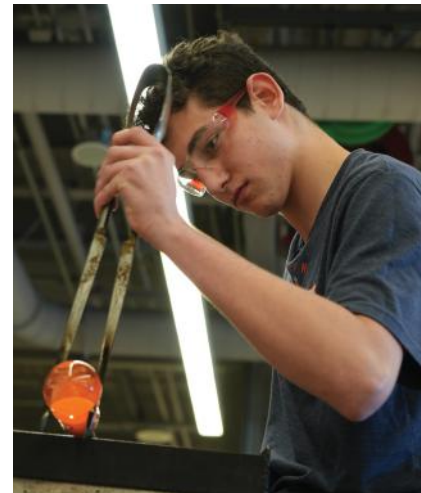
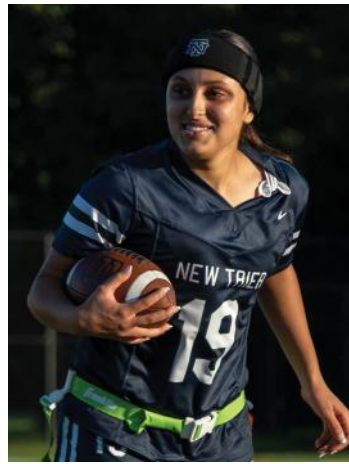


# 2025



## NEW TRIER HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 203 ANNUAL REPORT



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

In today's era of rapid technological advancement, we often find ourselves asking what skills will truly stand the test of time. A few years ago, a schoolwide committee tasked with answering this perplexing question identified the Characteristics of a New Trier Graduate, a unique set of truly human competencies that technology cannot replace and that we want each student to build during their four years of high school. Our goal is to help students become: **Resilient Healthy Individuals; Engaged Compassionate Global Citizens; Effective Courageous Communicators; Creative Critical Thinkers; and Innovative Collaborative Problem Solvers.**

By weaving these durable skills into our rich and rigorous curriculum, we ensure that New Trier students not only gain deep subject-matter expertise but also learn how to apply that knowledge with purpose and agility, empowering our graduates to confidently navigate an ambiguous world.

Each year, the District's strategic goals include focused efforts to integrate the Characteristics both in and out of the classroom, and this Annual Report demonstrates many of the ways New Trier already supports students on their "journeys of becoming." In these pages, we celebrate the Class of 2025, whose commitment to critical thinking, problem-solving, compassion, and communication is demonstrated through their accomplishments in academics, extracurriculars, and service.

We also see these traits reflected in our broader New Trier family. This March, we are proud to induct seven distinguished alumni into the New Trier Alumni Hall of Honor. Their lives and diverse accomplishments powerfully reflect the Characteristics in action.

Our commitment to supporting Resilient Healthy Individuals is also physically evident in the recent transformation of the athletic and community fields at our Northfield Campus. In partnership with a generous private donor, this project is part of the District's thoughtful, long-term facilities planning that will serve our students and the community for generations to come.

None of this work happens in isolation. On behalf of the Board of Education, I thank our students, families, staff, alumni, and community members for your engaged partnership as we continue to provide the strong academic foundation upon which our students can develop the enduring characteristics that equip them to pursue lives of inquiry, compassion, and service.

Sincerely,

Jean Hahn, *Board President*

## A Letter from the District 203 Superintendent

When we launched a bold strategic plan in 2019 outlining our District's priorities and core values, we looked a decade into the future, thinking about the essential skills and dispositions that both our current and future students would need to thrive in a rapidly changing world.

We named the plan New Trier 2030, focusing our lens on the Class of 2030, then in first grade. In August, those same students will be New Trier freshmen.

Guided by New Trier 2030, we have been preparing for those incoming freshmen and classes beyond. I'm happy to share that we have made much progress toward our mission "to develop in every graduate the skills and dispositions to lead meaningful, compassionate, and impactful lives." While planning for the future, I am also proud that New Trier continues to excel in academics, athletics, arts, and activities. This Annual Report gives you a glimpse into that progress.

