lake Park School District 16:

- 1 Middle school academic team 2nd in the nation in the 2006 WordMasters language arts competition
- 2 Nineteen international emergency care championships for high school Opportunities in Emergency Care teams; current state and world champs
- 3 In additional national competitions in a past few years, our elementary students have accomplished the following: 2nd grade academic team 1st in nation, National Social Studies Olympiad; 2nd grade academic team 1st in nation, National Geography Challenge; and 3rd grade academic team 2nd in nation, National Social Studies Olympiad
- 4 One of our graduates placed among the top 15 students in the nation in the Physics Bowl



- 5 Another graduate obtained a perfect ACT score, one of only 3 in Minnesota, 33 in the nation to do so
- 6 *The Learning Alternatives Community School is a Minnesota Alternative Program of the Year*
- 7 A recent grad was a 14 year-old who benefited from radical acceleration and a staff that works with the unique needs of each student. He was 5th in his class and has a full scholarship to a prestigious university
- 8 *The high school's Pantherettes Dance Team won state championships in 2005, 2006, and 2007*
- 9 In a national ranking, high school Physics students had the highest average of any U. S. honors Physics class, three times since 2000.
- 10 *The district is proud to have the 2007 Minnesota Superintendent of the Year*
- 11 Six of Minnesota's top-ten-scoring high school students in an International Chemistry Olympiad qualifying test
- 12 One of the few high schools—anywhere—where life-saving AED and CPR training are part of the curriculum
- 13 Middle school academic team 1st in the state, elementary team 2nd in state, in the same year, in Minnesota Thinking Cap Quiz bowl competition
- 14 *High school math team a state meet entrant 12 years in a row; perennial top ten finisher in the state*
- 15 **Tops in nation: Future Leader of America student, three years in a row; 8 state winners in 2006**
- 16 *On-site Safe Harbor Sober Program and New Connection Treatment Center serve the unique needs of learners*
- 17 **Twenty-six elementary students tops in nation with perfect scores in four recent national academic olympiads**
- 18 *In the past few years alone, 20 athletic teams were All-Academic Conference Champs, seven were All-Academic Section Champs, one was State Academic Champion*
- 19 **In a single swim season, a high school junior was a two-time state champ, and the team had four academic All-Americans**

- 20** District 16 is working with community organizations to provide a safe school environment and to promote healthy childhood development. Partnering with schools are Big Brothers-Big Sisters, Anoka County Departments, and the police departments of Blaine, Fridley, and Spring Lake Park.
- 21** High school is recipient of nearly \$1 million Small Learning Communities grant
- 22** *The Lighthouse Program, one of the few of its kind, is for the insatiable, highly able learner. One student was featured in the New York Times*
- 23** Top award from National Association of Counties for collaborative, on-site Family Visitation Center
- 24** Nationally-recognized Reach for Excellence program recognizes and rewards student achievement
- 25** Nearly unequalled opportunities for accelerated, honors, and advanced placement courses
- 26** Week-long high school Summer Peer Leadership Camp trains 50 student leaders each year
- 27** National staff development experts have identified District 16 as a model site for engaging staff in consistent high quality professional learning experiences to improve student learning
- 28** 95 percent of our parents attend elementary parent-teacher conferences
- 29** Two members of the same high school football team were Academic All-State selections
- 30** Three coordinators serve the needs of K-12 students in the well-respected Gifted Services Department
- 31** Not only are they great-tasting, but the Food Service Department serves over one-half million meals each year.

- 32** In the 3rd International Science Study, middle school students scored higher than the national average mean of all 41 countries
- 33** Twice, one of 12 high schools in the nation selected to represent United States in teacher and student exchange with Russia
- 34** Title 1 Program recipient of state of Minnesota's top award for providing specialized reading and math help
- 35** An elementary academic team earned a berth in a recent state Destination ImagiNation competition
- 36** The high school boys basketball team placed fourth in the 2007 state tournament
- 37** National and international award-winning summer marching band placed 3rd out of 123 units in one of Canada's largest parades
- 38** Unique school district and county partnership produces streamlined, one-stop on-site family health services
- 39** The website was named one of five best in a U of M study published in the St. Paul Pioneer Press
- 40** Clean buildings, well-maintained grounds compare with any schools, anywhere
- 41** More than 100 of our teachers spend part of their summer working in collaborative professional learning to develop common assessments, model lessons and units, and examining student work to identify methods to better meet student needs
- 42** Top-notch on-site program and curriculum for teen parents attending high school with on-site child care
- 43** Nearly all students and staff members involved in annual community service projects
- 44** One of six Minnesota school districts to receive major federal 21st Century Learning Communities grant to

expand learning and recreational services for middle school students

- 45** High school theater department is among the best anywhere. In addition, "The VOICE," an issues-oriented teen theater troupe, offers additional opportunities
- 46** Nearly \$70,000 in local scholarships given annually to one-third of graduating class by local individuals, companies, and service groups
- 47** Technology Education Construction Class students build and hand-craft fabulous homes, top to bottom, which are then sold in the local community
- 48** All teachers work in teams on a weekly basis to discuss individual student learning needs and collaboratively plan interventions to meet these needs
- 49** Online Distance Learning program offers individualized online curriculum and instruction—leading to a high school degree—via computer from home or anywhere
- 50** And, finally, School District 16 is extremely proud of its supportive school community that values education.

District 16 encompasses all of the City of Spring Lake Park, half of the City of Blaine, and a portion of the City of Fridley. The area is both vibrant and secluded, close to the center of the metropolitan area, but pleasantly away from it as well. District 16 is proud of its school-community partnerships in an involved and supportive community of 25,000.

SPRING LAKE PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT 16

Proudly serving students and families in Blaine, Spring Lake Park, and Fridley

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