

2020

NEW TRIER HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 203 ANNUAL REPORT



A Letter from the District 203 Board of Education President

When 2020 began, New Trier was engaged in the second year of its comprehensive strategic plan, New Trier 2030. The Board of Education was excited to oversee the District's progress toward goals centered around the plan's vision to "develop in every graduate the skills and dispositions to lead meaningful, compassionate, and impactful lives."

Then March came, and schools were shut down amid the global COVID-19 crisis. New Trier had to adjust to teaching, learning, and connecting in an entirely new way. I am profoundly grateful for the support of our community and the tireless efforts of our faculty, staff, and administration during this time.

Thanks to all of you, New Trier was able to offer much-needed in-person opportunities for students when many other peer high schools were still closed. Those opportunities have continued to increase as the District has implemented innovative safety measures and learned more about the spread of COVID-19. We also have been able to offer our facilities as the site of blood drives and vaccination clinics serving our greater community.

Even as our District has risen to the challenges of the pandemic, the work toward the mission and vision of New Trier 2030 continues. This Annual Report is full of stories of service, innovation, and hope for the future. Now more than ever, we have learned the importance of a strong community, and I am proud to live and serve in New Trier Township.

Sincerely,
Cathleen Albrecht
Board President

A Letter from the District 203 Superintendent

We are all in this together. These words are the guiding principle of New Trier's efforts to keep its campuses safely open for as much in-person learning and activities as possible at a time when our teens - and all of us - have faced the isolation brought about by a global pandemic.

I am extremely proud of the way our students, our faculty and staff, our administration, and our community have responded to challenges we never could have imagined facing just one year ago. We truly are all in this together. Without the sacrifices and efforts we all have made to stay safe, we would not be where we are today - open for in-person learning, athletics, and activities while still offering remote learning for those families who need that option.

No solution to getting students back into a large high school is perfect during this time. I appreciate the patience and compassion so many of you in our New Trier community have shown as we have changed our approach to follow evolving research and guidelines.

This Annual Report shows the many ways we have come together as a community to create the best possible experience for our students under the most difficult of circumstances. With so many of our staff now vaccinated and increasing vaccine availability for our community, I have no doubt we are turning the corner and an even brighter future is ahead for New Trier.

Sincerely,
Dr. Paul Sally
Superintendent

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Standing (L-R): Jean Hahn; Keith Dronen; Brad McLane; Carol Ducommun
Sitting: (L-R) Marc Glucksman, Vice President; Cathleen Albrecht, President; Greg Robitaille



New Trier 2030 Strategic Plan

The six frameworks identified in New Trier 2030 encompass the work of our District as a whole, and the goals developed for each framework are meant to prepare our students and our school to make an impact in the world over the next decade and beyond.

Throughout this Annual Report, you will read about the progress the school has made toward goals outlined in the 2020 Annual Plan. You will also see icons next to articles in this report identifying the strategic planning frameworks served by the work described in the articles. These icons correspond to the frameworks below.

To learn more, visit www.newtrier.k12.il.us/StrategicPlanning/ or scan here:



1 Intellectual Engagement, Growth, and Readiness

Students should be exposed to a broad, comprehensive curriculum to develop critical thinking skills and dispositions that will prepare them for future challenges and opportunities. Students' mastery of knowledge deepens when their learning experiences are relevant and give them a sense of purpose and fulfillment.



2 Student Personal Growth, Engagement, and Well-being

Students should feel secure in their physical, emotional, and social well-being in order to be fully engaged in their academic, personal, and social growth. Developing social-emotional skills such as self-awareness, compassion, resilience, self-management, social awareness, relationship skills, and responsible decision-making is critical to setting students on a path toward a meaningful future.



3 Culture, Climate, and Equity

All people at New Trier must be welcomed, respected, supported, and valued so students can learn effectively, develop deeper understanding of the complex issues they face, and become empowered to contribute to the school community. This is possible when staff and students learn from and reflect on their own and others' diverse lived experiences.



4 Leadership Throughout the School

New Trier High School is a complex organization that requires the continuous development of courageous, innovative, committed, and exemplary leadership at all levels and from all constituencies, student and adult. The quality of leadership and the climate fostered by leaders have a direct impact and influence on all facets of our school community and beyond.



