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# **Duluth**

## **Public Schools**

*Every Student. Every Day.*

# Superintendent's Report

*May 20, 2025*



## OUR MISSION

Every student, every day will be empowered with learning opportunities for growth, creativity and curiosity, in preparation for their future in a global community.

## OUR VISION

Duluth Public Schools provides an academically engaging, safe and inclusive environment with high expectations and responsible use of resources.

## OUR CORE VALUES

### Learning



Developing a love of learning through life-long inquiry.

### Excellence



Having high standards for all through accountability, integrity and authenticity.

### Equity



Creating conditions of justice, fairness and inclusion so all students have access to the opportunities to learn and develop to their fullest potential.

### Collaboration



Working in partnership with staff, families, students and community.

### Belonging



Providing a welcoming and accessible environment where everyone feels safe, seen and heard.

# Topics

- Student Representative Reports
  - My'Aiana Taylor - ALC
  - Latasaija Garner - Denfeld
  - Kate Dean - East
- Graduation Rates
- Legislative Updates
- Other

# **2024 Graduation Rates**

## 2024: Duluth Public Schools by School / Program

School / Program	4 Year Graduation Rate				
	2023	2024			2023 vs 2024
	% Graduated	Total Students	# Graduated	% Graduated	- / +
Duluth Area Learning Center	34.1%	19	13	68.4%	34.3%
AEO	79.5%	27	24	88.9%	9.4%
ALC Independent Study	33.6%	133	50	37.6%	4.0%
Denfeld	74.4%	247	190	76.9%	2.5%
East	94.3%	370	353	95.4%	1.1%

Data Above = Only for schools or programs reported in total students eligible to graduate within 4 years

Data Above = Graduation data spring 2024; reporting year 2025

## 2024: Duluth Public Schools by Students Groups

### 4 Year Graduation Rate

Group	23	24	- / +
<b>All Students</b> (n=796)	74.9%	<b>79.1%</b>	4.2%
<b>2 or More Races</b> (n=40)	65.1%	<b>77.5%</b>	12.4%
<b>Hispanic</b> (n=26)	66.7%	<b>76.9%</b>	10.2%
<b>Black</b> (n=46)	45.2%	<b>54.3%</b>	9.1%
<b>American Indian</b> (n=66)	48.3%	<b>56.1%</b>	7.8%
<b>White</b> (n=606)	80.1%	<b>83.7%</b>	3.6%
<b>Asian</b> (n=11)	---	<b>90.9%</b>	---

Data Above = Graduation data spring 2024; reporting year 2025

## 2024: Duluth Public Schools by Comparison Groups

### Qualified Compared to Not-Qualified: Economic & Disability Status

Student Group	Economic Status						Disability Status					
	Free/Reduced Meals			Not-Free/Reduced Meals			Special Education			Not-Special Education		
	23	24	- / +	23	24	- / +	23	24	- / +	23	24	- / +
<b>All</b> (n=796)	54.4	64.7	10.3	91	92.7	1.7	52.7	58	5.3	79.7	84.1	4.4
<b>White</b> (n=606)	60.2	68.4	8.2	91.3	93.9	2.6	56.6	61.3	4.7	84	87.7	3.7
<b>Black</b> (n=46)	34.6	55	20.4	---	---	---	36.4	50	13.6	50	57.1	7.1
<b>American Indian</b> (n=66)	39.1	45.3	6.2	83.3	100	16.7	40	45	5	52.6	60.9	8.3
<b>2 or More</b> (n=40)	56.3	72.4	16.1	90.9	90.9	0	---	---	---	69.4	87.1	17.7
<b>Hispanic</b> (n=26)	54.5	85.7	31.2	80	66.7	-13.3	---	80	---	64.3	75	10.7
<b>Asian</b> (n=11)	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	90.9	---

Data Above = Graduation data spring 2024; reporting year 2025

--- = < 10 Students

n = Number of Students Eligible



## 2024: Duluth Public Schools by Comparison Groups

### Qualified Compared to Not-Qualified: Economic Status

Student Group	Economic Status					
	Free/Reduced Meals			Not - Free/Reduced Meals		
	23	24	- / +	23	24	- / +
<b>All</b> (n=796)	54.4	64.7	10.3	91	92.7	1.7
<b>White</b> (n=606)	60.2	68.4	8.2	91.3	93.9	2.6
<b>Black</b> (n=46)	34.6	55	20.4	---	---	---
<b>American Indian</b> (n=66)	39.1	45.3	6.2	83.3	100	16.7
<b>2 or More</b> (n=40)	56.3	72.4	16.1	90.9	90.9	0
<b>Hispanic</b> (n=26)	54.5	85.7	31.2	80	66.7	-13.3
<b>Asian</b> (n=11)	---	---	---	---	---	---

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Qualified Compared to Not-Qualified: Disability Status						
Student Group	Disability Status					
	Special Education			Not - Special Education		
	23	24	- / +	23	24	- / +
<b>All</b> (n=796)	52.7	58	5.3	79.7	84.1	4.4
<b>White</b> (n=606)	56.6	61.3	4.7	84	87.7	3.7
<b>Black</b> (n=46)	36.4	50	13.6	50	57.1	7.1
<b>American Indian</b> (n=66)	40	45	5	52.6	60.9	8.3
<b>2 or More</b> (n=40)	---	---	---	69.4	87.1	17.7
<b>Hispanic</b> (n=26)	---	80	---	64.3	75	10.7
<b>Asian</b> (n=11)	---	---	---	---	90.9	---

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## 2024: Duluth Public Schools by Status

### 4 Year Graduation Rate

Total Students Eligible to Graduate within 4 Yrs =		796
Graduation Status	# Students by Status	% by Status
Graduate	630	79.1%
Continuing	78	9.8%
Dropout	49	6.2%
Unknown	39	4.9%

*Data Above = Graduation data spring 2024; reporting year 2025*

# Graduation Status Definition

## Graduate

- Graduates within 4 years of entering 9th grade
- Qualifies as graduated within 4 years if fulfills requirements during that summer and is entered into MARSS as graduate by September 15th submission

## Continuing

- Does not graduate within 4 years, but continues enrollment working way towards a 5, 6, or 7 year graduation

## Dropout

- Officially drops from school during their 4 year HS cohort
- Example reasons: social, financial, aged out, marriage, pregnancy
- Dropout status counted at whichever HS attended for most time

## Unknown

- No enrollment found; leaves HS, but MARSS number not enroll in any MN school

# Legislative Updates

- A special legislative session is required to finalize the state budget for the next two years.
- Several key budget bills were not passed during the regular session, including Education. The Omnibus Education Policy Bill also needs approval.
- Working groups, composed of former conference committee members (or newly appointed for Education and Tax bills), have been established to resolve differences in the remaining bills and have a deadline of 5 p.m. Wednesday to reach agreements.
- Governor Walz will call the special session once all budget agreements are reached, potentially by the end of this week, but more likely next week.

# Legislative Updates

The Senate passed the Omnibus Pension Bill with a 55-12 vote, and the House passed it with a 133-1 vote.

The bill enhances benefits for the Teachers Retirement Fund. Key provisions of the bill include:

- Lowering the age for enhanced early retirement from 62 to 60, and reducing the percentage reduction from 6% to 5%.
- Lowering the age for early retirement reduction from 62 to 60.
- Increasing employer contributions to TRA, with the state covering a portion of the cost.

# Questions