



Personal in Size, Extra-Large in Opportunity

# Spring Lake Park School District 16

Serving Blaine, Spring Lake Park, and Fridley

[www.springlakeparkschools.org](http://www.springlakeparkschools.org) 763-786-5570

## At a Glance

*School District 16 serves students and families from the cities of Blaine, Spring Lake Park, and Fridley.*

*With 4,500 students, District 16 considers itself and its school community to be personal in size, extra-large in opportunity.*

*Our mission: "High expectations, high achievement for all. No excuses."*

■ We have three K-3 elementary schools (**Woodcrest, Kenneth Hall, Park Terrace**), each with over 400 students, and a grades 4 & 5 elementary school (**Westwood**) with **600 students**.

■ **Westwood Middle School** has 1,000 students and the **Learning Alternatives Community School** (a recent Minnesota Program of the Year) has over 300 learners.

■ **Spring Lake Park High School**, a grades 9-12 school of 1,300 students, is the perfect size for teaching and learning.

In addition, the district has a highly successful online distance learning academy and The Lighthouse Program for highly-driven, highly-able students.

## Staff, Students

All staff participate in professional learning communities, assessment for learning training, and are focused and committed to ensuring the success of each and every student.



Our students are improve each day. They thrive in this environment.

## Facilities

A comprehensive, exciting **\$96 million long-range facilities improvement plan**, was approved by our supportive community in February 2006. Planning and initial construction is now underway.

The plan will provide extensive, even dramatic, improvements to all of our schools. A **new K-3 elementary school** will be constructed in the high-growth area of Blaine, near **Highway 242 (Main St.) and Cloud Drive**, and will be open in the fall of 2008.

All schools will be renovated and improved, and receive additional classrooms. The high school will be "nearly-new" after receiving its planned improvements.

Continual updates will keep everyone posted on the plans, progress, and timelines of the projects. Many will be completed by the fall of 2008, all by 2010.



*What do we have? Great schools, students, staff, students, parents, and community.*



## Three K-3, One Grades 4-5 Elementary Schools

District 16 children begin their school experience in the friendly atmosphere of one of our three **grades K-3** elementary schools. They are:

- **Kenneth Hall Elementary**  
8089 Able Street, Spring Lake Park;
- **Park Terrace Elementary**  
8301 Terrace Road, Spring Lake Park; and
- **Woodcrest Elementary**  
880 Osborne Road, Fridley.

*All elementary students then attend*

- **Westwood Elementary**  
711 91st Avenue NE, Blaine, for **grades 4-5** which is on the same campus as the grades 6-8 middle school

Staff members in these schools reflect a concern for each child, continually developing and evaluating programs in an effort to provide the finest educational experience for children

The elementary instructional program emphasizes reading, writing, and mathematics, as well as spelling, science, social studies, art, and physical education. Integrated use of technology is offered at all grade levels. Areas of similar development are: curriculum, staffing, progress reports, and discipline.

Elementary reading is literature-based and writing is integrated into all subject areas. Language arts skills include reading, writing, speaking, and listening. Basic skills are incorporated into activities that challenge thinking and offer curricular stimulation appropriate to needs, abilities, and interests.

Both science and math use a "hands-on" approach. An elementary academic team was first



in the nation in the 2003 National Geography Olympiad. They were also first in the state, 8th in the nation, in Knowledge Bowl competition

As an example of District 16's desire to best provide for each child's educational growth, there are cluster programs for gifted and talented children in all of the elementary grades.

## Westwood Middle School (Grades 6-8)

- **Westwood Middle School**, 711 91st Avenue NE, Blaine (grades 6-8) is designed to meet the unique needs of early adolescent students. Each student is assigned to a grade level team where he/she is provided many opportunities to explore a wide variety of subjects through an age-appropriate curriculum.

Differentiated instruction, special education services, gifted and talented support and a system of intervention in each school provide students with the resources they need in order for them to meet those high expectations.

Both secondary schools provide a broad co-curricular program in athletics, academics and the fine arts.

The grade level teams consist of 5-6 teachers that work with approximately 150 students and their families.

Through this model, closer connections are made amongst teachers, students, parents, and all curricular area. The advisory

program, PRIDE, focuses on the emotional, social, academic and physical development of students with the context of a supportive and stable peer group.