Our Graduating Class Teams, for example, connect to our mission by providing a dedicated team of administrators, adviser chairs, and student services liaisons who get to know and support students and their families, following them all four years of high school. Since the teams began in 2023, they have built on the longstanding home-school connection provided by the adviser program. Look inside to read about how these teams are providing deep and meaningful service opportunities for each graduating class.

We also are expanding opportunities for students to participate in hands-on learning and explore their interests outside of the classroom. An existing model that is helping us think creatively about that work is our Senior Project program, which also is featured in this report.

I am excited to welcome the Class of 2030 next year into a school that continues to evolve to meet students' needs while still respecting the traditions and core values that have guided New Trier since its founding in 1901. I hope you will join me in following along on their journey.

Sincerely,

Dr. Peter W. Tragos, *Superintendent*

## District 203 Board of Education

**Jean  
Hahn**

Board President  
847.784.6108  
hahnj@nth.net



**Sally  
Tomlinson**

Board Vice President  
847.446.7467  
tomlinss@nth.net



**Kimberly  
Alcantara**

Board Member  
847.920.9183  
alcantak@nth.net



**Avik  
Das**

Board Member  
312.543.9942  
dasa@nth.net



**Joo Serk  
Lee**

Board Member  
847.784.6108  
leejo@nth.net



**Courtney  
McDonough**

Board Member  
847.784.6108  
mcdonouc@nth.net



**Sally  
Pofcher**

Board Member  
312.771.9807  
pofchers@nth.net





# 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 2025 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.



Scan the QR code to learn more about New Trier's strategic plan →

## 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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# From Classrooms to Championships, Class of 2025 Leads

New Trier’s Class of 2025 demonstrated their excellence in academics, athletics, and extracurriculars throughout their four years of high school, upholding New Trier’s legacy as one of the country’s top high schools.

On the state’s 11th-grade standardized assessment, the ACT, New Trier ranked first among non-selective enrollment high schools in math and science and second in English Language Arts. Students in the Class of 2025 also outperformed peers at some selective-enrollment schools, which admit students based on entrance exams and other academic criteria.

### Expanded academic opportunities

In recent years, New Trier has expanded access to higher-level coursework, and the Class of 2025 took advantage of those opportunities at record levels.

The District’s flexible level system allows students to select courses aligned with their interests, development, and learning styles, with offerings at Level 2 (college preparatory), Levels 3 and 9 (honors), and Level 4 (high honors and Advanced Placement).

Curricular updates have included revised prerequisites, the addition of Advanced Placement courses, expanded Level 9 offerings, and continued review of additional AP options. Level 9 courses, weighted at the honors level, are designed to include students who have demonstrated success across different course levels.

Nearly 75 percent of the Class of 2025 enrolled in at least one Level 4 course – the highest percentage to date – and 70 percent took at least one AP course. Most students pursued core academic coursework across multiple levels, with 92 percent taking courses at a mix of levels and 22 percent enrolling in all three. College admissions data show that students who take courses at all levels enroll at selective colleges and universities.

### Post-high school pathways

Approximately 97 percent of the Class of 2025 enrolled directly in college, attending 193 different colleges and universities.

As the college admissions process continues to grow more complex and competitive, New Trier’s Post-High School Counseling (PHSC) Department remains focused on monitoring trends and strengthening relationships with admissions offices. Last year, New Trier hosted its first Higher Education Admissions Advisory Board, welcoming admissions officers for two days of dialogue with counselors about applicant review processes and New Trier’s academic program.

### Athletic and extracurricular success

During the 2024–2025 school year, New Trier students earned five athletic state championships and five additional state trophies. The District offers one of Illinois’ most comprehensive athletic programs, sponsoring 40 sports at multiple levels and recording more than 3,000 student participations annually.

New Trier also provides one of the state’s most robust extracurricular programs. Students in fine and performing arts participate in more than 100 performances and exhibitions each year, and the school offers more than 130 clubs and organizations to support a wide range of interests.

## Notable Numbers for the Class of 2025

<b>324</b>	<b>27.9</b>	<b>4.15</b>	<b>34</b>	<b>1228</b>	<b>97%</b>
Illinois State Scholars	Composite ACT Score	(out of 5) Average AP Exam Score	National Merit Finalists	Mean SAT Score	enrolled in colleges or universities directly after H.S.

