

Duluth Public Schools

Committee of the Whole

Supporting Every Student: Accountability

October 6, 2026

OUR CORE VALUES

Learning



Excellence



Equity



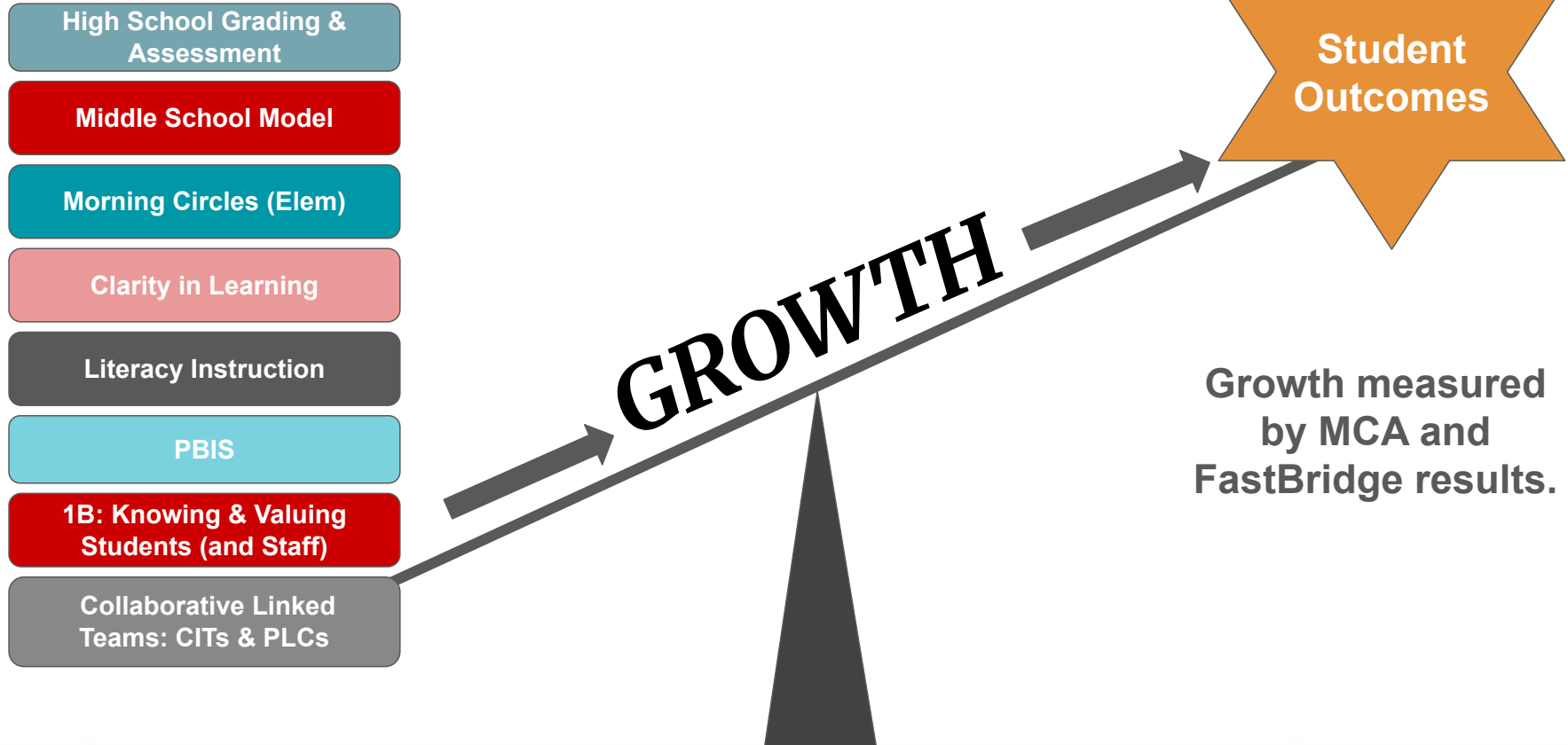
Collaboration



Belonging



Last year 2020/2021, we shared that adjustments in adult behaviors (choices, actions, decisions) in priority areas would result in better students outcomes.



