

# State of the District

Sept. 14, 2022

*Helping all students  
reach their full potential*

**Dr. Michael Thomas**  
Superintendent

 @SupePLSAS





**A little bit about me...**



Dr. Michael J.  
Thomas  
Husband  
Father  
Educator  
Learner



## Michael's 3 T's

**Truth**

**Trust**

**Transparency**







# PLSAS Quick Facts

# PLSAS School Board



Julie Bernick



Amy Crosby



Jonathan Drewes



Mary Frantz



Michael Nelson



Stacey Ruelle



Enrique Velazquez

## 2022 School Board



# Senior Leadership Team



**Michelle Cuka**



**Joel Dahl**



**Jim Dellwo**



**Dan Edwards**



**Tammy Fredrickson**



**Emily Herman**



**Emily Malone**



**Marcus Milazzo**



**Kristi Mussman**



**Sam Ouk**



**Michael Thomas**



**Jennie Zumbusch**



# Our Mission

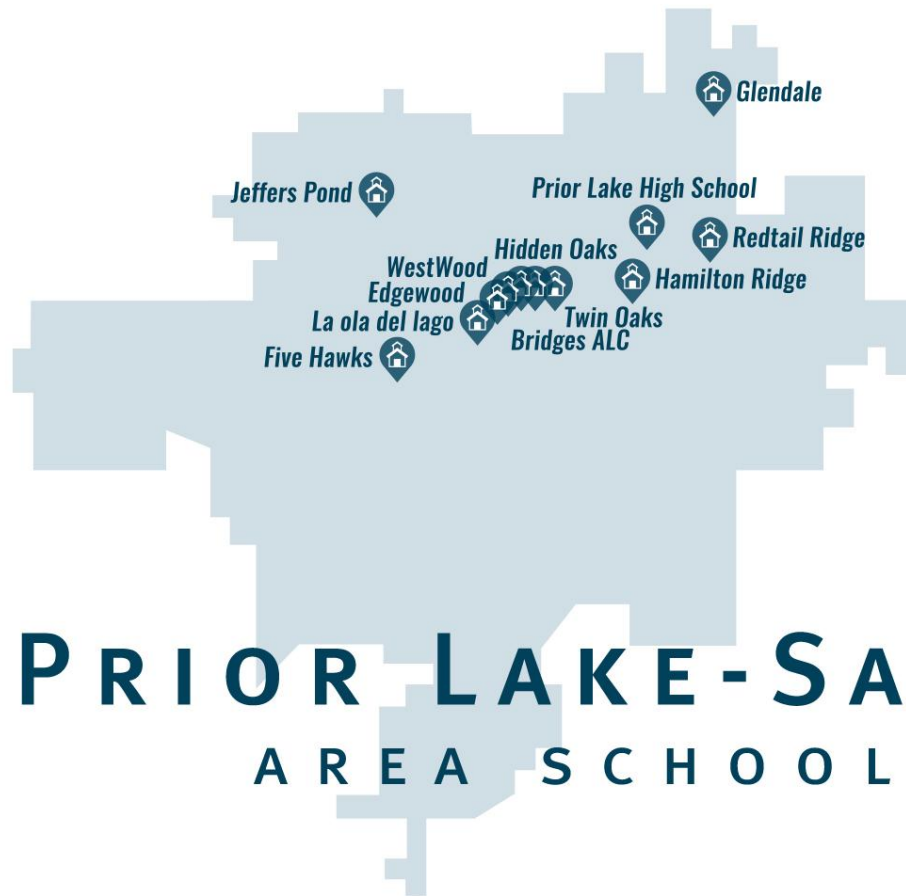
Our mission is to educate all learners to reach their full potential as contributing and productive members of our ever-changing global community.