The middle school offers accelerated mathematics, differentiated English and science, state-of-the-art industrial technology labs, performing arts, band, and family and consumer sciences.

Students scored higher than the mean of students from 41 countries in the Third International Mathematics & Science Study. Middle school academic teams were first in the state, 6th in the nation, in a math competition. They were first in the state in the Minnesota Quiz Bowl.

## Spring Lake Park High School (Grades 9-12)

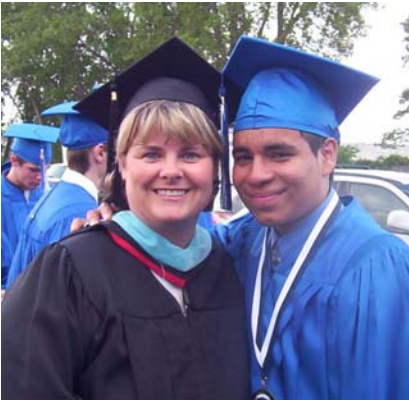
- **Spring Lake Park High School**, 8001 Able Street, Spring Lake Park (grades 9-12) students receive extensive guidance through a developmental counseling program. Strong programs are found in mathematics, science, humanities, technology, and medicine that prepare students for any one of six career pathways.

The high school has a seven-period day. Opportunities in Emergency Health Care students are 17-time world champions. In a national ranking, Physics students had the highest average of any AP class three of the past four years. The math team recently placed 7th in the state and is

a state tournament entrant 12 years in a row.

The number of Advanced Placement opportunities are among the state's highest. Six were honored in the most recent National Merit Scholarship program.

Additionally, there are 12 advanced placement courses for college credit, 6 honors courses and a College in the Schools program. Individual interest can be pursued through independent study. Technology facilities, the media center, computer labs, computer workstations in each classroom and well-equipped science classrooms help prepare learners to be successful in post-secondary education programs.



## Learning Alternatives Community School

### ■ Area Learning Center

Learning Alternative Community School ("LA" for short) is the district's area learning center and the 2004 Minnesota Alternative Program of the Year. For those seeking success in an alternative setting, LA serves learners between the ages of 12 and 21 in the north metro area.

LA provides tools for life-long learning, healthy lifestyles, and a high school diploma by focusing on individualized, learner-directed, and flexible opportunities that actively use community- and school-based resources. Learners assume responsibility for their own progress.

LA offers a full-time day program and a dual enrollment program in which students can be enrolled in their high school by day and attend LA after school. A concurrent enrollment

option allows students to attend classes in their high school and also in LA during the regular school day. Also offered are independent study program, work experience program, summer school, and a dual enrollment program at Westwood Middle School.

### ■ The Lighthouse Program

The Lighthouse Program challenges and engages the insatiable learner. District 16 developed this program in response to metro families' concerns about the lack of challenge their gifted children had encountered in their schools.

Open to students from outside the district, as well as from within the district, this program offers a comprehensive curriculum with opportunities for acceleration to students in grades 4-12. The unique curriculum has a problem-based focus which will encourage students to deeper understandings of the concepts and ideas that operate in their world.

Working in teams, students investigate complex problems and seek potential solutions while meeting local and state credit and graduation competencies.

### ■ Distance Learning Online School

Distance Learning is our successful online learning program. Online instruction can be completed at home or other off-campus location. A licensed teacher works in partnership with students and their families to develop an individual learning plan and calendar. Learning goals are aligned with state and district graduation standards and curriculum outcomes. Student progress is assessed at regular intervals.

An average of 20-hours-per-week is needed on distance learning. Distance learning is not for everyone. Students who are highly motivated and conscientious about completing their work will be successful.

### ■ Safe Harbor Recovery Program

To attend Safe Harbor, a student must be in grades 9-12 and must agree to successfully complete a treatment program, agree to stay chemically free, agree to follow a recovery plan, agree to follow program expectations.

### ■ New Connection Treatment Center

New Connection is an on-site adolescent treatment center, new in the fall of 2003. This program is a joint partnership between Spring Lake Park School District 16 and Regions Hospitals. New Connection was created to meet the unique needs of adolescents experiencing alcohol or chemical abuse. While in the program, students will receive both treatment and academic support.