# Senior Project: A Longstanding Model of Experiential Learning at New Trier

For more than three decades, New Trier High School's Senior Project has provided a strong model for experiential learning, connecting students with real-world opportunities to explore their interests outside of the classroom.

Senior Project is an optional, four-week capstone experience open to all seniors. Piloted in 1992 with just 20 students, the program now serves more than 100 students annually and remains a cornerstone of New Trier's commitment to preparing graduates for life beyond high school.



From mid-April to mid-May, students step away from most traditional coursework to design and complete a project aligned with their interests and goals. Projects fall into four

categories – career, service, creative arts, and curricular – and function much like an internship or independent study, offering students the opportunity to explore a potential field in depth.

Community sponsors are an essential component of Senior Project. These professionals and organizations volunteer their time to mentor, supervise, and share their expertise with students.

The experience culminates in a final evaluation and the Senior Project Exhibition on May 21, where students reflect on their learning and present outcomes to peers, families, and the broader community.

The impact is lasting. Students consistently report that Senior Project helps them develop professional skills, clarify career interests, and gain new perspectives on their futures.

As New Trier continues to build experiential learning opportunities for students as part of the District's strategic plan, Senior Project is a strong example of the benefits of letting students explore their interests beyond the classroom.



## BECOME A SENIOR PROJECT COMMUNITY SPONSOR

*Help shape the future—one student at a time.*

New Trier's Senior Project depends on the generosity and expertise of community partners who are willing to mentor students during this four-week, off-campus learning experience. Community sponsors serve as guides, role models, and professional resources as students explore career paths, creative pursuits, service work, or academic interests.

Sponsoring a Senior Project student is a meaningful and manageable commitment. Sponsors provide supervision, real-world insight, and feedback, helping students build professional skills, gain confidence, and better understand what's possible beyond high school.

We welcome professionals, organizations, nonprofits, artists, entrepreneurs, and skilled tradespeople from all fields. Whether you can host a student on-site, supervise a project remotely, or collaborate in a hybrid model, your involvement makes a lasting impact.

*Interested in becoming a Community Sponsor?*

Scan the QR code to learn more and sign up, or indicate areas of interest where you'd like to support a student. A member of the Senior Project team will follow up with next steps.





*Photo information (clockwise starting top-left):* Members of the Class of 2029 pose with donations from the Tri-Ship Canned Food Drive; the Class of 2028 volunteers at The Grace Network; the Class of 2027 helps design artwork for the student lounge at Roberto Clemente Community High School through Embarc; the Class of 2026 drops off literacy kits for North Chicago elementary students; the Class of 2026 hosts a book drive for its literacy project; the Class of 2026 delivers food and personal care kits to the NCCP office.

2 3 4 5

## Graduating Class Teams, Adviser Rooms Focus on Meaningful Service Learning throughout High School

Since the launch of New Trier’s Graduating Class Teams in 2023, the Adviser Program - a unique 100-year-old community-building model in which the same group of about 25 students start their day together throughout high school guided by a faculty mentor - has expanded its commitment to meaningful service learning across all four years. As students grow, their engagement deepens, moving from learning about the value of service to actively supporting others and leading efforts that create impact.

New Trier’s service-learning framework introduces students to what service is and why it matters, builds awareness of community needs, and provides structured opportunities to partner with local organizations in thoughtful and personalized ways. Students participate in both on- and off-campus experiences, contribute to class-wide fundraising and awareness efforts, and collaborate with peers and advisers to shape service initiatives.

Across four years, students progress from understanding service, to participating in it, to ultimately leading sustained partnerships that strengthen both their class community and their connection to the broader world.

### Freshmen

Freshman year introduces students to the importance of service and community engagement. Students explore different types of service and examine how individual and collective efforts can make a meaningful difference within the school and beyond.