# PRIOR LAKE-SAVAGE

## AREA SCHOOLS



MNCAPS 





## Prior Lake-Savage Area Schools



**8,776 students**



**1,300 staff**



**61 languages**

Top 5 non-English languages:  
Spanish, Somali, Russian,  
Vietnamese and Khmer

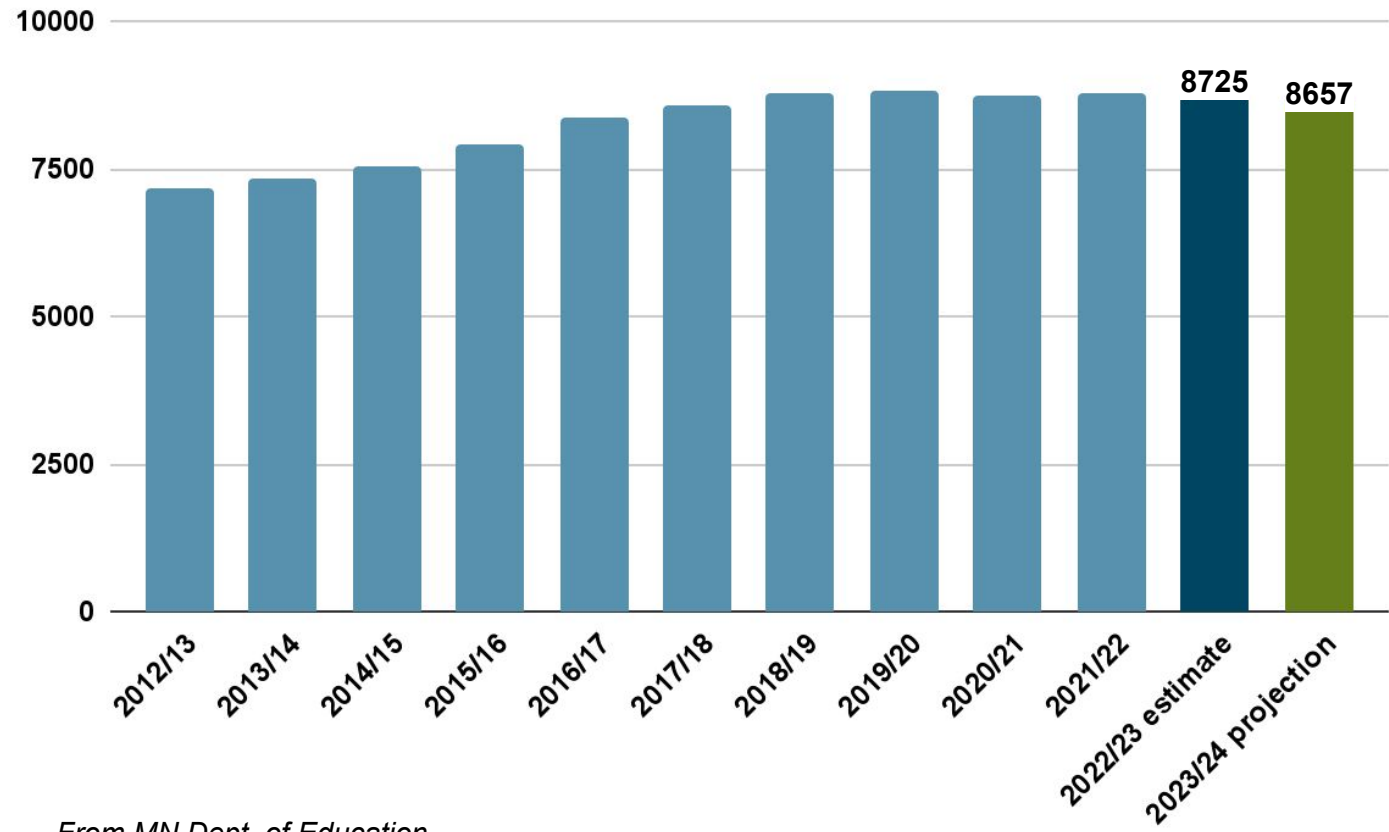


**15 Schools**

MNCAPS, SAGE, Bridges ALC,  
ATLAS, La ola del lago,  
Laker Online



# PLSAS Enrollment



From MN Dept. of Education



## Stakeholder Surveys - 2022



**94% Families**

Say adults/teachers believe  
their child can learn  
and be successful

**96%  
Elementary  
Students**



**84% of  
Secondary  
Students**

Say they feel cared  
about by at least one  
adult in their school

**89%  
Certified  
Staff**



**90%  
Support  
Staff**

Say they have a  
high-functioning,  
collaborative working  
relationship with their  
colleagues

# E-STEM

Environmental Education, Science, Technology, Engineering and Math is an interdisciplinary approach to instruction and learning focused on inquiry and real world problem-solving in the 21st Century, applying hands-on science, technology, engineering and mathematical practices with projects and field experiences related to the environment.



# School Safety



## Tip Line: 952-226-0005 & Online Reporting System

- 2 confidential ways to report unsafe situations

## Drills

- 5 lockdown drills & 5 fire drills, 1 tornado drill - annually

## School Resource Officers

- Prior Lake High School, Twin Oaks & Hidden Oaks

## Prevention:

- Relationships are one of our greatest defenses against violence
- Teaching and modeling prosocial behaviors
- Intervention when antisocial behaviors occur, including Threat Assessment
- Promoting positive school climate and culture
- Build trust
- Connect families with professional services

