

# ANNUAL REPORT



# 2025

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# DC WEST

## Community Schools

Engage, Prepare, and Empower

# Annual Report

DC West Community Schools is a diverse, rigorous, and caring learning environment. We serve the communities of Waterloo and Valley, along with the surrounding lake neighborhoods and rural areas. There are **1086** students who call **DC West** home.

**DC West Community Schools** engages, prepares, and empowers all of our students for the future.

## Building Our Future: DC West Master Planning

### A Community-Driven Vision for Our Schools

The DC West Board of Education and Administration are launching a **Comprehensive Master Planning Process** to prepare our facilities for the next generation of learners. BCDM Architects will facilitate this vital process throughout 2026.

### Why Now? Guided by Our Strategic Plan

This initiative is rooted in our commitment to **resource stewardship** and **student success**. Our goals are clear:

- **Align** facilities with modern learning needs and safety standards.
- **Plan** for future growth through strategic maintenance and potential new construction.
- **Sustain** the efficient use of taxpayer resources for long-term stability.

### Our Journey of Progress

We have a proven track record of turning community planning into reality.

- **2016:** A community task force recommended relocating to a single campus in Valley.
- **2019:** Opened our brand-new Elementary building.
- **2021:** Completed expansions for Middle/High School, Fine Arts, and Physical Education.
- **2025:** Mission Accomplished. The majority of the strategic recommendations from the 2014 Master Planning Process are now complete with the opening of the DC West Athletic Complex.

### What's Next? The Future Roadmap

The new workgroup—comprised of parents, staff, students, and neighbors—will:

1. **Assess** current building conditions and projected enrollment growth.
2. **Research** innovative solutions for future learning needs.
3. **Develop** a phased timeline with probable costs for Board and community review.

### WE WANT YOUR VOICE!

We are looking for dedicated community members to join our upcoming workgroup. If you are passionate about the future of DC West facilities, we invite you to apply.

### Interested in joining the workgroup?

Contact **Dr. Melissa Poloncic**, Superintendent, [mpoloncic@dcwest.org](mailto:mpoloncic@dcwest.org)

## Strategic Plan Goals 2022-2027

### Expanded Student-Centered Learning Experiences



To ensure diversified learning experiences prepare and empower students to be engaged through expanded learning opportunities and rigorous curriculum and instruction that accelerate the growth of each student.

### Culture and Cohesion



To create and sustain a district culture that exemplifies and models high expectations for all staff and students while supporting the social, emotional, and mental health well-being of students and staff.

### Personnel Effectiveness



To ensure the district provides educational leadership and highly effective staff to support our students academically, personally, and in their individual social growth, as well as building and sustaining cohesion and unity among the staff.

### Family and Community Partnerships



Grow and sustain a mutually supportive and trusting partnership with stakeholder groups for the benefit of the mission and vision of the DC West Community Schools and to sustain a positive connection with and among the community at large.

### District Resources



To sustain effective and efficient use of resources focused on continuous improvement, expansion and support of student learning, safe and effective learning facilities, and highly effective staff to support our students.

### Board Governance



To ensure the mission and vision of DC West Community Schools aligns to the goals, community expectations, and outcomes utilized to measure improved learning for all students.

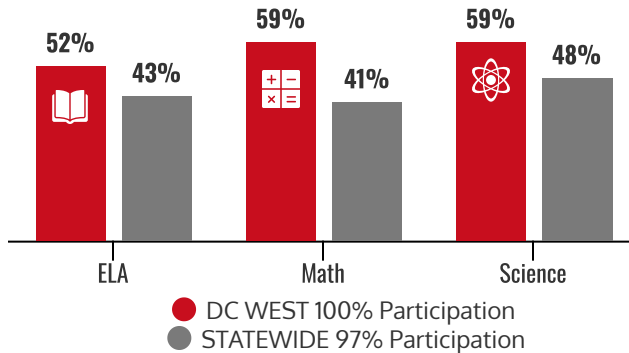
# Student Achievement



In the Spring of 2025, all DC West 11th graders took the ACT as a statewide assessment. Students' scores in English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science are shown to the right in terms of what percentage of DC West students were on track for approaching the ACT College Readiness Benchmark. The ranges for each performance level are shown below:

	<b>Developing:</b>	<b>On Track:</b>	<b>ACT Benchmark:</b>
<b>ELA</b>	1-17	18-19	20-36
<b>Math</b>	1-17	18-21	22-36
<b>Science</b>	1-18	19-22	23-36