Throughout the year, adviser rooms participate in three service drives in partnership with Northfield Campus clubs: the Toiletry Drive with Pep Club, the Bernie’s Book Bank Drive with Girls Club, and the Canned Food Drive with Tri-Ship. Each adviser room also completes one direct service project with a local organization such as Glencoe Gardens, the Northfield Food Pantry, Bernie’s Book Bank, Cradles to Crayons, or the Northern Illinois Food Pantry.

By spring semester, the freshman class is introduced to a community organization they will partner with for the next three years, laying the foundation for sustained service and long-term community relationships.

### Sophomores

Sophomores in the Class of 2028 are partnering with The Grace Network, an organization founded and run by New Trier alumni that serves students in temporary living situations by addressing the hygiene equity gap in the Chicagoland area. This year’s goal is to provide 2,028 hygiene kits to The Grace Network, culminating in a class-wide packing event in late April.

The student-led Class of 2028 Adviser Chair Leadership Council has developed materials to help classmates better

understand the organization's mission and the impact of their work. Each of the 36 adviser rooms is responsible for raising funds to cover the cost of approximately 55 kits.

Through this partnership, sophomores deepen their understanding of sustained service while working together toward a shared, tangible goal.

### Juniors

The Class of 2027 enters its second year of partnership with Embarc, a nonprofit organization that works with Chicago Public Schools to transform education through immersive experiences. This year, the class is focused on serving with Embarc through collaborative, student-designed projects.

Each of the 38 adviser groups will be paired with a group of CPS students to identify a community need, select an organization to support, and plan and complete a service project together. New Trier students and advisers will help guide the process, ensuring the experience is meaningful for both school communities.

In addition, members of the Class of 2027 Adviser Chair Leadership Council will continue a two-year partnership with Sullivan High School. Their work this year focuses on sustaining and expanding last year's efforts by supporting the community pantry and contributing to ongoing improvements in the student wellness center.

### Seniors

The Class of 2026 is continuing its three-year partnership with North Chicago Community Partners (NCCP), an organization dedicated to strengthening communities by transforming schools into central resource hubs so every child can reach their fullest potential.

Over the past three years, students have supported multiple areas of NCCP's work. During sophomore year, the class learned about food insecurity and created and collected 2,026 care kits for the Family Care Closet at North Chicago Community High School. In junior year, the focus shifted to literacy, with adviser rooms partnering with elementary classrooms to provide books and reading materials for both home and school use, resulting in more than 750 personalized reading bags.

This year, seniors are partnering with Green Bay Early Childhood in a full-circle moment. Adviser rooms are participating in a range of projects, including creating literacy kits, serving as reading buddies, organizing a STEM-focused Spring Break Camp, and planning staff appreciation events.

# Join us for Winter Carnival!

*Fun for the whole family at New Trier's annual event*

**February 20**

**5-8:30 p.m.**

**New Trier High School**

**Winnetka Campus**



Howdy Partner! The New Trier Senior Class is bringing a country twist to its annual Winter Carnival, so saddle up and come join us for some boot scootin' fun! Each adviser room in the Class of 2026 will transform the Winnetka Campus into various carnival attractions for children. Carnival goers can expect everything from classics like Pop-a-Shot and Face Painting, to unique activity booths, such as Line Dancing and Human Bowling. Admission at the North Main Entrance (along Trevian Way) is free and activity tickets are \$1 each.

Back by popular demand and yearly sold out shows, *Liam the Magic Man* will return for a VIP experience. The VIP experience includes a 30-minute magic show before the carnival starts! To purchase the VIP Magic Show experience (\$20 per family), scan the QR code.



All proceeds benefit the 2026 Senior Class Service Project, North Chicago Community Partners, whose mission is to strengthen communities by transforming schools into central resource hubs so every child has what they need to reach their fullest potential.



# New Trier to Induct 7 Distinguished Graduates into Alumni Hall of Honor

Every other year, New Trier High School inducts a new class of honorees into its Alumni Hall of Honor, celebrating the impact New Trier graduates have on their communities, their industry, and the world.

It is never an easy task for the Alumni Achievement Awards Selection Committee to narrow down hundreds of nominations to a few honorees each cycle - a testament to how many New Trier graduates are doing extraordinary, impactful work.

