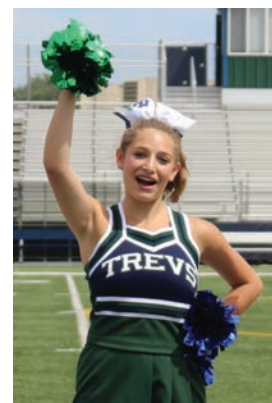
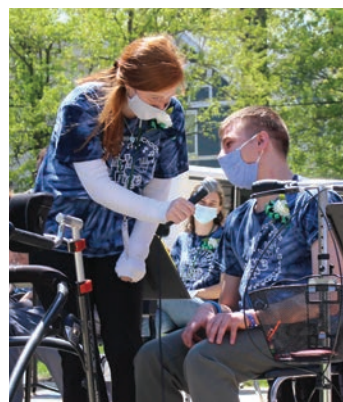


# 2021

## NEW TRIER HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 203 ANNUAL REPORT



## A Letter from the District 203 Board of Education President

When the Board of Education adopted our District's strategic plan in January 2019, the name *New Trier 2030* spoke to the future we were envisioning for our students. We set out ambitious goals for our school, guided by our longstanding mission "to commit minds to inquiry, hearts to compassion, and lives to the service of humanity." What we could not know then was that we were just a little over a year away from a pandemic that would disrupt our schools, our community, and our world in ways we could not have imagined.

Yet through this time of challenge, New Trier High School has remained focused on the future. I am proud of the way this community and our school have worked together these past few years to support our students. Parents and community members stepped up as classroom substitutes, vaccine clinic volunteers, and COVID testing staff to help keep New Trier open for in-person learning.

As we start 2022, our focus on the future is undeterred. In the pages of this report, you will read about the numerous ways we creatively adjusted to continue to provide robust opportunities for our students in and out of the classroom in the true spirit of a New Trier education. We also are preparing our facilities for the future, with the replacement of the 1928 Gates Gymnasium and 1925 Boiler Plant with a new academic and athletic building tailored to the modern needs of our students for generations to come.

As always, our ability to provide these opportunities for our students would not be possible without the support of our community. Thank you for your continued commitment to New Trier.

Sincerely,

Cathleen H. Albrecht  
Board President

## A Letter from the District 203 Superintendent

One of the highlights of the opening of the 2021-2022 school year this August was the return of a more recent New Trier tradition: the freshman welcome rally. Under blue skies, the Northfield Campus stadium filled with nearly 900 new students eager to begin high school. They heard from school leaders, chanted along with the Green Team, and watched performances from New Trier Cheer and the Dance Team.

Giving students a more normal school year was New Trier's focus throughout 2021. Students returned full-time to classrooms, sports teams were back to their normal schedules, and plays, concerts, and clubs once again filled students' time after school. Certainly COVID is not behind us, and New Trier continues to prioritize the safety of students, staff, and the community. But with vaccination rates high and the support of our families, staff, and community, we can be optimistic for a continued return to normalcy in 2022.

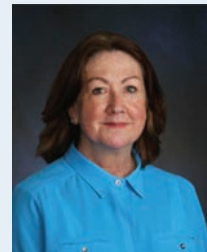
I am profoundly grateful to our staff, administrators, and teachers for their flexibility and creativity in supporting students during these unprecedented few years. From Health Services to Physical Plant Services, to our instructional aides and teachers, to every person working in our buildings, we have all had to reinvent our jobs time and again to make sure our students had every opportunity possible to learn and grow. I am also profoundly grateful for our parents and students who continue to adapt. We have learned much during these difficult times, and I see a bright future ahead for our students and for New Trier High School.

Sincerely,

Dr. Paul Sally  
Superintendent

# District 203 Board of Education

**Cathleen Albrecht**  
President  
847.784.6108  
albrechc@nthns.net



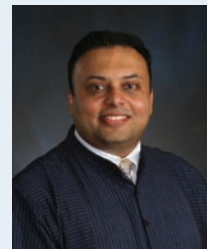
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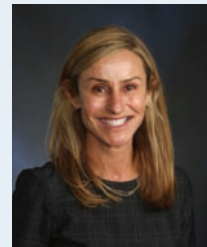
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# New Trier 2030 Strategic Plan

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 2021 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/](http://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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# Back to School: In-Person Opportunities a Focus for 2021-2022



As New Trier planned for a third school year impacted by COVID-19, one goal was clear: keep school safe and open for full in-person learning and extracurricular activities. Thanks to the efforts of staff, students, and families and the flexibility of teachers, coaches, and leaders, New Trier was able to stay open when other schools had temporary closures and to offer a full array of extracurricular opportunities and athletics.