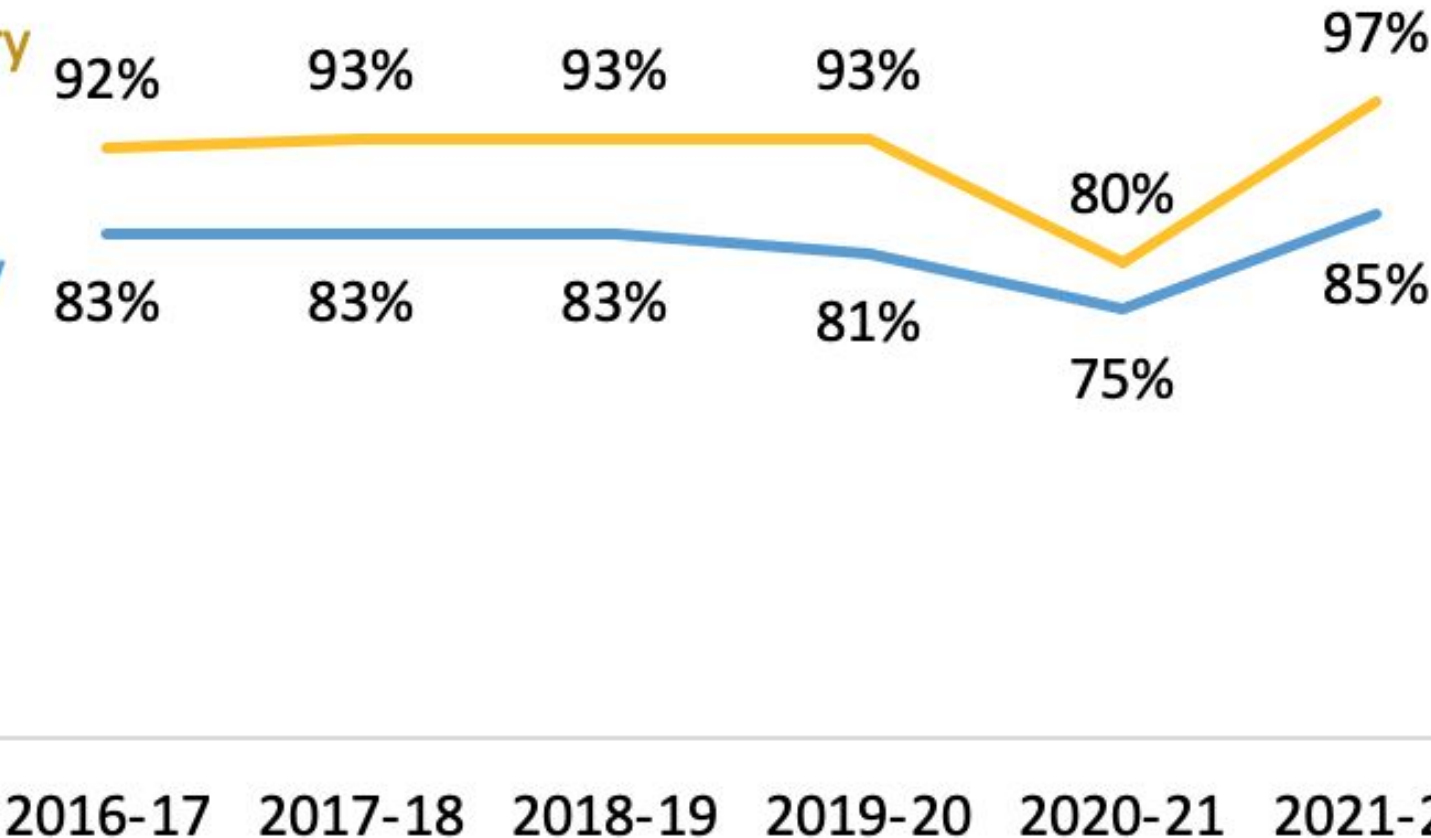




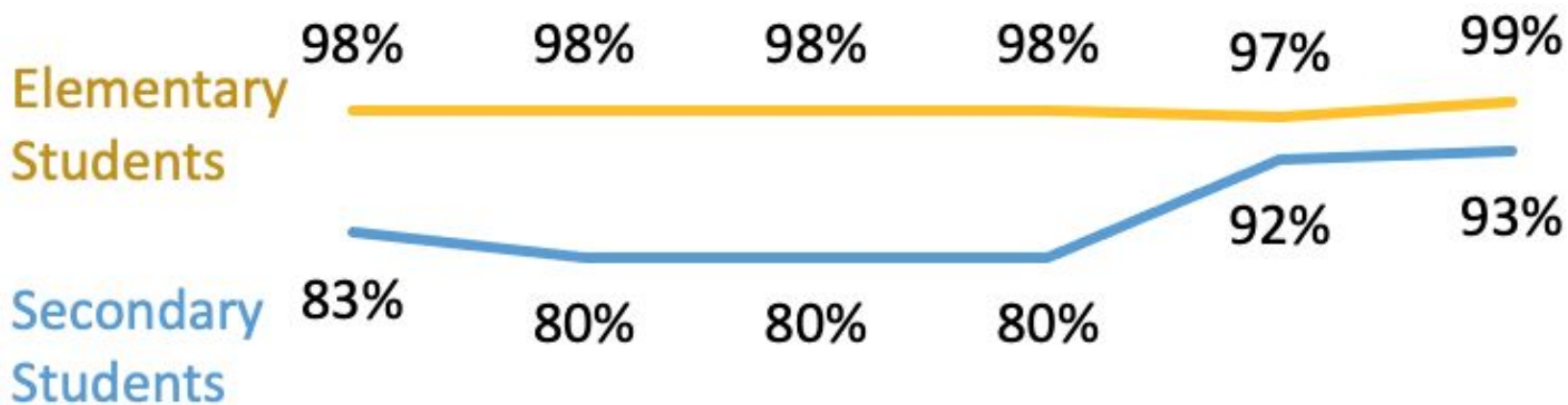
# My culture, religion, or ethnic heritage is respected by other students