5 Community Engagement, Partnerships, and Governance

New Trier High School is a crucial part of the fabric of New Trier Township, serving as a reflection of our community's strong commitment to inquiry, compassion, service, and leadership. The school district and its engaged and informed community of taxpayers, parents, students, alumni, and staff collectively benefit by working in partnership toward common goals.



6 Finance, Facilities, and Human Resources

To serve the needs of students in their academic and extracurricular pursuits, New Trier High School depends on the financial commitment made by taxpayers to deliver a high-quality education marked by exceptional teaching and facilities. The District supports the school's mission and vision while acting as a responsible financial steward by developing budgets, facilities, and staffing plans that respect the community's investment.





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Reinventing Teaching, Learning, and Student Experiences

On March 13, 2020, the landscape of teaching and learning changed dramatically as New Trier and schools across Illinois closed their doors to help stop the spread of COVID-19. New Trier teachers, staff, and administrators rose to the challenge, continually reinventing curriculum and the student experience to adapt to a remote environment while working toward getting students safely back in school.

Adapting the Classroom Experience

Teachers and staff worked tirelessly to create and improve remote learning while offering students personal connections. The results were inspirational. Teachers assembled take-home kits so students could participate in hands-on learning at home. Staff quickly learned how to engage students through Zoom and a variety of online tools, all from less-than-ideal home environments. Special Education teachers and staff organized drive-by parades to connect with students for whom the remote environment was particularly difficult. New Trier also shifted to a block schedule, where classes meet for longer periods every other day. Many students and staff say this type of schedule allows for more in-depth discussions and classroom activities as well as better homework and stress management.

Providing Extracurricular Connections

Performing arts staff found ways to create virtual music, theatre, and dance performances as well as virtual art exhibitions to showcase student work. The Performing Arts Division moved New Trier’s traditional student-written comedy Lagniappe-Potpourri online and has produced a range of high-quality virtual plays, musicals, concerts, and performances. Some are still available at newtrier.k12.il.us/PerformingArts/:



Athletics coaches and staff and activities sponsors also adapted to keep students connected amid changing state guidance. Some clubs moved entirely online while others met in socially distanced environments. Coaches offered Zoom workouts during the lockdown, then quickly moved to in-person drills and training in the summer. New Trier offered all sports allowed by the IHSA during shortened seasons.

Planning for a Return to In-Person Opportunities

Even while teachers and staff were improving remote learning, New Trier was developing a plan to safely reopen. The District added cameras and technology in classrooms to support hybrid learning, enhanced safety across its campuses (more about health and safety on page 8), and prepared to welcome students back within the state’s capacity limits. In-person instruction poses particular challenges to large high schools like New Trier because the breadth of the curriculum means it is difficult to limit student movement by putting students in “pods” as some elementary districts have done.

Despite some spikes in community COVID-19 spread that forced New Trier to pause hybrid learning in October, the school has been open continuously since November 10 at a time when many peer high schools remained closed. The school moved to allowing 50% capacity this January and continues to follow state guidelines as it works to get as many students in school, athletics, and extracurricular activities as is safely possible. With many staff members already vaccinated, New Trier is hopeful for a return to full in-person learning for next school year.



Passing out take-home science kits



Recording Lagniappe-Potpourri

Notable Numbers for the Class of 2020

- Class of 2020 Graduates: **1,002**
- 14** National Merit Scholarship Winners
- 33** National Merit Finalists
- 35** National Merit Semifinalists
- 105** National Merit Letters of Commendation

- 442** Illinois State Scholars
- Composite ACT Score: **28.2**
- Composite SAT Score: **1,244**
- Average Advanced Placement Exam Score: **4.0** (out of 5)
- Habitat for Humanity Homes Built: **2** - one in Lake County and one in the Philippines, totaling 40 homes built so far through New Trier’s partnership

1 2 3

Celebrating the Class of 2020: Marking Milestones Amid a Pandemic

For the Class of 2020, the last months of high school were spent learning at home amid a statewide lockdown to help stem a global pandemic. While New Trier couldn't celebrate these seniors in a traditional way, the school and parent community pulled together to make sure they could still have a memorable and meaningful end to their high school experience.