### A Return to the Classroom

New Trier students returned to full in-person learning in August. The school's high vaccination rates (92% of students and 93% of staff) meant many activities that had been restricted in the prior school year could resume - including athletics, intramural sports, clubs, and classroom activities like group work, full music rehearsals, and hands-on activities.

New Trier adopted a block schedule in which classes meet every other day for longer periods rather than having every period meet every day. This has helped most students better balance their homework load and allowed for deeper discussions and longer activities in class. The school surveyed students, staff, and parents and will continue to operate on a



block schedule next year with adjustments to address feedback about the current schedule.

### Spreading the New Trier Spirit

The beginning of the 2021 school year also marked a return to more traditional ways of showing New Trier spirit - starting with the first-day Freshman Welcome Rally at the Northfield Campus stadium, a new Homecoming Night Rally for all students, and the return of the Homecoming Dance. Although a few adjustments had to be made to keep safe during COVID, such as splitting the dance into two sessions and wearing



masks indoors, students responded enthusiastically to the return of these traditions.

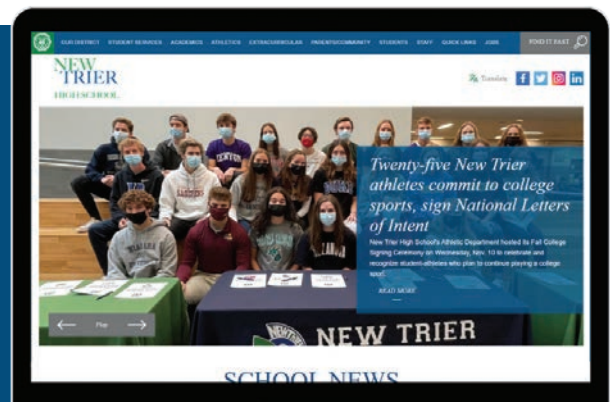
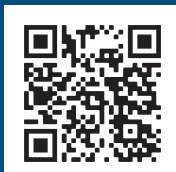
### Back on the Fields, Courts, and Stages

IHSA sports returned to their normal schedules, and New Trier was ready to dominate. Trevians took home numerous regional, sectional, and state series honors along with state championships in Field Hockey and Girls Swimming and Diving. Academic teams also were on a roll, including in debate, chess, and Science Olympiad. Meanwhile, theatre, dance, and music students were back on stage wowing audiences, including at the cherished Winter Music Festival.

## Have You Visited Our New Website?

This fall New Trier debuted a fully revamped website with easier-to-access information, more news, photos, and videos, and a social media display. It's the best way to keep up with New Trier!

Visit [newtrier.k12.il.us](http://newtrier.k12.il.us) or scan here



# Profile of the Class of 2021: Resilience, Excellence Amid Challenges

New Trier's Class of 2021 spent almost half of their junior year and all of senior year learning under evolving COVID guidance. They learned in-person, in a hybrid setting, and remotely during their high school career. Despite these challenges, the vast majority of the Class of 2021 planned to attend college immediately after graduation, enrolling in 227 different colleges and universities. They took advantage of New Trier's vast array of curricular and extracurricular offerings and pursued their passions regardless of the circumstances.

## Graduation in an Iconic Setting

As COVID guidance evolved throughout the year, New Trier worked diligently to find a place where the Class of 2021 could gather safely as a class for Commencement. That place turned out to be Soldier Field, home of the Chicago Bears. The city made the stadium available for this one-time-only opportunity so students from across the city and suburbs could gather in their own graduation ceremonies.

New Trier's ceremony took place under a clear blue sky and bright sun, with families in the stands and students sitting on the field. Alumni speaker Liz Phair, Class of 1985, appeared virtually, while student speaker Zara Anwar addressed her classmates in person before they crossed the stage to receive their diplomas.