Highlight: Elementary Literacy



- ❖ Heggerty: 4 yrs
- ❖ UFLI: 3 yrs
- ❖ LETRS: 2.5 yrs
- ❖ 2020 MN ELA Standards: 1 yr
- ❖ Literacy Frameworks: 3 yrs
- ❖ Functional Phonics & Morphology: 2 yrs
- ❖ Teacher Clarity: 3 yrs
- ❖ Assessment
- ❖ Focused & Collaborative Professional Development

STATE ASSESSMENT

Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCAs)



READING PERFORMANCE DATA



2026 Reading *MCA IV

Background Information:

- Reading MCA IV assesses 2020 English Language Arts Academic Standards implementation at the expected level of instructional rigor for grades 3rd-8th, 10th.
- Spring 2026: First assessment of new ELA standards; MCA IV Reading; thus baseline year for data
- No comparison can be made between 2026 MCA IV Reading scores with any prior year as they measure different standards (was 2010 version; now 2020)
- Duluth's only comparison this year will be with Minnesota performance on average or other MN school districts or schools
- ***Data Includes:** all student tested in the category and all accountability assessments (MCA/MTAS/ALTMCA)



2026 Reading *MCA IV: By Grade & Overall

2026 MCA IV Reading: Duluth Compared to MN			
Grade	Duluth	MN	Results: Duluth Compared to MN
	% Meets + Advanced	% Meets + Advanced	
3rd	45.9%	46.8%	-0.9%
4th	56.2%	48.8%	7.4% ★
5th	62.4%	54.5%	7.9% ★
6th	62.1%	53.4%	8.7% ★
7th	47.9%	43.5%	4.4% ★
8th	54.5%	50.0%	4.5% ★
10th	44.0%	42.5%	1.5% ★
Overall	54.7%	48.6%	6.1% ★

Overall, Duluth outperformed MN on the new Reading MCA IV Assessment

7 out of 8 tested grades are above the state average in Reading

*All accountability assessments (MCA/MTAS/ALTMCA)