Virtual Ceremony and Walk the Stage on Trevian Way

Without the ability to gather together for a traditional Commencement Ceremony, New Trier brought the pomp and circumstance to graduates' homes where New Trier administrators, the Board of Education, student speaker Noah C. Lolli and alumni speaker Chris Cox, Class of 2000, honored graduates with a virtual ceremony that premiered on May 31.

Following the virtual ceremony, students were invited to Walk the Stage on Trevian Way to pick up their diploma cover and take a professional photograph on a series of stages at the Winnetka Campus. Beautiful weather, festive decorations and music provided by the New Trier Parents' Association, and a parade of cars decorated to honor individual graduates made for an unforgettable event for graduates and their families.

Video Tributes and Socially-Distant Celebrations

New Trier's first-ever virtual prom for juniors and seniors took place on May 16. The event featured a live DJ broadcast that allowed students to send in shout outs, request their favorite songs, and hear from a few special guests—including many staff members who submitted videos to wish the Class of 2020 well.

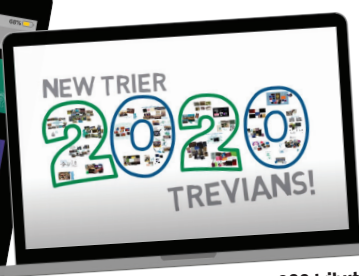
Soon after, Winnetka Campus Principal Denise Dubravec shared a Class of 2020 tribute video that celebrated some of their memorable moments and wonderful accomplishments.

Recognizing Seniors From Afar

In addition to lawn signs gifted to each senior by New Trier advisers, New Trier also displayed multiple banners at the Winnetka Campus to publicly recognize seniors for their accomplishments, including in Athletics and the Arts.



Scan to watch Walk the Stage on Trevian Way recap!

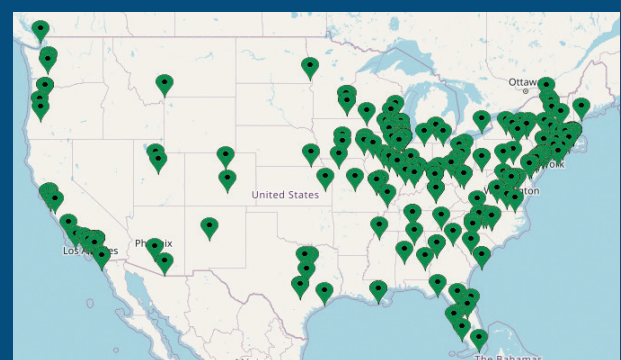


Class of 2020 tribute video. Scan to watch!



Post-High School Destinations

Approximately 96 percent of New Trier High School's Class of 2020 chose to enroll directly in a college or university after graduation. Other student paths include a gap year, the military, trade schools, and employment. Reflecting the motto of New Trier's Post-High School Counseling Department - **College is a match to be made, not a prize to be won** - the Class of 2020 enrolled in 218 colleges and universities across four countries, 42 states, and the District of Columbia. This map represents the college destinations for the Class of 2020. In addition to U.S. destinations, members of the Class of 2020 enrolled in colleges or universities in four countries across the globe: Canada, Germany, Scotland, and the United Kingdom.



New Trier's Commitment to Service Remains Strong in Difficult Year

New Trier's motto, "to commit minds to inquiry, hearts to compassion, and lives to the service of humanity" held true in 2020 as students and the school found new ways to serve needs in the local community, greater Chicagoland, and beyond.

Despite pivoting to a completely virtual format, New Trier Tri-Ship and Girls Club's annual canned food drive benefiting the Greater Chicago Food Depository earned a record-breaking \$67,478.92, totaling 202,436 total meals.

New Trier continued its almost 50-year partnership with Northwestern University Settlement House to provide gifts and food items for families in need, donating \$41,323.50 in gift cards to 72 families, as well as an additional \$780 for the food pantry.