## Prom on the North Lawn

After turning to a virtual format in 2020, New Trier's Prom returned for seniors in 2021. COVID prevented the traditional indoor dance at a Chicago hotel, so New Trier brought a Carnivale theme to seniors right on the North lawn of the Winnetka Campus. Students dressed up, danced, and watched carnival performers in a safe and fun environment.



## Notable Numbers for the Class of 2021

- 1,037** seniors in the Class of 2021
- 402** Illinois State Scholars
- 26.96** Composite ACT Score
- 1229** Composite SAT Score
- 4.0 (out of 5)** Average AP Exam Score
- 27** National Merit Finalists
- 32** National Merit Semifinalists
- 68** National Merit Letters of Commendation



of the Class of 2021 chose to enter directly into a college or university after graduation, enrolling in...



colleges and universities, across...



4 destinations (the US, Canada, Ireland and the UK), and...



38 states, and the District of Columbia.



Before breaking ground in January, New Trier hosted a series of events to commemorate the historic Leslie F. Gates Gymnasium called *A December To Remember*.

### Open House and Commemoration Event

New Trier hosted a Commemoration Ceremony in the Stage Gym on Saturday, Dec. 4 before the girls varsity basketball game. With the help of our Student Ambassadors, attendees were also invited to tour the entire Winnetka Campus and view drawings of the new construction.

### New Trier Winter Music Festival

The Music & Theatre Department's annual concert dates back to 1918 and was held in the Gates Gymnasium one last time on Sunday, Dec. 12. The event featured New Trier's talented bands, orchestras, and choirs.

### Athletic Hall of Honor Induction and Alumni Night

The Athletic Department inducted its third class into the Athletic Department Hall of Honor on Thursday, Dec. 16, recognizing Ben Almaguer, Gary Groh, Ron Klein, and Deborah Ofcky for their significant contributions to New Trier Athletics. The inductees were honored in between the girls and boys varsity basketball games, which were the last official games played in the space.

1 2 5 6

# East Side



External view from Essex Road entrance



Canyon Main Level



Canyon Mezzanine



# Academic and Athletic Project



Aerial view from corner of Essex Road and Trevian Way

In February 2021, the New Trier Board of Education approved a plan to renovate and replace aging buildings on the East Side of the Winnetka Campus with new athletic and academic spaces that will expand student opportunities for generations to come without the need for a referendum.

The \$79.5 million project, funded by existing resources, will replace the 1928 Gates Gymnasium and 1925 Boiler Plant with a new multipurpose facility within the boundaries of Essex Road and Trevian Way. The project broke ground in January 2022 and is scheduled to be completed by the opening of the 2023-2024 school year.

The project will add a small number of additional parking spots and maintain a design aesthetic consistent with the rest of the Winnetka Campus. The full Athletic and Kinetic Wellness program will continue to be offered during construction.

The majority of the project is being funded by alternate revenue bond proceeds with annual debt service payments of approximately \$2.9 million from existing District revenue

sources. The District also will use \$14.5 million from bond proceeds through the debt service extension base portion of the existing tax levy and \$14.5 million from district reserves.

## Highlights of the project include:

- 13 New Classrooms and 1 Large Lecture Room
- New Competition, Auxiliary Gyms and Indoor Track
- New Weight and Strength/Conditioning Facilities
- New Climbing Wall and High Ropes Course
- Improved Security and Accessibility
- Improved Maintenance and Energy Efficiency
- Recycled Materials and LEED Certification

For more information about the project, including a live construction camera, visit [newtrier.k12.il.us/EastSideProject](http://newtrier.k12.il.us/EastSideProject) or scan the QR code.



Lecture Room



Competition Gym



Fieldhouse

# Gala 2022: Celebrate New Trier's Amazing Alumni

On Friday, March 11, the New Trier Educational Foundation will host Gala 2022, a biannual party with music, dancing, and engaging alumni stories where parents, alumni, school staff, and community members can gather to have fun and honor the Class of 2022 inductees to the Alumni Hall of Honor.