## Additional Programs

### ■ CHANCE for Teen Parents

Community Helping Adolescents Nurture Children in Education" or CHANCE is our on-site program for pregnant and parenting teens. Through health, nutrition, parenting education, resources, and support, students are better prepared and able to stay in school. The school district and this community are committed to helping teen parents be successful in school, parenting, and life skills.

### ■ Adult Diploma – it's never to late to learn

It's never too late to learn! There are a number of diploma opportunities for adults ages 21 and over. These programs encourage those who have not completed high school to return to obtain their diplomas. Qualifying learners have up to two years of free state aid to finish their requirements. School District 16, through its partnership with Metro North, can assist you.

## Community Services

**The Community Services department offers comprehensive school and community programming for all ages including the following.**

**Big Brothers Big Sisters** High school students and community members volunteer to mentor elementary or middle school students.

**Panther Den** Supervised after-school high school safe "hang out" place for students to meet after school until 5:00 p.m.

**Westwood 21st Century Community Learning Center** Federally-funded after-school

program designed to benefit the educational, health, social service, cultural, and recreational needs of middle school students.

**HAVENS Safe Schools, Healthy Students Initiative** Federally-funded community-wide project promoting healthy child development and school environments that are safe, disciplined, and drug free.

**After School Adventures and Summer Adventures** Elementary enrichment classes, sponsored through HAVENS.

**S.T.A.R.S.** Additional academic and social skill learning opportunities (school-year and summer) for children in kindergarten through eighth grade.

**"The VOICE"** A peer education, issues oriented teen theater group.

**Open Swim, Lessons** Year-round community open swims and lessons.

**Driver's Education** Year-round 30-hour classroom driver's training.

#### **Kids' Club Discovery Days**

Tuition-based all-day child care program for four-year-olds.

**Kids' Club** Tuition-based, year-round before- and after-school child care for children in kindergarten through the summer of grade five.

#### **Early Childhood Family Education**

Parents and children grow and learn together. Classes and events for children from birth up to kindergarten age and their parents.

**Early Childhood Screening** Free health and developmental screening for children between the ages of 3 1/2 and 5 to promote the health of children and their readiness for kindergarten.

**School Readiness** Coordination of services for children ages 3-5 to enhance learning and development prior to kindergarten.

**Learn & Play Preschool** Two- or three-day-per-week preschool program for children between the ages of three and five.

## **Our School District Community**

Spring Lake Park School 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 core of the metropolitan area, but pleasantly away from it as well.

District 16 is proud of its **school-community partnerships** in an involved community of 25,000. Many new housing developments, including The Lakes, Deacon's Walk/TPC, The Sanctuary, and Pleasure Creek are bringing a new vitality to previously undeveloped areas. Many new tasteful shopping, dining, and entertainment venues are springing to life. The **Northstar Commuter Rail** project should become a reality in the near future.

Our school district community is home to the **National Sports Center** Olympic Training Facilities, USA Cup—the **largest youth soccer tournament in the world**, 3M PGA Seniors Championship, the **PGA Tournament Players Club (TPC) of the Twin Cities** golf course, and the proposed future home of the **Minnesota Vikings stadium** and training facilities.

You'll also find the Minnesota Medical Enterprise Park, **Medtronic**, Cummins Power Generation, **Unity Hospital**, Anoka County Human Services Center, Anoka Ramsey Community College, and **Northtown Regional Shopping Center**.

In addition, the area is home to **Majestic Oaks, Bunker Hills**, and **Chomonix Golf Courses**; Banfill-Locke Center for the Arts; Bunker Hills Regional Park and Bunker Beach Water Park; **Sandhill Crane Nature Area**; Wargo Nature Center; and **Springbrook Nature Center**.



For additional information on our north metro school community, visit:

<http://www.ci.blaine.mn.us/home.cfm>

<http://www.ci.spring-lake-park.mn.us>

<http://www.ci.fridley.mn.us/>

<http://www.co.anoka.mn.us/>



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## **Spring Lake Park School District 16**

**Proudly serving  
students and families  
in Blaine, Spring Lake  
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*High Expectations,  
High Achievement  
For All.*

*No Excuses.*