Elementary  
Students

Secondary  
Students



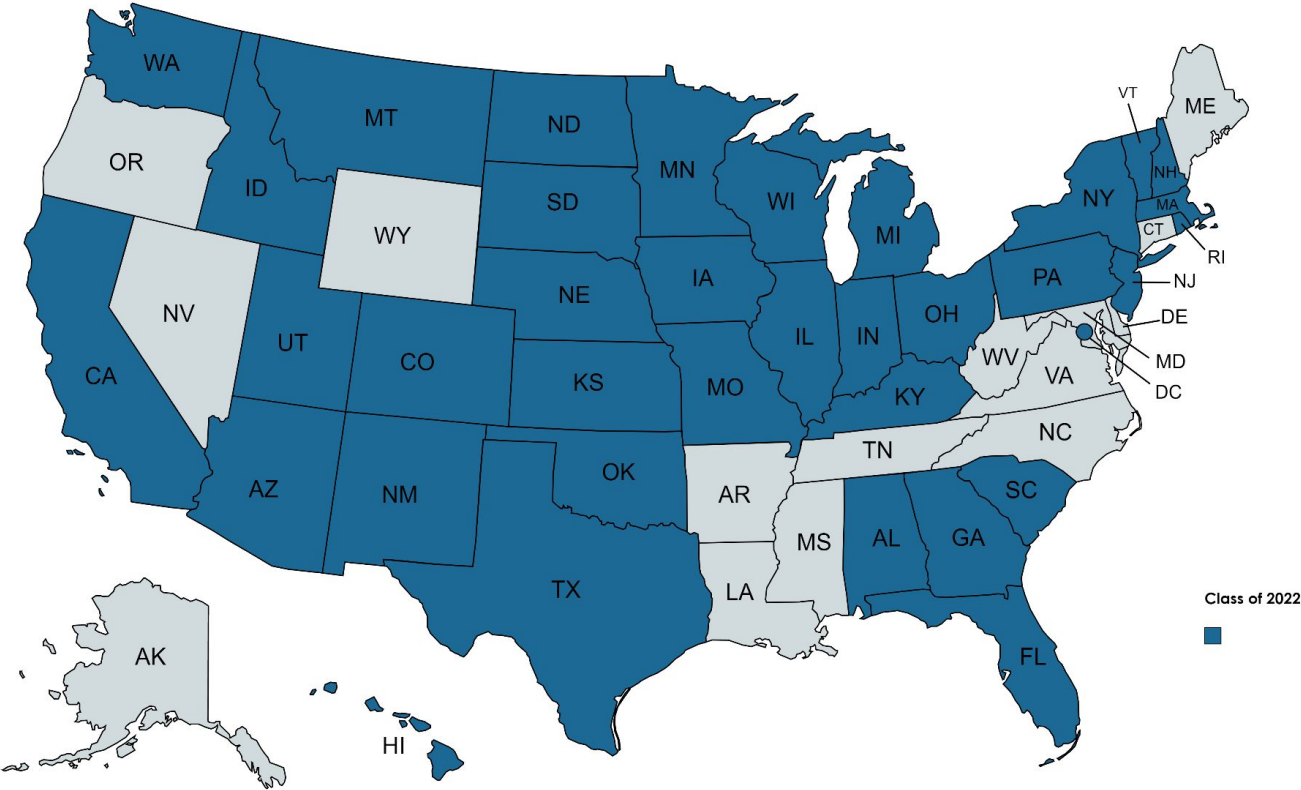
# My teachers know how to teach so I can learn



2016-17 2017-18 2018-19 2019-20 2020-21 2021-22



# Class of 2022: where they are now





# Academic Performance

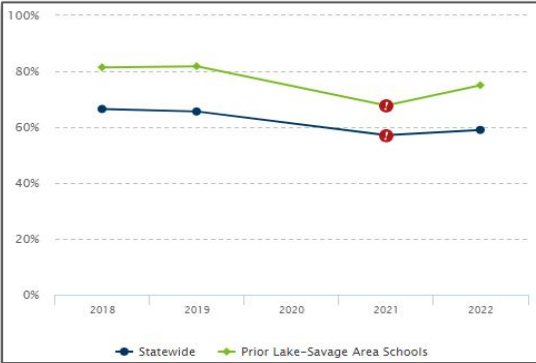
## MCA Participation, PLSAS

- MCA participation dipped during the pandemic.
- Participation rates went back up in 2022 to close to pre-pandemic participation rates.