Tri-Ship's annual Holiday Tree Sale also experienced a record-breaking year, selling its stock of Fraser firs and meeting its scholarship fundraising goal in just three days.

With no students on campus, New Trier offered its facilities for six blood drives, collecting 456 units of life-saving blood.

As far back as last spring, as students navigated the final months of the school year remotely, countless students organized their own service efforts and were featured

weekly on the New Trier Instagram page. Features included students organizing their own food drives, providing meals for senior citizens, tutoring elementary students, and more!

The New Trier Educational Foundation joined efforts with the New Trier Parents Association, the New Trier Fine Arts Association, and New Trier Booster Club to raise funds for those in need in District 203. With over 65 donors, \$32,307 was raised to support over 140 New Trier families. Foundation-funded equipment also helped New Trier Applied Arts faculty and staff produce more than 500 face shields to donate to NorthShore University HealthSystem amid a national shortage of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) for medical workers.

Celebrating 20 years of partnership with New Trier, the New Trier Educational Foundation will launch a Day of Service on April 17, 2021. On the Day of Service, students and alumni around the world will work together on service projects in their hometowns and build connections with fellow Trevians while abiding by all COVID-19 guidelines.

For more information about NTEF's Day of Service, scan here:



900

full face masks with a headband and shield and 500 face masks were made by the Applied Arts Department.



\$41,323.50

was donated to 72 families through New Trier's annual Family Holiday Project with Northwestern Settlement House.



1,396

potential lives were saved through the 456 units of blood that were collected at the 6 blood drives New Trier hosted in 2020.



\$67,478.92

or 202,436 meals were donated to Chicago Food Depository through Tri-Ship and Girls Club's Annual Food Drive.



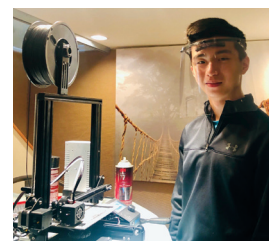
Annabel Ma '23 partnered with Napolita in downtown Wilmette and Pho Tam in Niles to provide meals for low income seniors in our community and also support local small businesses.



Mick Racenstein '23 organized a food drive with friends. They asked neighbors and friends to donate food items, picked them up, and then donated the items to the Chicago Food Depository.



Cameron Eisen '21 and Katie Goldish '21 created CK S'mores as a way to raise money for the Greater Chicago Food Depository. By the end of the school year, CK S'mores had raised over \$1,700.



Zijun Deng '23 spent weeks teaching himself to fine tune a 3D printer, assembling 186+ face shields for hospitals and individual healthcare workers.



Sophomores Madison Murphy, Isabelle Millar, and Merrill Parker set-up a GoFundMe and walked 26.1 miles on May 23. They raised over \$3,714 for North Shore Hospital System's COVID-19 Relief Fund.



New Trier Puts Focus on Equity in Annual Strategic Planning Goals

Culture, Climate, and Equity is one of the six frameworks that are the building blocks of New Trier’s comprehensive strategic plan, New Trier 2030, and the District focused on a number of goals within this framework for action during 2020 and into the current school year.

The core values of the Culture, Climate, and Equity framework emphasize the need to create an equitable, safe, inclusive, and welcoming climate that:

- **creates the conditions that allow individuals to reach their full potential.**
- **is built upon respect and the appreciation of differences.**
- **holds individuals accountable for their actions and creates access to justice.**

In the first year of New Trier 2030, each department and area of the school formed an equity committee within their department and set a specific equity goal. For example, the English Department participated in a series of workshops on best practices in planning and executing lessons around texts that deal with the issues of race, gender, sexual orientation, and religion, while the Applied Arts department committed to bringing in professionals who are underrepresented in fields such as architecture and engineering so students could see themselves reflected in those fields.

Other equity work in the 2019-2020 school year included building stronger connections between administrators and New Trier’s eight student affinity groups, which are groups of students who share an identity and meet in a supportive environment with adult mentors. This year, New Trier created a coalition of these affinity groups to share experiences with each other and the school.