This year's class of honorees will receive their awards at the New Trier Educational Foundation's Gala, where attendees can hear from these amazing alumni while enjoying dinner, drinks, and entertainment. They will also share their inspirational stories with students during school visits.

The Class of 2026 Alumni Hall of Honor inductees are:



## Keating Crown, Class of 1996

Keating Crown is Managing Principal of Sterling Bay, where he focuses on acquisitions, development, strategic capital pursuits, and oversees the firm's retail merchandising portfolio. During his tenure, he led major land acquisitions in Lincoln Yards and Fulton Market. He serves on multiple nonprofit and university boards and was named to *Crain's Chicago Business 40 Under 40* in 2014.



## John W. Madigan, Class of 1954

John W. Madigan is the retired chairman and chief executive officer of Tribune Company, serving as chairman from 1996 to 2003 and CEO from 1996 to 2002. He has held leadership and board roles across major corporations, universities, and civic institutions, and served in the U.S. Marine Corps Reserves. He is a trustee of Northwestern University and Rush University Medical Center.



## Ajay V. Maker, MD, FACS, Class of 1993

Ajay V. Maker is a surgical oncologist and chief of the UCSF Division of Surgical Oncology, specializing in complex gastrointestinal, hepatopancreatobiliary diseases, melanoma, and sarcoma. His research focuses on early pancreatic cancer detection and novel immunotherapies, supported by Department of Defense and NIH grants. He trained at Yale, Brigham and Women's Hospital, the NIH, and the National Cancer Institute.



## Marc Malnati, Class of 1973

Marc Malnati is chairman of Lou Malnati's Pizzerias and led the company's expansion from two locations to 52 in the Chicagoland area and two in Arizona. Under his leadership, the company earned repeated recognition as a top workplace and achieved low management turnover. In 2019, he and his wife founded The Marc and Jeanne Malnati Family Foundation to promote peacebuilding, mental wellness, education, and workforce development.



## LTJG Frank Ellis Sublett Jr., USNR, Class of 1938

Frank Sublett Jr. was one of the first thirteen Black men commissioned as officers in the U.S. Navy, a group known as the "Golden Thirteen." He served in multiple assignments, including as Executive Officer of a stevedore battalion, and remained in the Naval Reserve until 1952. He was honorably discharged and died in 2006 at age 86.



## Valerie Van Heest, Class of 1978

Valerie Van Heest is an underwater explorer, historian, and award-winning author who serves as a director of the Michigan Shipwreck Research Association. She has led and participated in the discovery and documentation of numerous historic Great Lakes shipwrecks. Her work has earned multiple national and state honors for preserving maritime history.



## Suzanne Yoon, Class of 1993

Suzanne Yoon is Founder and Managing Partner of Kinzie Capital Partners, a Chicago-based private equity firm. She has been recognized by *Mergers & Acquisitions* as one of the Most Influential Women in Mid-Market M&A, by *The Wall Street Journal* as a Top Female Deal Maker, and by Chicago United as a Business Leader of Color. She has served on numerous company and civic boards, including the National Philanthropic Trust and Chicago's Shedd Aquarium.

New Trier launched its alumni recognition program during the 2010-2011 school year and has inducted 78 honorees since.



The Alumni Hall of Honor Class of 2026 will receive their Alumni Achievement Awards at the Gala hosted by the New Trier Educational Foundation beginning at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, March 6, at the Renaissance Chicago North Shore Hotel in Northbrook. All proceeds from the Gala will benefit the Foundation, which provides philanthropic funding for exceptional educational opportunities for New Trier students.

Scan the QR code or visit [newtrierconnect.org/gala-2026/](https://newtrierconnect.org/gala-2026/) to register as a sponsor or purchase your tickets!



## Lagniappe-Potpourri Celebrates Successful New Chapter

This school year marked an exciting and successful new chapter for New Trier High School's storied performing arts tradition, *Lagniappe-Potpourri*.