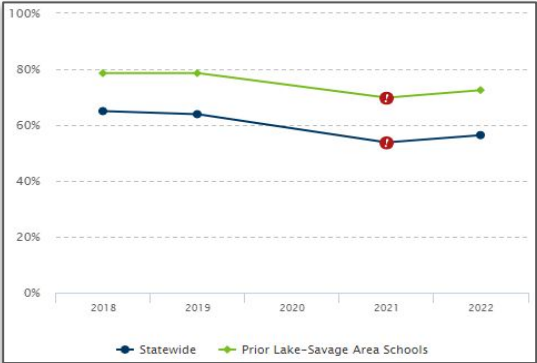




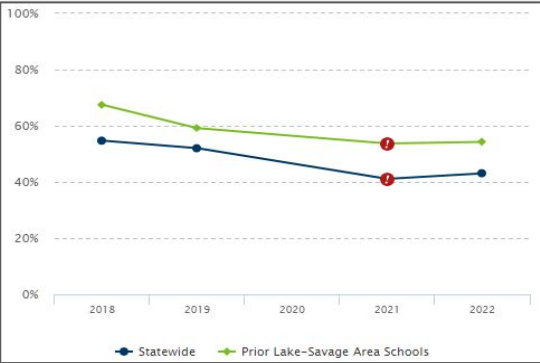
# Math by grade - most grades saw an uptick in proficiency