## NSCAS ACT Percent On Track and Above

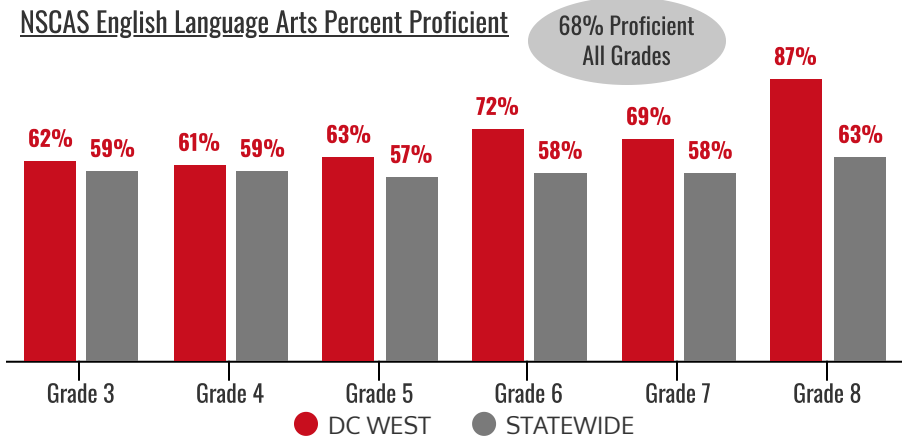


ACT scale scores range from 1-36, **DC West students' average scale scores** were:

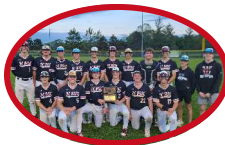
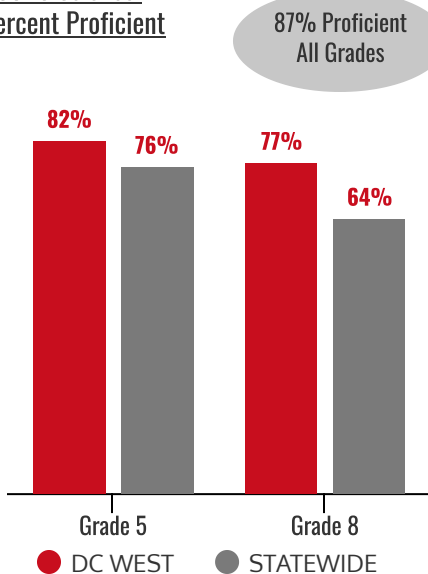
- 17** English Language Arts State: 16
- 20** Mathematics State: 18
- 20** Science State: 18

Our students in grades 3-8 are tested using the Nebraska Student-Centered Assessment System (NSCAS) in English Language Arts, Mathematics, and Science. Three levels of proficiency are determined based on test performance: Developing, On Track and Advanced. The percentage of overall proficiency in meeting state standards is calculated based upon the scores of students achieving the "On Track" and "Advanced" levels.

## NSCAS English Language Arts Percent Proficient

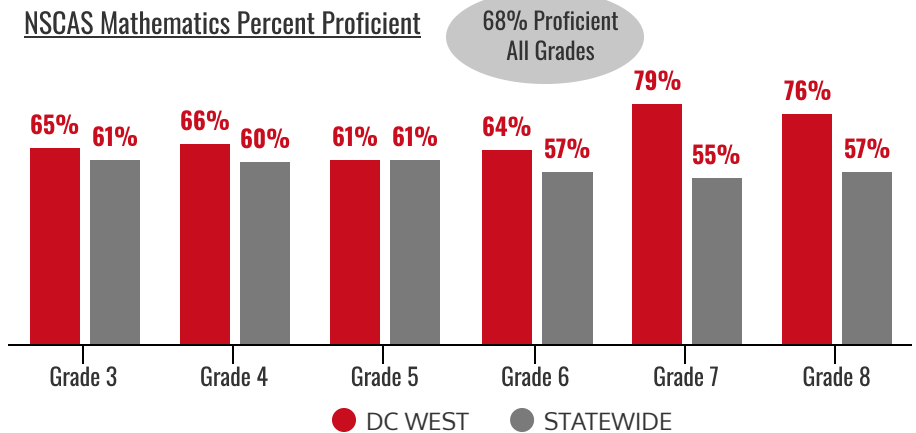


## NSCAS Science Percent Proficient



**Engage ~ Prepare ~ Empower**

## NSCAS Mathematics Percent Proficient



# 1096

Total PK-12 Students in 2024-2025

2023/24 - 1116 Students  
2022/23 - 1053 Students  
2021/22 - 1039 Students  
2020/21 - 985 Students