The school also made strides toward the New Trier 2030 goal to “recruit, develop and retain a diverse and exceptional faculty” by building recruiting relationships with collegiate institutions including Historically Black Colleges and Universities, expanding New Trier’s use of professional networks, and examining screening processes and questions.

Over the summer, seven subcommittees of faculty, staff, and administrators met to make recommendations for equity goals in the 2020-2021 school year. Those recommendations included building a restorative justice approach to discipline that includes communication to students on how the school responds to bias incidents, creating more student leadership opportunities, and elevating student voice to broaden opportunities for input, particularly from marginalized groups.

New Trier also adopted a Civil Discourse and Critical Thinking statement that emphasizes the school’s commitment to cultivating an environment in which all students feel free to explore a wide range of ideas through civil discourse, respectful inquiry, and engaged listening.

Scan here to learn more about New Trier’s Ongoing Commitment to Equity:



New Trier Extension Connects the Community One Zoom at a Time

For more than 80 years, New Trier Extension (NTX) has offered quality, low-cost community education classes for residents of New Trier Township and surrounding communities. Community members looking to learn a new language, practice yoga or t’ai chi, hone their writing or technology skills, cook, paint, fence, row, and so much more rely on NTX for inspiration and connection.

When the state issued its lockdown order in March 2020, NTX and its teachers had to adapt. Despite challenges that included a client base that was largely unfamiliar with virtual learning tools like Zoom, NTX Manager DeDe Kern and Assistant Angie Woodul spent countless hours training teachers and students alike and making sure as many classes could convert to a virtual format as possible.

For many NTX students, their classes served an invaluable purpose: providing structure to days and connections to others while they had to remain home to protect their own health and well-being. NTX surveyed its students about their experience with the move to an all-remote format and found that 97% said continuing their NTX classes remotely helped them feel connected during the COVID-19 pandemic.

52 out of 80 classes running at the time of the state lockdown moved to a virtual format.

1,635 students were served, ranging from age 14 to 93.

189 virtual classes were offered from March 2020 - March 2021.

What NTX students had to say about their experience:

“I enjoy the variety of classes and the fact that classes are on Zoom during the pandemic. They provide a great outlet for a time when we cannot gather together for so many other activities.”

“I am amazed at how helpful it is to see my classmates and teacher on my computer screen in real time. Not as good as in person, but tons better than just auditory, and enormously better than nothing!”



Focus on Safety: Changes Help Protect Students, Staff

The most important consideration in New Trier’s decisions about how and when to open its campuses amid the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic has been the health and safety of its students and staff. Amid developing knowledge about the virus and emerging research on low

transmission rates in schools that follow public health and safety guidance, New Trier adapted and innovated to put safety first while understanding the academic and social-emotional benefits of providing as many in-person opportunities as possible.

COVID-19 Dashboard and Metrics

As New Trier considered how to reopen its campuses to in-person learning and activities this fall, the District established a Reopening Advisory Board (RAB) to review reopening plans, community and building health and safety metrics, and professional health guidance. The RAB includes health professional consultants, parents, students, teachers, staff members, a Board of Education representative, and school administrators. Its role is advisory, with the District and Board of Education making final decisions on reopening plans. In weekly meetings, the RAB has made recommendations on health and safety improvements and campaigns that have benefited the school community and helped keep New Trier’s campuses open.

The District maintains an easy-to-access COVID-19 dashboard on its website with information about key community and internal metrics, including the number of cases of COVID-19, students and staff in quarantine, and community case numbers and positivity rates.

Scan here to view the COVID-19 dashboard:



Building Adaptations and Mitigation Efforts

Before school buildings reopened for students, New Trier made a number of adaptations to assure the health and safety of students and staff. Both campuses were outfitted with enhanced air filtration systems, with circulation set to recommended levels. Signs throughout the campuses remind students and staff about social distancing, required face coverings, and more. Classrooms and common areas were rearranged to allow for social distancing, and the District installed cameras and other technology to allow for hybrid learning, where some students are learning in person with others at home on Zoom. Cleaning protocols have been adjusted to meet or exceed standards set by public health agencies.