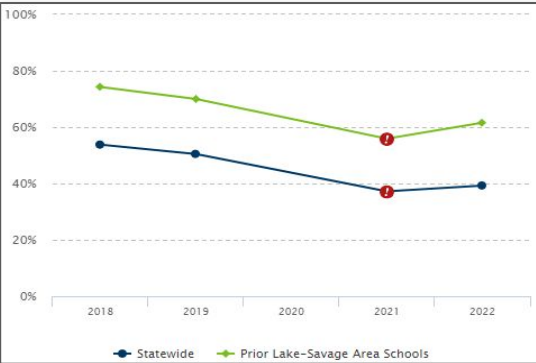
3rd



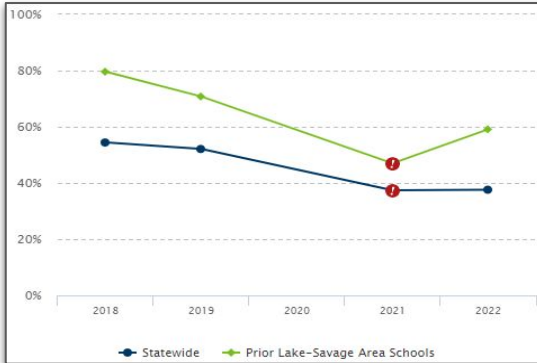
4th



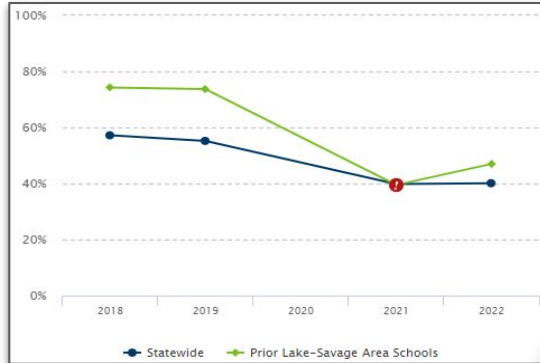
5th



6th



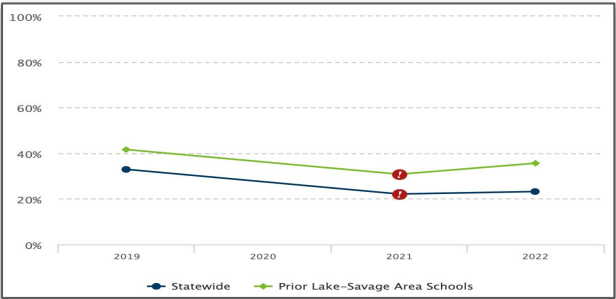
7th



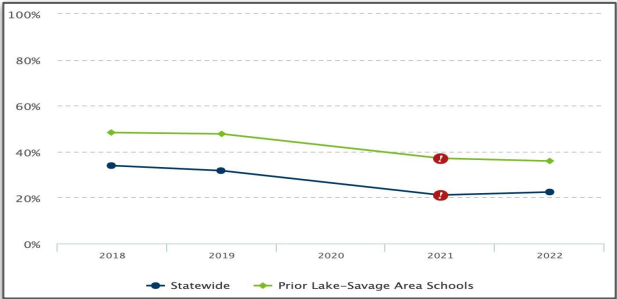
8th



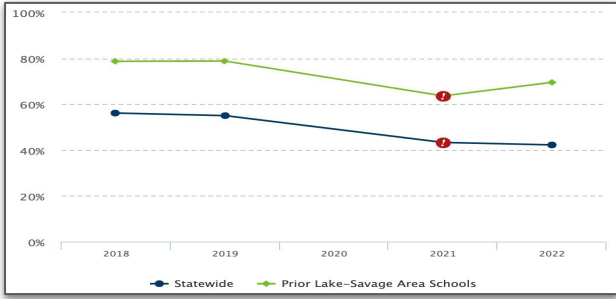
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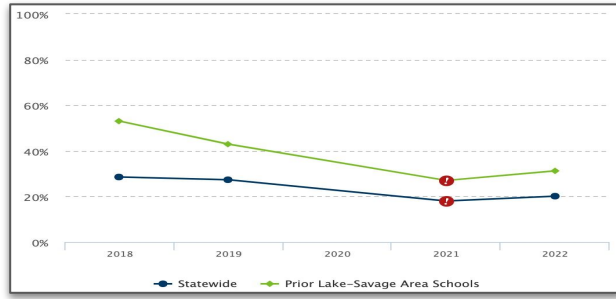
**American Indian/Alaska Native  
(state definition)**