For more than eight decades, *Lagniappe-Potpourri* has given students a chance to lead in all areas of a school production, often in a variety show format. However, in response to shifting student participation and a desire to deepen leadership opportunities, the Performing Arts Division redesigned the program beginning in the 2025-2026 school year.

Under the new model, a Student Leadership Board took the reins to produce *Lagniappe-Potpourri Presents the Freshman-Sophomore Musical, Willy Wonka* - delivering a joyful, professional-level production to sellout crowds every night.

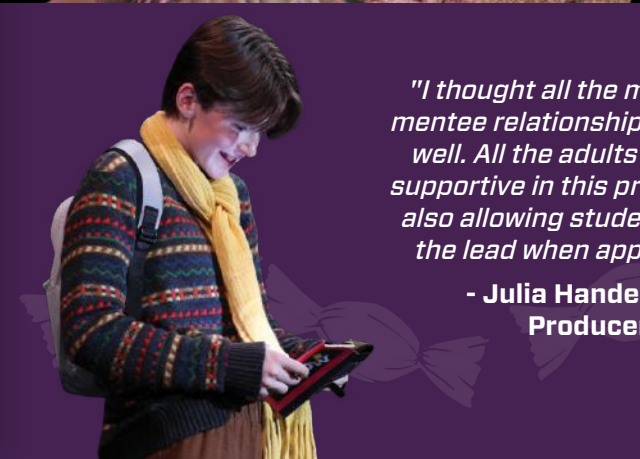
The result was a unique opportunity for students to help produce a book musical from start to finish and is similar to college programs like Northwestern's *Dolphin Show* and the University of Michigan's *Musket*. This new model of artistic collaboration and leadership will help New Trier students stand out among high school students across the country and truly explore career connections and a potential future in the arts.

Student leaders, working closely with adult mentors, shaped the artistic vision for *Willy Wonka*, led rehearsals, directed staging and movement, and oversaw technical and design tasks, gaining real-world production experience from start to finish.

Preparation began in the spring of 2025, when students first met with mentors to discuss summer assignments and goals. The leadership journey continued with a dedicated retreat at the start of the academic year, weekly strategy and mentorship meetings, and student-led board gatherings. By October auditions, the board had transitioned from preparation to practice, actively coaching underclassmen in vocal and instrumental rehearsals, teaching choreography and blocking, guiding build and design sessions, and leading production meetings.

Throughout the process, the board emphasized community-building and embodied New Trier's *Be Brave, Be Kind, Be Proud* initiative, fostering a supportive and inclusive environment that resonated on and off the stage. This collaborative culture contributed to a production that was both artistically rich and deeply rewarding for all participants.

By honoring the core tradition of *Lagniappe-Potpourri* - student leadership and creative agency - while innovating to give students real-world artistic experiences, New Trier has crafted a unique new model that prepares students for taking their interest in the arts beyond high school and distinguishes them among their peers.



*"I thought all the mentor and mentee relationships went very well. All the adults were very supportive in this process while also allowing students to take the lead when appropriate."*

**- Julia Handelman,  
Producer**

*"Having lots of people involved meant there were a lot of innovative ideas generated, which was really cool."*

**- David VanDamme,  
Stage Director**

*"Being able to do the Lagniappe-style board with a musical is a really nice way to ease into the year. I loved getting to know the underclassmen!"*