Trevian Pledge and Safety Videos

Before students returned to in-person learning in the fall, they were asked to take a course about COVID-19 safety measures and sign the Trevians Caring for Trevians Pledge,

which is a reminder that “we are all in this together,” and that an individual’s responsible actions and decisions can help protect the school and community. The District also produced safety videos for each campus showing students what to expect when they returned.

Health Screening

All staff and parents must complete a health screening checklist each day through an app called Ruvna. This checklist requires students and staff to stay home and participate in remote learning if they have any symptoms of COVID-19, a COVID-19 diagnosis, are in a quarantine period for COVID-19 exposure, or have engaged in activities that put them at risk of COVID-19.

Saliva Screening

New Trier was proud to be one of the first high schools in the state to offer weekly COVID-19 saliva screening to all students and staff. While the screening is non-diagnostic and must be confirmed by a lab test, it has proven very effective at identifying potential cases of COVID-19 that were later confirmed. Since the District began the program in November, it has identified over 100 cases of COVID-19 - many of them asymptomatic. This identification has helped protect the school as well as those individuals’ family, friends, and our greater community.

Scan to watch the Northfield Campus Safety Video!



Scan to watch the Winnetka Campus Safety Video!



Vaccination Clinic Partnership

New Trier was proud to partner with a group of regional emergency departments known as MABAS-3 to offer its Northfield Campus Main Gym as a Cook County Department of Public Health vaccination site. MABAS-4 serves the Villages of Glencoe, Glenview, Kenilworth, Lincolnwood, Morton Grove, Northbrook, Niles, Northfield, Park Ridge, Prospect Heights, Wilmette, and Winnetka. The site opened on February 24 to vaccinate local emergency first responders and educators from these municipalities who were in the 1a and 1b vaccination groups. While the site was not initially open to the public due to limited vaccine supply, New Trier hopes it can serve as a vaccination site for the greater community in the future.

Facilities for the Future: Winnetka Campus Academic and Athletic Project

New Trier will break ground this December on a project to renovate and replace aging buildings on the Winnetka Campus with new athletic and academic spaces that will expand student opportunities for generations to come. Due to the District's financial planning, this project can move forward without a tax increase or referendum and will be completed in August 2023.

After studying the issue for more than a year, the Board of Education approved a plan to replace the 1928 Gates Gymnasium and 1925 Boiler Plant with a new multipurpose facility within the boundaries of Essex Road and Trevian Way. These two buildings are the oldest on the campus and contain inflexible spaces with high maintenance costs that do not adequately meet student needs.

When finished, the new facility will benefit every student through daily health and wellness classes and new academic spaces, New Trier's thousands of student-athletes and visitors, and the entire community through New Trier Extension classes and an investment in facilities that will continue to attract families to the area.

Highlights of the project include:

- **New Academic Spaces:** 12 new classroom spaces, which would both replace inadequate spaces on the East Side of the campus and keep classroom counts level in the long term as small, outdated classrooms are renovated and expanded into larger classrooms during the ongoing modernization of the Winnetka Campus North and Tower Buildings as part of the District's 15-year Facilities Plan
- **New Competition, Auxiliary Gyms, and Indoor Track:** New multi-use competition gym with flexible, welcoming, and ADA-accessible space, new auxiliary gyms, and a 6-lane, 160-meter track to support the Kinetic Wellness (physical education) and Athletics programs
- **Improved Security and Accessibility:** Two new welcoming, accessible and secure entrances for students and visitors, enhanced student supervision, building isolation and fire sprinklers, and better connections to the rest of the campus
- **Improved Maintenance and Energy Efficiency:** Replaces two of the most dilapidated and antiquated buildings with new spaces that are more efficient to maintain and operate; District will seek LEED certification for the new facility

The project will maintain the same amount of parking at the Winnetka Campus and a design aesthetic consistent with the rest of the campus. The full Athletic and Kinetic Wellness program will continue to be offered during construction.