2026 Reading *MCA IV: By Student & Comparison Groups

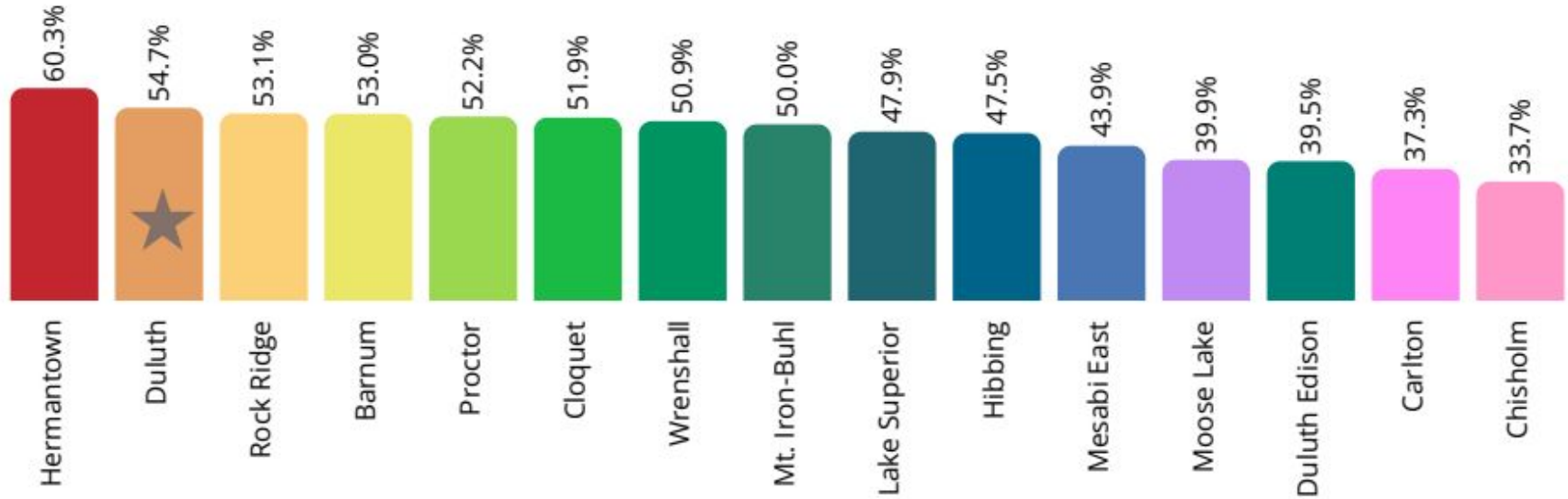
2026 MCA IV Reading: Student Groups Duluth Compared to MN				
State Race / Ethnicity	Duluth		MN	Results: Duluth Compared to MN
	# Tested	% Meets + Advanced	% Meets + Advanced	
American Indian	334	36.5%	31.8%	4.7% ★
Asian	40	77.5%	43.4%	34.1% ★
Hispanic or Latino	138	52.9%	28.6%	24.3% ★
Black or African Am	181	22.1%	29.8%	-7.7%
Two or More Races	241	45.2%	49.6%	-4.4%
White	3,103	59.1%	57.7%	1.4% ★

2026 MCA IV Reading: Comparison Groups Duluth Compared to MN				
Comparison Groups	Duluth		MN	Results: Duluth Compared to MN
	# Tested	% Meets + Advanced	% Meets + Advanced	
Special Education	796	26.5%	25.5%	1.0% ★
Not Special Education	3,248	61.6%	53.4%	8.2% ★
Free or Reduced Meals	1,482	37.0%	31.6%	5.4% ★
Not Free/Reduced Meals	2,562	64.9%	59.4%	5.5% ★
Males	1,084	53.0%	45.8%	7.2% ★
Females	1,128	56.4%	51.4%	5.0% ★

*All accountability assessments (MCA/MTAS/ALTMCA)