**-Caitlin LeFebvre,  
Choreographer**



# New Trier Financial Outlook Stable as District Reviews Long-Term Needs

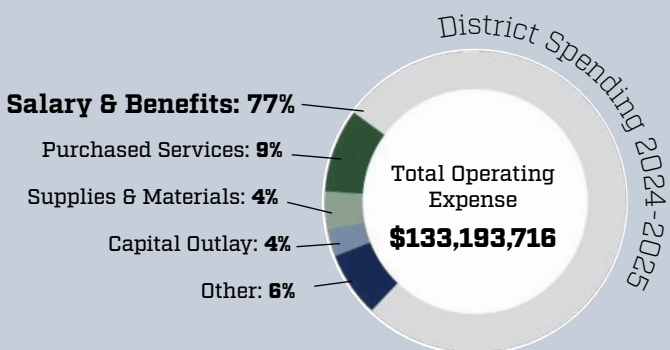
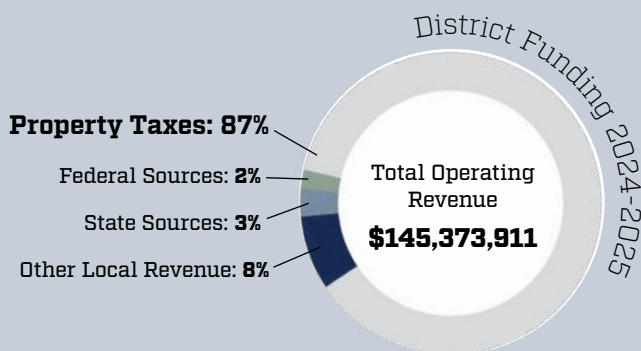
New Trier’s financial position remains stable, reflecting the District’s continued focus on prudent fiscal management and responsible use of community resources. The 2024-25 operating budget was developed to support student needs across academic, extracurricular, and support programs, while maintaining a modest operating surplus.

The District relies primarily on local property taxes, with the annual levy established in accordance with the Consumer Price Index (CPI) and the Illinois tax cap law. New Trier last sought voter approval for an operating levy increase above CPI in 2003 and has extended its five-year no-referendum commitment to a historic 23 years. This extended period has been made possible through careful financial planning and disciplined budgetary practices by the Board of Education and administration. Other revenue sources - local, state, and federal - have remained largely flat.

As the District looks ahead, it continues to evaluate potential changes in revenue, student enrollment trends, and long-term facilities needs. Depending on how these factors evolve, resources beyond the typical CPI-based operating levy increase may be necessary to maintain current programs and address future priorities.

The District is closely monitoring a number of external factors that could affect future revenues or expenditures, including inflationary pressures, potential reductions in federal funding, and broader economic uncertainty.

New Trier will continue to regularly review revenues, expenditures, and long-range financial projections to identify emerging changes and plan appropriately to support the District’s long-term financial sustainability.



## District Engages in Long-Range Facility Planning

New Trier is undertaking a long-term facilities study to thoughtfully plan for the future of its two primary campuses in Northfield and Winnetka, and to articulate a clear vision for continued modernization. This work is focused on ensuring that District facilities fully support innovative teaching and learning today, while remaining flexible and responsive to the needs of future generations of students.

The long-range facilities planning process will incorporate input from a broad range of stakeholders and will explore potential physical solutions to identified needs across both campuses. The study will consider a flexible implementation approach that may include a single comprehensive project or a series of phased improvements over time, as well as the associated funding requirements and potential funding sources needed to support that work.

Several groups will contribute to and guide the planning process under the oversight of the Board of Education and administration. In addition to the District’s Facilities Steering Committee, the Finance Committee will examine existing resources and potential funding strategies. Smaller advisory groups will participate in hands-on workshops focused on specific learning environments and program needs. Throughout the process, all participants will consider how facility priorities align with the District’s strategic goals, educational best practices, and the long-term interests of the community. The goal is to present a long-range facilities plan to the Board of Education for consideration this summer.

Over the past several years, the District has made significant investments in its facilities, including new and renovated classrooms, science laboratories, athletic and kinetic wellness spaces, and important security and infrastructure improvements. The District has also established a Transition Center in Glencoe to serve eligible students ages 18-22. These investments reflect the community’s ongoing commitment to high-quality educational environments and student support.

While these improvements have meaningfully enhanced the student experience, many spaces at the Winnetka Campus—particularly classrooms constructed in the 1930s and 1950s, as well as other aging facilities such as the 1930s swimming pool—are increasingly misaligned with modern educational expectations. Addressing these needs will require careful planning, community engagement, and thoughtful consideration of long-term funding options. The District is studying how best to position itself to meet these challenges over the next decade in a manner that is responsible, transparent, and aligned with community values.