Gala 2022 is dedicated to advancing student and faculty innovations throughout New Trier by providing private philanthropic funding for exceptional educational opportunities. The Gala will be held at

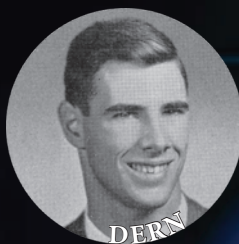
the Renaissance Chicago North Shore Hotel in Northbrook starting at 6 p.m. on March 11. Tickets and sponsorships are available for purchase at [newtrierconnect.org/2022-gala](http://newtrierconnect.org/2022-gala).

Nine distinguished New Trier High School alumni, including a Young Alumnus Award recipient, will receive the school's Alumni Achievement Award at the Gala, joining 61 of their peers in the Alumni Hall of Honor. The honorees are:

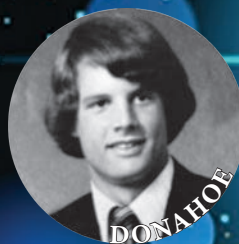
1. **Fran (Feuer) Deken, Class of 1961;** United States Bowling Congress Hall of Fame member
2. **Bruce Dern, Class of 1954;** Academy Award, Emmy, and Golden Globe nominee
3. **John Donahoe, Class of 1978;** Nike CEO
4. **Justin Niebank, Class of 1974;** Grammy winner and producer of some of the biggest selling records of all time
5. **Deborah Rhode, Class of 1970;** Author, pioneer and a leader in the fields of legal ethics, access to justice and gender discrimination
6. **Sharon (Percy) Rockefeller, Class of 1962;** Leader and policymaker in public broadcasting for more than 40 years
7. **Nancy (Lynch) Scott, Class of 1960;** Trailblazer for women in the field of investment and commercial real estate development
8. **Richard E. Wiley, Class of 1951;** Named the "most influential media and telecommunications lawyer in the United States" by the International Herald Tribune
9. **Chad Bernstein, Class of 2002;** Co-founder of Guitars Over Guns, a Miami-based nonprofit that creates safe spaces for youth to express themselves through music



DEKEN



DERN



DONAHOE



NIEBANK



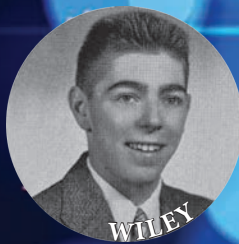
RHODE



ROCKEFELLER



SCOTT



WILEY



BERNSTEIN



For more information, scan the QR code or call the Foundation office at (847) 784-2346



Opportunity, Excellence and Tradition



## New Trier Day of Service: April 23, 2022

In April 2021, the New Trier Educational Foundation was thrilled to host more than 300 alumni, students, staff, families and community members in providing service to communities both locally and across the country in the first annual New Trier Day of Service.

Now the Foundation wants your help in making the 2022 Day of Service on Saturday, April 23, 2022 even bigger and better! Coming soon, the Foundation will list a variety of local and national service opportunities anyone can join.

In 2021, the Day of Service hosted more than 15 projects, from clearing buckthorn in Winnetka to supporting a food bank in Florida. Student groups also got involved, with projects that included collecting used electronics for the BinaryHeart club to repair and donate to students in need and making hygiene kits for the homeless.

If you would like to captain a project or want more information, please scan the QR code or call the Foundation office at (847) 784-2346.





To commit minds to inquiry, hearts to compassion,  
and lives to the service of humanity.

**District-Wide Service:**

**217,382 meals**

were donated to the Chicago Food Depository after Members of Tri-Ship, New Trier's oldest service club, collected **15,479** pounds of food and **\$68,161.81** in online donations through its annual canned food drive. Tri-Ship also sold out during its annual Holiday Tree Sale for scholarships—twice!

**74 families**

were supported by groups of staff and students who donated items through New Trier's annual holiday partnership with Northwestern University Settlement House (NUSH). Social Service Boards at both campuses also worked together to provide winter coats, boots, and gear to Chicago children and families.

**Community-Wide Clinics:**

After opening a successful pilot vaccination site on February 24, 2021, the District was able to continue serving the greater community by hosting...

**291 Vaccine clinics,**  
and distributing approximately  
**22,700** doses  
of the COVID-19 vaccine.

The District also hosted  
**1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10**  
**blood drives**  
to help offset the blood shortage  
caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.