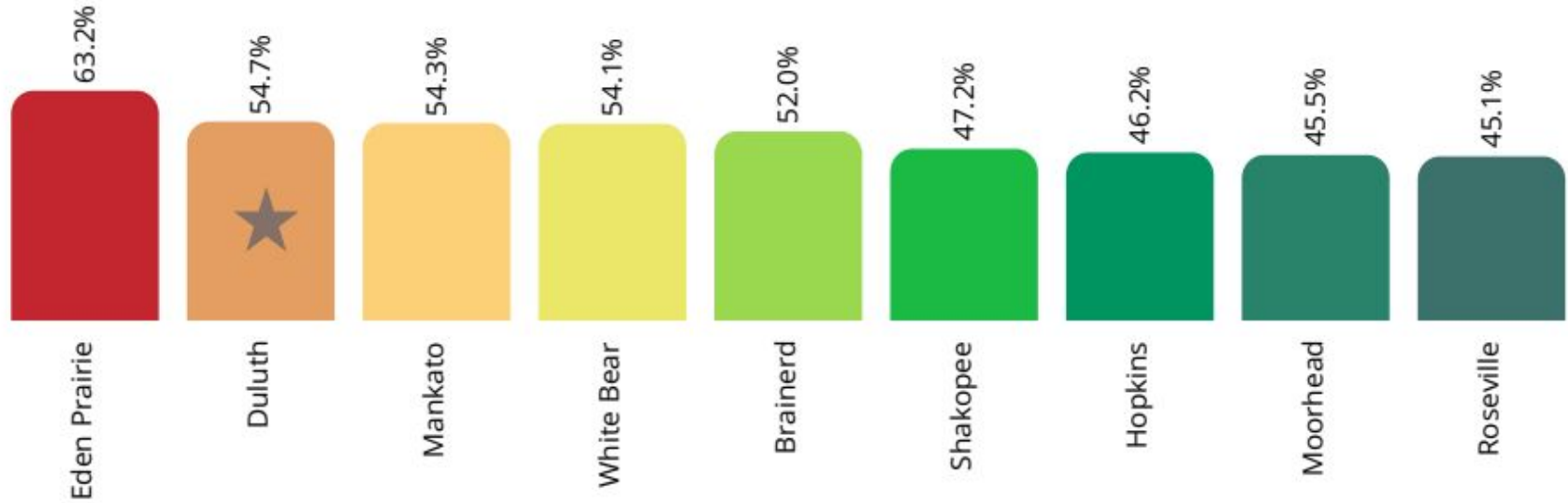
2026 Reading MCA IV

Regional District Comparison



2026 Reading MCA IV

Similar Sized District Comparison



MATH PERFORMANCE DATA



2026 Math *MCA III

Background Information:

- Math MCA III assesses 2007 MN Math Academic Standards implementation at the expected level of instructional rigor for grades 3rd-8th, 11th.
- Spring 2027: Last testing on 2007 MN Math Academic Standards
- Spring 2028: First assessment on implementation of the new 2022 MN Math Academic Standards; Math MCA IV
- For spring 2026 data, comparisons can be made to prior years as well as with MN performance on average or other MN school districts/schools
- ***Data Includes:** all student tested in the category and all accountability assessments (MCA/MTAS/ALTMCA)



2026 Math *MCA III: By Grade & Overall

2026 MCA III Math: Duluth Compared to MN					
Grade	Duluth		Results: 2025 vs 2026	MN	Results: Duluth Compared to MN
	% Meets + Advanced			% Meets + Advanced	
	2025	2026		202t6	
3rd	59.1%	56.8%	-2.3%	57.9%	-1.1%
4th	57.1%	60.9%	3.8%★	55.2%	5.7%★
5th	45.4%	44.3%	-1.1%	41.9%	2.4%★
6th	37.2%	31.5%	-5.7%	39.5%	-8.0%
7th	43.1%	41.3%	-1.8%	40.3%	1.0%★
8th	37.5%	39.8%	2.3%★	42.3%	-2.5%
10th	33.7%	38.7%	5.0%★	35.3%	3.4%★
Overall	45.1%	44.9%	-0.2%	44.9%	0.0%

Growth: 2025 to 2026

4th, 8th, & 10th
grades made
gains on Math
MCA III from
2025 to 2026

Compared to MN:

4th, 5th, 7th, &
10th grades
outperformed the
state on average
in Math...

*All accountability assessments
(MCA/MTAS/ALTMCA)