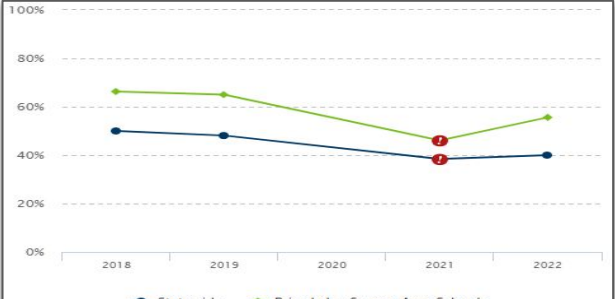
**Hispanic/Latino**



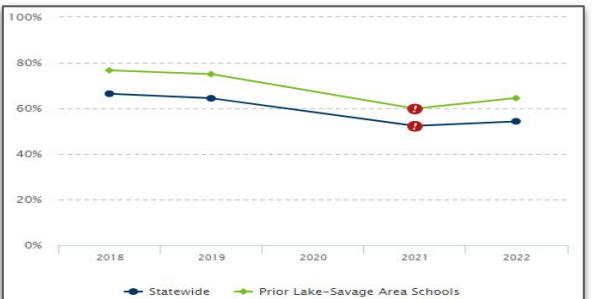
**Asian**



**Black/African American**



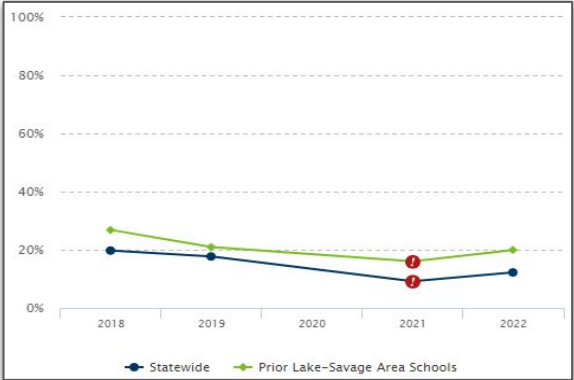
**Two+ Races**



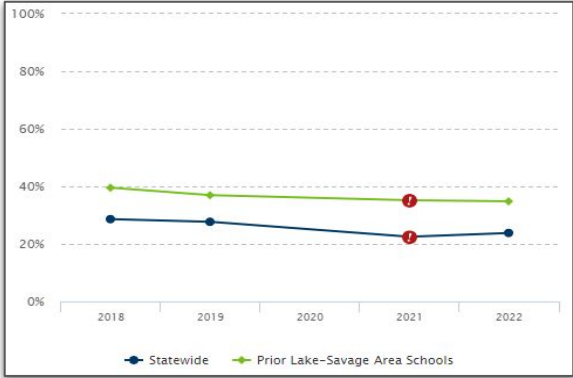
**White**



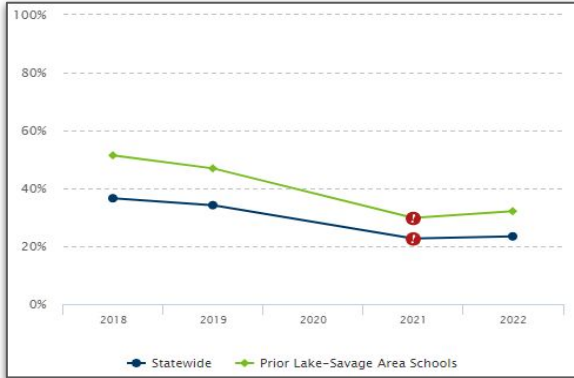
# Math by groups



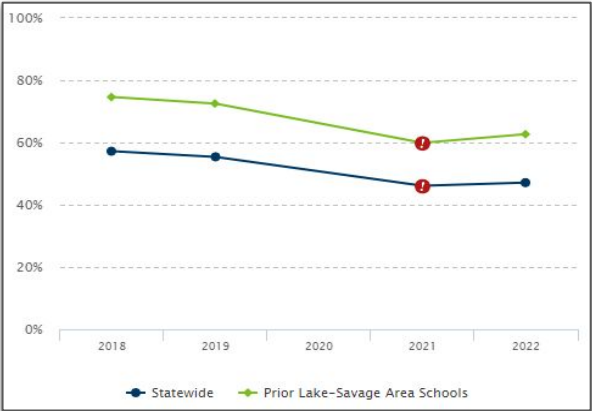
English Learner



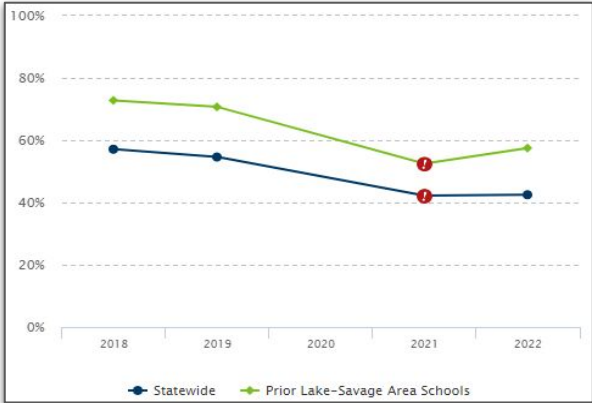
Special Education



Free/Reduced Meals



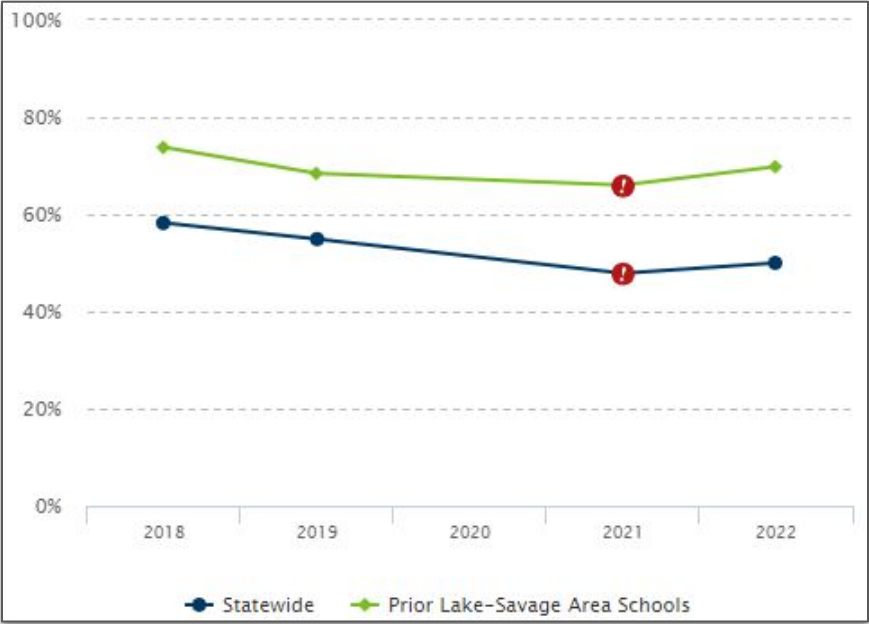