Volunteers check people in at January 12 booster clinic.



Students load truck with gifts for families through NUSH partnership.

## New Trier Launches Student-Run One Stop Trev Shop

New Trier launched a new on-site store in April 2021 that offers students hands-on, real-world employment opportunities while serving as a one-stop shop for Trevian gear.

The One Stop Trev Shop serves as an authentic center for extended learning, providing students with the chance to develop employability and entrepreneurial skills. Profits earned from the shop are reinvested into the store, which is located in room 463 at New Trier High School's Winnetka Campus and is open during school hours. The shop also has a website for online sales at: [nthsonestop.square.site](http://nthsonestop.square.site)

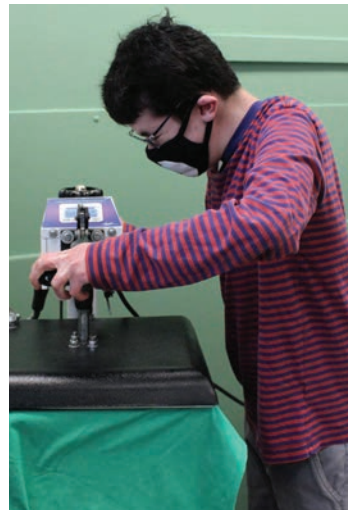
Career Services Coordinator Melissa Duffy says One Stop Trev Shop hopes to continue developing community partnerships and more collaborations with a variety of classes, activities, and New Trier students to expand the store's inventory into a very "student-driven and creative space." In October, the shop collaborated with New Trier's Green Team to host a PINK OUT game for breast cancer awareness. After selling all 500 t-shirts, they were able to donate \$1,000 to the Northwestern

Lake Forest Oncology Program, which was used to provide transportation for patients to their cancer treatments, massages, and cold cap therapy to help patients keep their hair during chemotherapy.

In addition to retail space, One Stop Trev Shop also houses the 266 Designs production studio, where students produce the majority of custom apparel and drinkware in-house. 266 Designs is a classroom business based out of the New Trier Transition Services program that enables students ages 18-21 to practice a variety of life, social, and job skills by taking orders, making and

folding items, creating invoices, making deliveries, and more. 266 Designs was established in 2013 with support from the New Trier Educational Foundation.

Keep up with the One Stop Trev Shop on Instagram by following @tonestoptrevshop, or scan the QR code to browse the online store today!



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# Investing in Our Students:

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

Throughout the 2020-21 school year, the District focused on providing a safe educational environment as we delivered our robust academic, student services, and extracurricular program for our students. The District's budget is largely funded by local property tax dollars and supported education during a hybrid format for much of the 2020-2021 school year, with a mix of in-person and remote instruction. New Trier is proud to continue our history of strong fiscal management, investing your tax dollars to support our students and the community.

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 18th 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 maintain expense growth in line with District revenues to avoid deficit spending or operating referenda. The District was able to realize a larger than anticipated operating surplus totaling \$6.8 million, which allows the District to continue to maintain the highest possible bond rating and to invest in our facilities.

### Your Property Tax Dollar

Property taxes accounted for 90% of the District's \$117M operating revenues during the 2020-2021 school year and are a stable revenue source.

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

On a **\$15,000** property tax payment, **\$3,900** goes directly to New Trier



### Continued Strong Financial Management During COVID-19

The District has responsibly managed its finances during the COVID pandemic, by aligning them to support the safety of students and staff through the purchase of PPE, enhanced cleaning, and changes to ventilation systems. The District has also invested in resources to enhance student learning, such as assessment tools to identify areas of growth and staff to address potential student learning loss. The District applied for and received federal grants for many of these expenses.