2026 Math *MCA III: Student & Comparison Groups

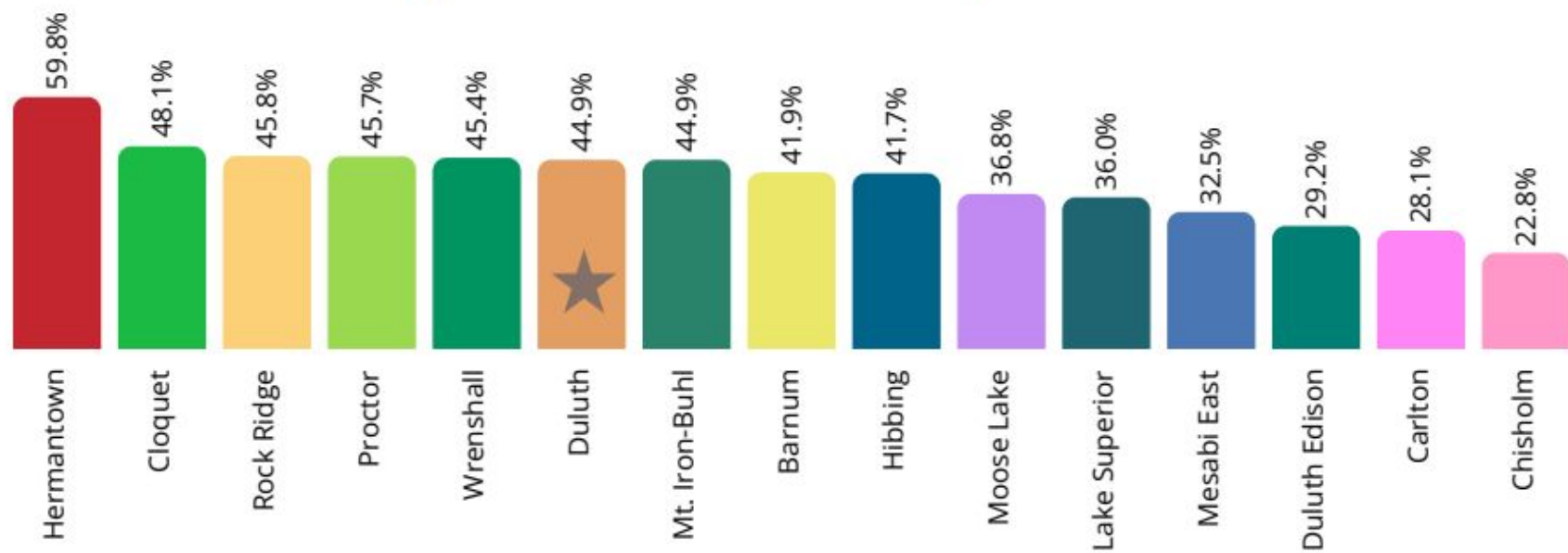
2026 Math MCA III: Student Groups Duluth Compared to MN				
State Race / Ethnicity	Duluth		MN	Results: Duluth Compared to MN
	# Tested	% Meets + Advanced	% Meets + Advanced	
American Indian	333	36.5%	24.3%	12.2% 
Asian	41	87.8%	42.9%	44.9% 
Hispanic or Latino	143	41.3%	23.4%	17.9% 
Black or African Am	185	10.3%	22.2%	-11.9%
Two or More Races	233	33.9%	43.8%	-9.9%
White	3,009	50.9%	55.1%	-4.2%

2026 Math MCA III: Comparison Groups Duluth Compared to MN				
Comparison Groups	Duluth		MN	Results: Duluth Compared to MN
	# Tested	% Meets + Advanced	% Meets + Advanced	
Special Education	806	21.6%	24.0%	-2.4%
Not Special Education	3,145	50.9%	49.4%	1.5% 
Free or Reduced Meals	1,454	25.4%	26.1%	-0.7%
Not Free/Reduced Meals	2,497	56.3%	56.9%	-0.6%
Males	2,023	47.8%	48.0%	-0.2%
Females	1,928	42.0%	41.7%	0.3% 

*All accountability assessments (MCA/MTAS/ALTMCA)

2026 Math MCA III

Regional District Comparison



2026 Math MCA III

Similar Sized District Comparison



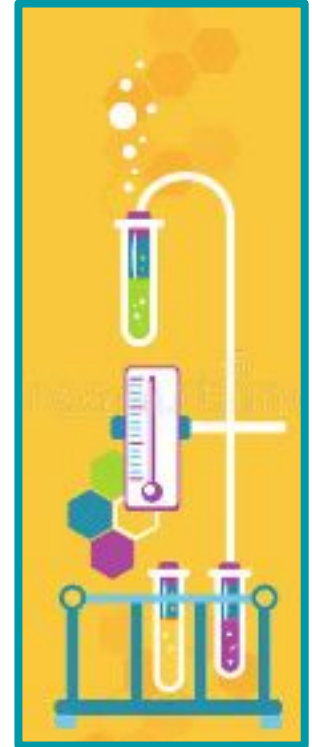
SCIENCE PERFORMANCE DATA



2026 Science *MCA IV

Background Information:

- Science MCA IV assesses 2019 MN Science Academic Standards for grades 5, 8, and one time in HS (usually 10th grade).
- Spring 2026: Second assessment on the 2019 Science Standards.
- For spring 2026 data, comparisons can be made to spring 2025 results only. In addition, comparisons can be made to MN performance on average or other MN school districts/schools
- ***Data Includes:** all student tested in the category and all accountability assessments (MCA/MTAS/ALTMCA)



2026 Science *MCA IV: By Grade & Overall

2026 Science MCA IV: Duluth Compared to MN						
Grade	Duluth		Results: 2025 vs 2026	MN	Results: Duluth Compared to MN	
	% Meets + Advanced			% Meets + Advanced		
	2025	2026		2026		
5th	34.4%	36.5%	2.1% 	25.9%	10.6% 	
8th	21.2%	20.9%	-0.3% 	16.7%	4.2% 	
HS	39.5%	43.0%	3.5% 	35.0%	8.0% 	
Overall	31.9%	33.6%	1.7% 	25.5%	8.1% 	

**Growth:
2025 to
2026**

5th and HS
made
gains on
MCA
Science
from 2025
to 2026

**Compared
to MN:**

Every grade
and overall,
Duluth
outperforms
MN state on
average in
Science.

Growth: 2025 to 2026

5th and HS made gains on MCA Science from 2025 to 2026

*All accountability assessments (MCA/MTAS/ALTMCA)

2026 Science *MCA IV: Student & Comparison Groups

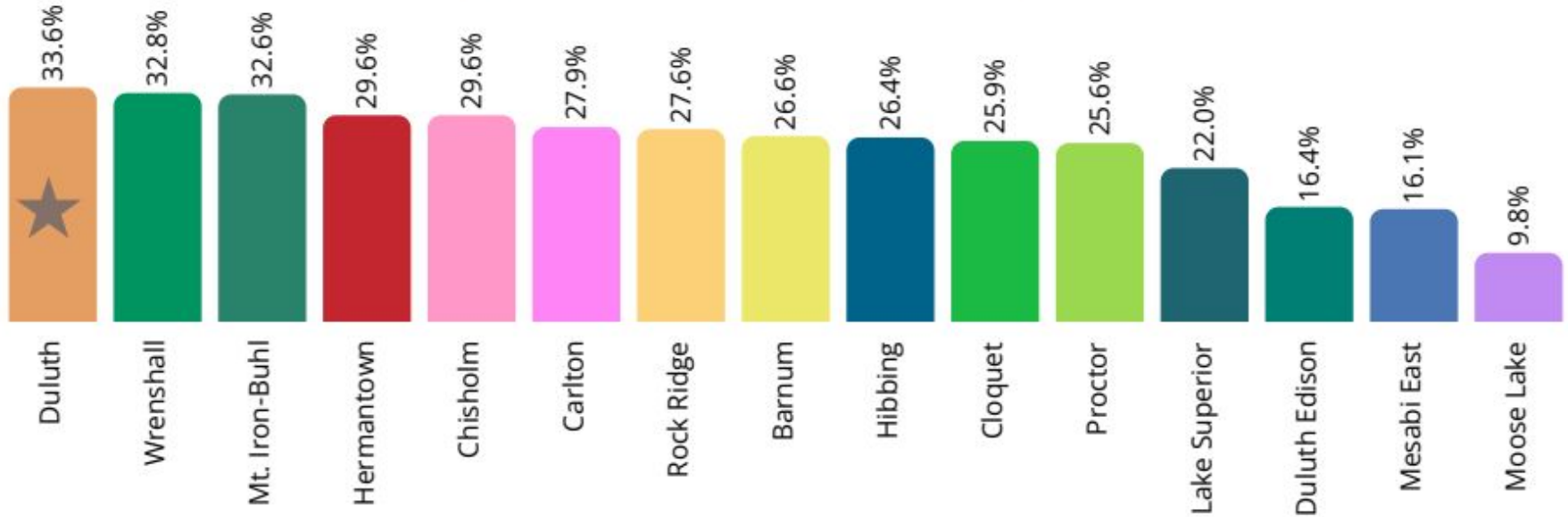
2026 Science MCA IV: Student Groups Duluth Compared to MN				
State Race / Ethnicity	Duluth		MN	Results: Duluth Compared to MN
	# Tested	% Meets + Advanced	% Meets + Advanced	
American Indian	126	15.1%	14.3%	0.8% 👍
Asian	25	64.0%	26.2%	37.8% ★
Hispanic or Latino	46	26.1%	12.1%	14.0% ★
Black or African Am	63	6.3%	10.2%	-3.9%
Two or More Races	109	30.3%	26.3%	4.0% ★
White	1,323	36.6%	31.4%	5.2% ★