## Student Population Characteristics

Identified High-Ability Learners



STATE- 13%

Eligible for Free/Reduced School Meals



STATE- 50%

Identified as English Learners



STATE- 10%

Enrolled in Special Education



STATE- 17%

Attendance Rate



STATE- 93%

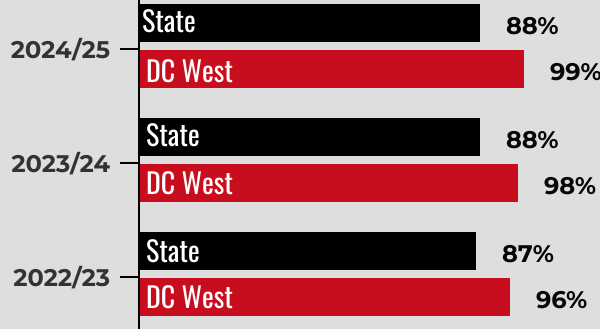
## PK-12 Enrollment

### Fall Membership 2025-2026

Pre-school	90
Kindergarten	78
1st Grade	62
2nd Grade	83
3rd Grade	62
4th Grade	63
5th Grade	92
6th Grade	82
7th Grade	90
8th Grade	82
9th Grade	60
10th Grade	89
11th Grade	86
12th Grade	67

Total PK-12 1086

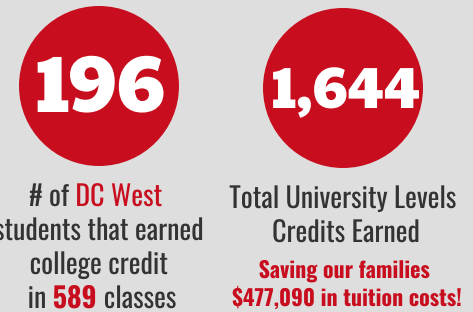
## Graduation Rate



## District State Classifications 2025

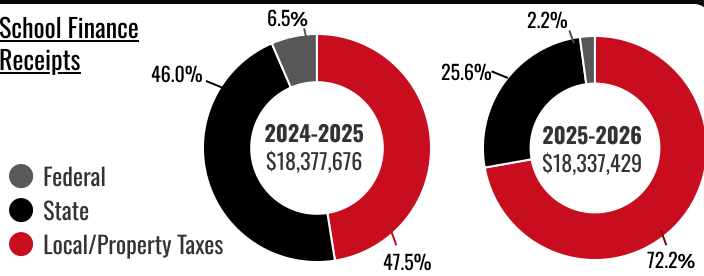
District - **Great** ★★ ★  
DC West High School - **Great** ★★ ★  
DC West Middle School - **Excellent** ★★ ★★ ★  
DC West Elementary School - **Great** ★★ ★

## 2024-2025 Dual Credit Information

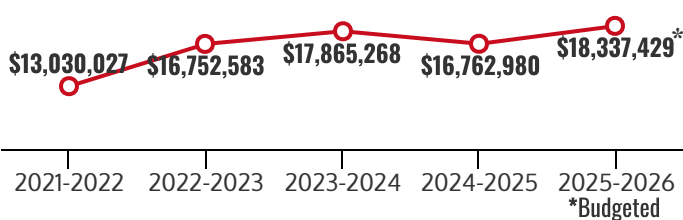


**21** Average ACT Score of Students in AP or Dual Credit Courses

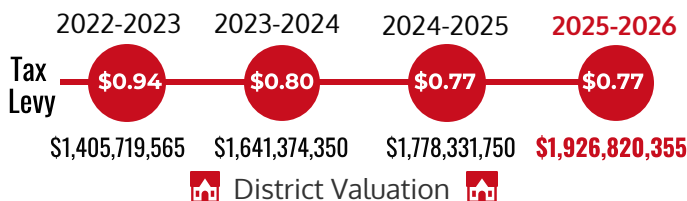
## School Finance Receipts



## Total General Fund Disbursements

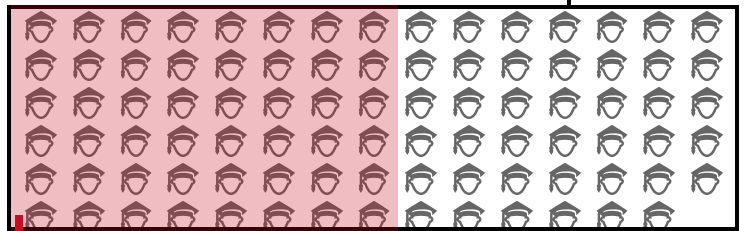


## Mill Levy and Valuation



## Class of 2025 Data

Total # of 2025 DC West Graduates **77**



**36** # of Graduates that received at least 1 scholarship → **\$5,000,000** Total dollar amount of scholarships earned by Class of 2025



**2024-2025 Certified Staff 90** Total FTE



	Teaching Staff with Masters Degree/Higher	Average Yrs Experience
DC West	68%	13 Yrs
State	59%	14 Yrs