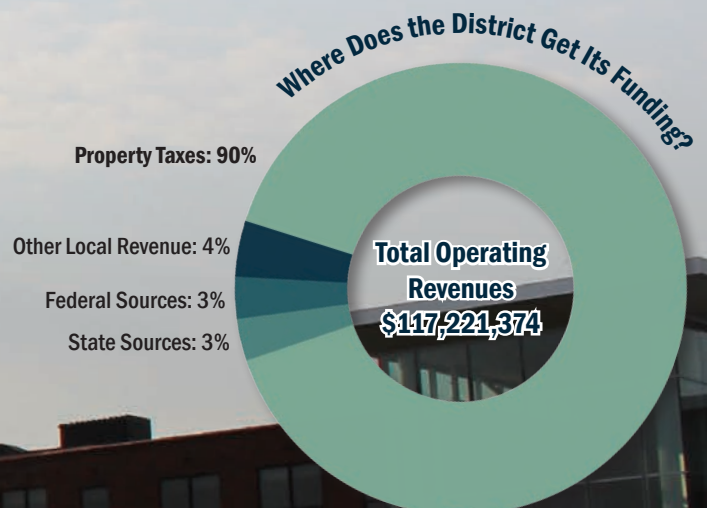
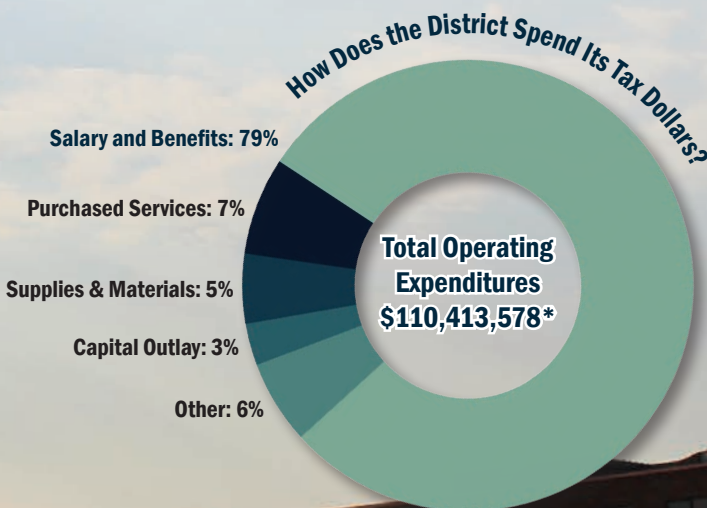
# Transforming Our Campuses to Meet Modern Educational, Safety, and Environmental Standards

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 for the annual budget, and debt from the Debt Service Extension Base, which is a tax-capped funding mechanism in the annual tax levy.

During the summer of 2021, the District invested in its second set of improvements under this plan, completing the renovation of the 3rd floor of the antiquated North (1932) and Tower (1954) Buildings at the Winnetka Campus, modernizing 45,000 sq ft of space that includes classrooms, hallways, and mechanical systems so that these spaces can best serve the needs of students this year and in the future, and have the same functionality and appearance

as the addition on the west side of the campus. Northfield Campus classrooms added new furniture and technology in summer 2021, and several roof and mechanical upgrades were completed at both campuses. Other improvements include security and mechanical upgrades at both campuses.

Even with these improvements, significant work remains in the 15-Year Plan at both campuses. Over 100,000 sq ft of space remains to be remodeled at the Winnetka Campus in the North and Tower Buildings. Thousands of our students continue to use over 20 antiquated, small classrooms built 65 to 90 years ago that do not meet modern standards. An additional 20 science labs need to be renovated at the campus, as well as other important instructional spaces and extracurricular spaces, such as our main pool, built in the 1930s. Improvements must also be made to best serve our students with special needs. The District will continue to work to align our resources to support this work.



\*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.

## Top 5 Budget Takeaways

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

# NEW TRIER

TOWNSHIP  
HIGH SCHOOL  
DISTRICT 203

385 Winnetka Avenue  
Winnetka, IL 60093-4295



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# NTX NEW TRIER EXTENSION

## 2021 by the numbers...

Numbers of enrollments:

**2,344**

Top 5 most popular class subjects:

**Rowing  
Art**

**Tai Chi & Qigong  
French  
Italian**

Number of Zoom sessions held:

**1,636**

Number of class offerings held:

**256**

Number of in-person sessions held:

**1,171**

The community education program of New Trier Township High School District 203 is open to both residents and non-residents. Visit [newtrier.k12.il.us/newtrierextension](https://newtrier.k12.il.us/newtrierextension) or scan the QR code below to learn more about the program and browse the most recent digital catalog.