2026 Science MCA IV: Comparison Groups Duluth Compared to MN				
Comparison Groups	Duluth		MN	Results: Duluth Compared to MN
	# Tested	% Meets + Advanced	% Meets + Advanced	
Special Education	290	17.6%	14.7%	2.9% ★
Not Special Education	1,405	36.9%	27.6%	9.3% ★
Free or Reduced Meals	591	17.9%	13.4%	4.5% ★
Not Free/Reduced Meals	1,104	41.9%	32.8%	9.1% ★
Males	888	33.2%	26.3%	6.9% ★
Females	807	34.0%	24.7%	9.3% ★

*All accountability assessments (MCA/MTAS/ALTMCA)

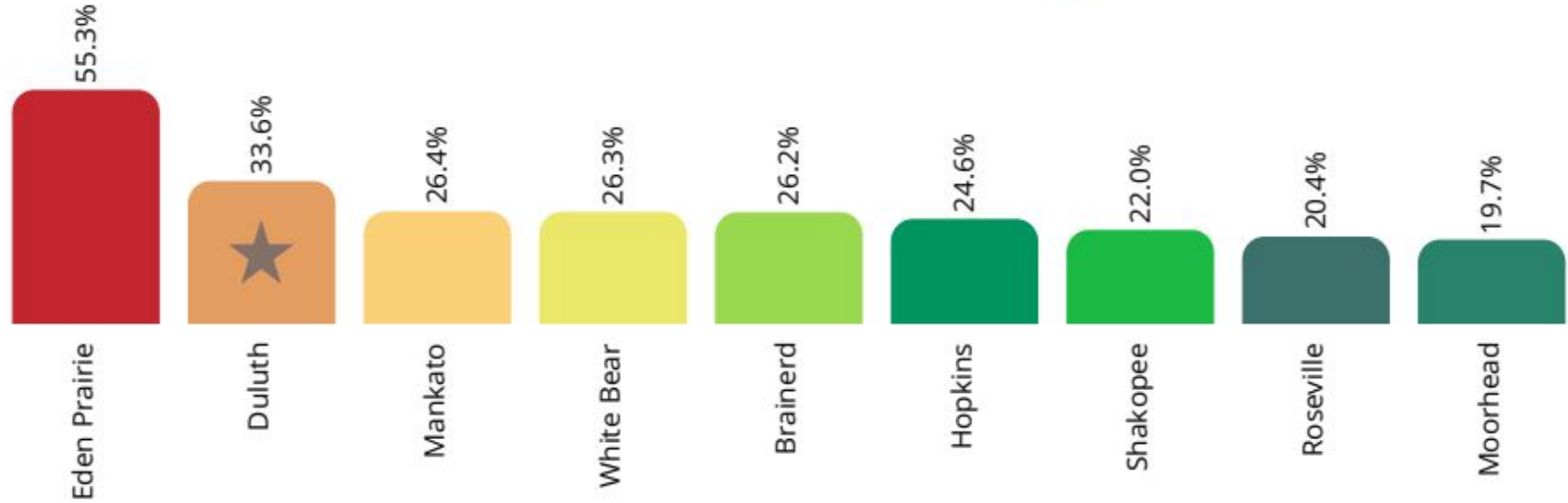
2026 Science MCA IV

Regional District Comparison



2026 Science MCA IV

Similar Sized District Comparison



LOCAL ASSESSMENT DATA



FastBridge: Kindergarten

Letter Sound Fluency (SPM)			
Percent of Kindergarten Meeting Expected Benchmark			
Assessment Year	Fall	Spring	Increase/ Decrease
2021-2022	38.9%	36.0%	-2.9%
2022-2023	34.6%	44.8%	10.2%
2023-2024	47.9%	54.3%	6.4%
2024-2025	46.5%	52.3%	5.8%
2025-2026	44.3%	58.8%	14.5%

FastBridge earlyMath: Composite			
Percent of Kindergarten Meeting Expected Benchmark			
Assessment Year	Fall	Spring	Increase/ Decrease
2021-2022	65.9%	67.9%	2.0%
2022-2023	65.5%	66.6%	1.1%
2023-2024	73.2%	67.0%	-6.2%
2024-2025	72.1%	68.8%	-3.3%
2025-2026	73.5%	67.6%	-5.9%



Compared to last 5 years, a higher percent of kinders (58.8%) reached expected benchmarks in spring 2026 in reading with the highest percentage of growth + 14.5%

FastBridge: 1st Grade

FastBridge earlyReading: Composite			