The estimated cost of the project is approximately \$75 million, which includes all direct and indirect costs and a 10% contingency. The project will be funded without the use of a referendum to increase the property tax levy beyond typical inflationary increases. The majority of the project will be funded by alternate revenue bond proceeds with annual debt service payments of approximately \$3.1 million from existing District revenue sources, which will be level for the life of the debt and represents about 2.7% of the current operating fund expenditure budget. The District also will use \$14.5 million from bond proceeds through the Debt Service Extension Base portion of the existing tax levy and \$8-12 million from district reserves. This funding model, which has been used at many peer schools for similar projects, will allow the District to take advantage of historically low interest rates and maintain its strong financial position.

Proposed weight area below cardio fitness area



Proposed indoor track going north



Proposed competition gym



Proposed outdoor ed and climbing area



Proposed auxiliary gym looking southwest





Investing in Our Students:

How Your Tax Dollars Support New Trier Township High School District 203

The District continued its tradition of strong financial management during the unusual 2019-20 school year. The budget, largely funded by your property tax dollars, supported the education of our 4,000 students in the traditional format for the first three quarters and in a virtual format for the final part of the year. Despite this atypical year, the District continued to invest your tax dollars wisely on behalf of our students and the community, providing a comprehensive educational and student services program as well as a robust selection of extracurricular programs.

The budget was balanced on a consolidated basis with

an operating surplus, enabling the District to reserve for expected capital requirements. The District was recognized for its financial transparency and strong budgeting principles for the 17th consecutive year by both the Government Finance Officers Association and the Association of School Business Officials. This recognition shows the District has met the highest standards in financial reporting practices and demonstrates its commitment to fiscal responsibility and good governance.

The Board, administration, and staff continue to find ways to align expense growth with District revenues to avoid deficit spending or operating referenda.

Your Property Tax Dollar

Property taxes accounted for 88% of the District's \$118M operating revenues during the 2019-2020 school year and are a stable revenue source.

***These calculations are a weighted average for all villages serving New Trier High School; individual percentages will vary slightly from village to village.**



Effective Financial Management During COVID-19

The District carefully managed its financial resources during the pandemic by aligning them to focus on continuing to provide a high quality education remotely and to prepare to offer a safe in-person educational environment.

To accomplish this work, the District invested in enhanced cleaning supplies and PPE, plexiglass barriers and other adaptations that allowed staff and some students to begin to return for summer programs and to prepare for the fall.

During the remote period in the spring, the District reduced operating expenses related to salaries and benefits, utilities, and other costs associated with typical in-person experiences that were not able to be offered. Through this strong financial

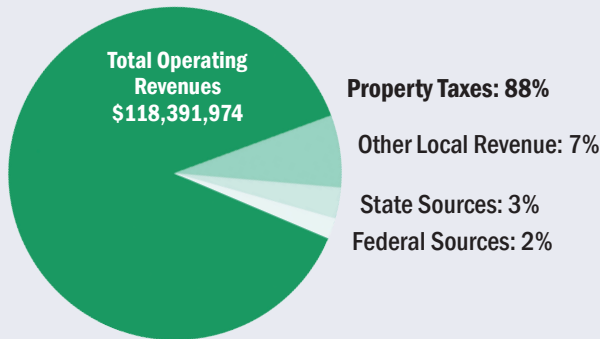
management, the District was able to realize a larger than anticipated 2019-20 operating surplus totaling \$7M.

For the 2020-2021 school year, the District resumed in-person instruction in the hybrid format, and incurred additional costs related to cleaning, saliva testing and technology to maintain a safe environment and support our students. These costs will be reflected in the 2021 Annual Report, after the conclusion of the fiscal year. The District expects that any increased costs during the current fiscal year related to COVID-19 will be offset by other expenditure reductions and the surplus generated from the prior year. The District has pursued and received Federal grants to fund portions of this work.