### ACCOLADES FOR FISCAL STEWARDSHIP

- 🏆 Awarded Certificate of Excellence Award in Financial Reporting from ASBO International each year since 2002
- 🏆 Awarded Government Finance Officers Certificate of Achievement each year since 2003
- 🏆 Aaa bond rating, highest possible, from Moody’s
- 🏆 Certificate of Financial Recognition from ISBE



## Project Details

- Two new synthetic turf fields supporting multi-sport use.
- Rebuilt stadium and adjacent field turf replacing end-of-life surfaces.
- Expanded walking path, doubling the length of the existing track with integrated fitness stations.
- New two-sided bleacher system serving both the stadium and east field.
- Upgraded site lighting and scoreboard using modern, energy-efficient technology.

## Donation Drives Transformation of Outdoor Athletic Facilities

A generous \$10 million gift—the largest donation in New Trier’s history—along with a community fundraising campaign will support a major transformation of athletic facilities at the Northfield Campus, home to many of the District’s outdoor sports programs, including football, field hockey, soccer, and lacrosse.

The project is thoughtfully designed to serve generations of current and future New Trier students by accommodating record levels of athletic participation, while also expanding opportunities for organizations that serve younger township residents and the broader community through new and enhanced amenities.

The first phase of work began in summer 2025, with the replacement of end-of-life turf at the District’s stadium and adjacent fields.

The second and final phase will begin in spring 2026, with construction continuing throughout the summer and scheduled for completion in fall 2026. This phase will create a mix of school and community spaces, including an outdoor

walking path with mixed-ability fitness stations that is twice the length of the existing track, as well as two turf fields that will be accessible to the community when not in use by New Trier or other school-affiliated groups.

Stadium improvements will also include replacement of the visitor-side bleachers with a two-sided seating structure that will provide spectator seating for both the stadium and the adjacent east field. New energy-efficient lighting will be installed throughout the site, incorporating the latest technology to reduce impacts on neighboring homes, and the stadium scoreboard will be replaced.

“Athletic participation continues to rise at New Trier,” said Athletic Director Augie Fontanetta, noting the addition of a robust girls flag football program and increased participation across other sports. “These improvements will benefit students, families, and township residents for generations and will bring our facilities in line with those of our peer districts.”

The project is funded primarily through the anonymous lead gift, with additional support from other donors, the Booster Club, and the District. To learn more about supporting the project, scan the QR code below or visit the New Trier Educational Foundation website.



## Top 5 Budget Takeaways

1. Maintaining financial stability while continuing to meet student needs will require ongoing disciplined budgeting and long-range planning.
2. Revenue growth remains constrained by CPI-limited property tax increases and flat state and federal funding.
3. External uncertainties—including inflation, federal funding changes, and enrollment trends—will continue to influence future budget decisions.
4. Long-range facilities planning will help define priorities, phasing, and funding strategies for modernizing aging campus spaces.
5. Addressing significant facility needs over the next decade will require thoughtful consideration of long-term funding options and community engagement.

**CLASS OF 2026**  
**NEW TRIER  
WINTER  
CARNIVAL**

**FEB. 20, 2026**  
**5:30 - 8:00PM**  
**WINNETKA CAMPUS**

**PLAY GAMES**  
**EAT GOOD FOOD**  
**WIN FUN PRIZES**

**ORDER HERE**



**MAGIC VIP  
EXPERIENCE**  
5:00-5:30

**PROCEEDS BENEFIT NORTH CHICAGO  
COMMUNITY PARTNERS- THE NT SENIOR  
SERVICE PROJECT**



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Chief Communications Officer: Niki Dizon  
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# NTX NEW TRIER EXTENSION

## 2025 by the numbers...



**426**  
classes  
held

**573**  
Zoom  
sessions

**2,355**  
In-person  
sessions

**3,923**  
NTX  
enrollments

New Trier Extension (NTX) is the community education program of New Trier Township High School District 203. NTX offers a wide range of engaging classes throughout the year, taught by knowledgeable instructors in a welcoming, community-centered setting. With hundreds of affordable courses spanning wellness, enrichment, and lifelong learning, NTX provides an accessible way for adults and community members to explore interests, build skills, and stay connected through learning. *Learn more or register for a class at [ntx203.net](http://ntx203.net)!*