Percent of 1st G Meeting Expected Benchmark			
Assessment Year	Fall	Spring	Increase/ Decrease
2021-2022	29.5%	45.8%	16.3%
2022-2023	36.6%	53.6%	17.0%
2023-2024	34.2%	52.2%	18.0%
2024-2025	38.4%	47.9%	9.5%
2025-2026	39.6%	50.2%	10.6%

FastBridge earlyMath: Composite			
Percent of 1st G Meeting Expected Benchmark			
Assessment Year	Fall	Spring	Increase/ Decrease
2021-2022	63.1%	65.0%	1.9%
2022-2023	66.5%	71.0%	4.5%
2023-2024	69.0%	67.2%	-1.8%
2024-2025	69.9%	62.2%	-7.7%
2025-2026	68.9%	65.9%	-3.0%



Fall 2025, more students (39.6%) entered 1st grade reaching benchmark in reading.
Spring 2026, 10.6% more students met benchmark expectations in reading.

FastBridge: 2nd Grade

FastBridge aReading: Composite

Percent of 2nd G Meeting Expected Benchmark

Assessment Year	Fall	Spring	Increase/ Decrease
2021-2022	43.5%	56.2%	12.7%
2022-2023	47.6%	57.0%	9.4%
2023-2024	51.5%	58.0%	6.5%
2024-2025	54.6%	58.5%	3.9%
2025-2026	53.6%	60.7%	7.1%



FastBridge aMath: Composite

Percent of 2nd G Meeting Expected Benchmark

Assessment Year	Fall	Spring	Increase/ Decrease
2021-2022	59.2%	61.7%	2.5%
2022-2023	62.8%	63.3%	0.5%
2023-2024	62.1%	64.2%	2.1%
2024-2025	63.2%	61.5%	-1.7%
2025-2026	66.6%	67.0%	0.4%



As compared to the last 5 years, a higher percentage of students reached expected benchmarks in spring 2026 in both reading (60.7%) and math (67%)



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