Top 5 Budget Takeaways

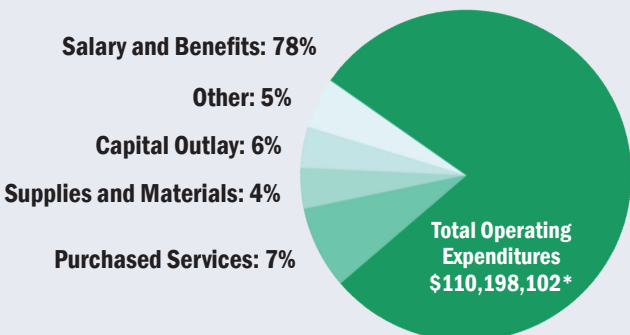
1. The District responsibly managed the financial aspects of the COVID-19 crisis, focusing resources on student and staff safety and reducing expenses where possible.
2. New Trier's budget was balanced on a consolidated basis (operating budget + reserving for capital requirements).
3. The District practices fiscal responsibility, meeting the needs of students through available resources. The District has not sought an operating rate referendum in 18 years and does not project the need for one in the foreseeable future.
4. The District maintains Aaa bond rating (the highest rating possible), which enables it to invest in the future and issue bonds for capital investments at lower interest rates.
5. The District continues to maintain and enhance its facilities for the benefit of our students, with improvements focused on teaching and learning, the extracurricular program, and energy efficiency utilizing the resources provided by our taxpayers, without seeking property tax increases beyond typical inflationary adjustments.

Where Does the District Get Its Funding?



How Does the District Spend Its Tax Dollars?

Most of New Trier's expenditures go toward people, the majority of whom directly serve our students. Nearly 80% of expenditures go to salary and benefits.

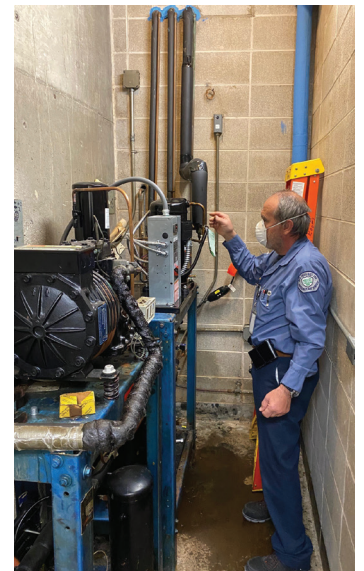


*In addition to paying operating expenses, a portion of the District's operating revenues were designated to other funds, primarily for capital construction needs identified in the District's 15-year facilities plan and to pay debt service.

Framework for Funding Investments in New Trier's Campuses

This year, the District continued to invest in New Trier's campuses through the 15-Year Facilities Plan, which seeks to improve and maintain District facilities with a focus on several areas, including academics, extracurriculars, maintenance, energy efficiency and security. The plan uses resources provided by taxpayers, including surpluses from prior fiscal years, allocations from the annual budget, and debt from the Debt Service Extension Base, which is a tax-capped funding mechanism in the annual tax levy. The plan does not require a referendum in the foreseeable future.

During the summer of 2020, the District invested in its first set of improvements under this plan, renovating a large portion of the 3rd floor of the antiquated North (1934) and Tower (1957) Buildings at the Winnetka Campus, modernizing classrooms and mechanical systems so that these spaces can best serve the needs of students this year and in the future. The Northfield Campus Library was also remodeled, and several roof and mechanical upgrades were completed.



Clockwise from upper left:
 Winnetka Campus classroom renovation
 Northfield Campus roof upgrade
 Physical Plant Services staff works on mechanical upgrades
 Renovated Northfield Campus Library

NEW TRIER

TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 203

385 Winnetka Avenue
Winnetka, IL 60093-4295



www.facebook.com/newtrierhighschool



@newtrier203



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Want to take a class at New Trier?

New Trier Extension is the community education program of New Trier Township High School District 203, offering hundreds of classes throughout the year during fall, winter-spring, and summer sessions. Ninety-seven percent of students said continuing their NTX classes remotely helped them feel connected during the COVID-19 pandemic.

We welcome students and participants of all ages, as well as township residents and non-residents! Visit www.newtrier.k12.il.us/newtrierextension/ or scan the QR code for more information:



NEW TRIER
extension Learn. Grow. Discover.

New Trier's Day of Service April 17, 2021



The New Trier Educational Foundation celebrates our 20th anniversary with

A DAY OF SERVICE

Alumni, students, and the community will work together on service projects across the nation and build connections with fellow Trevians.

Looking for a way to participate safely?

Visit newtrierconnect.org/day-of-service to learn more.



newtrierconnect.org