Male



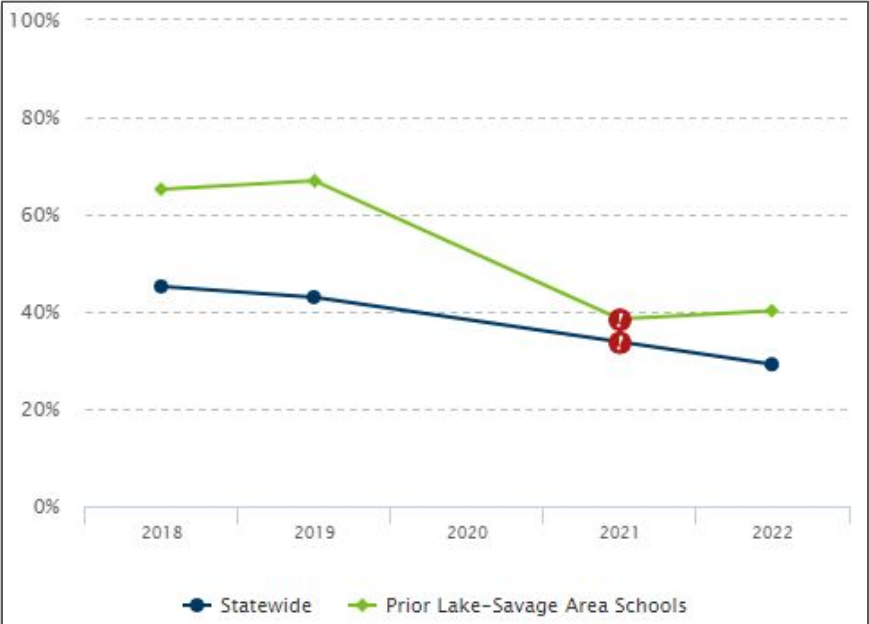
Female



# Science



5th

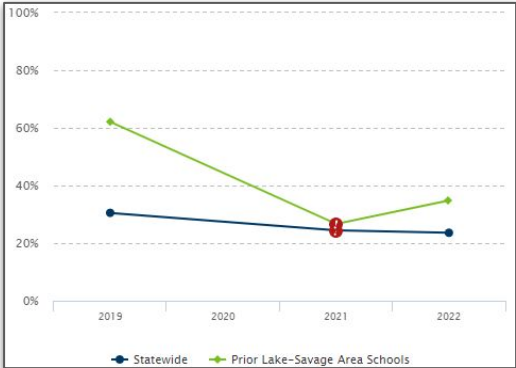


8th\*

\*7% drop in participation



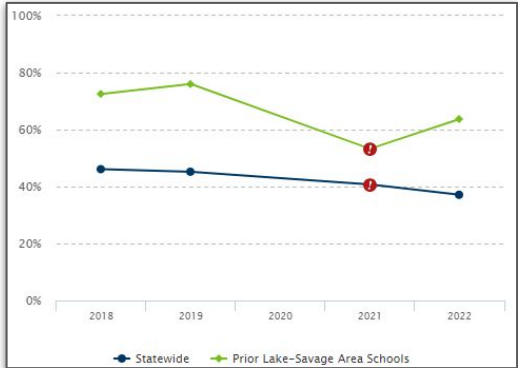
# Science by demographic group



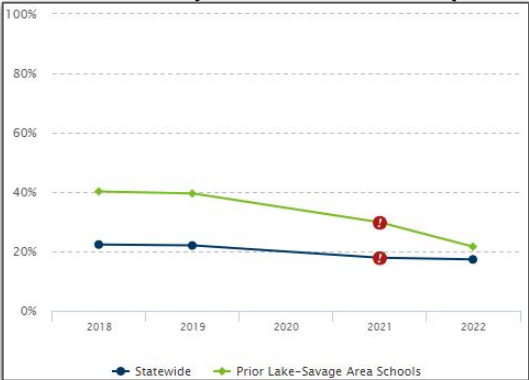
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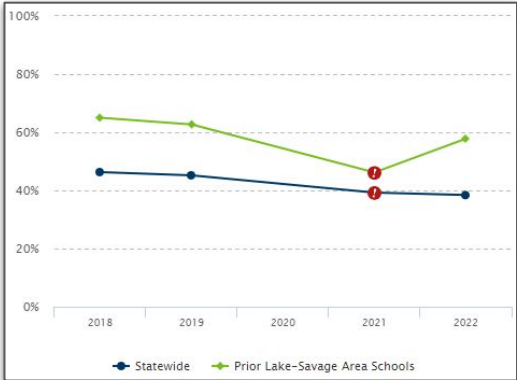
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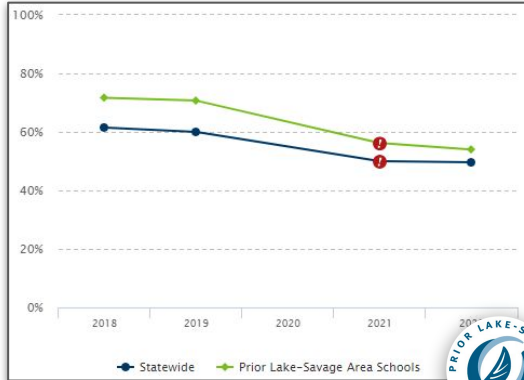
**Asian**



**Black/African American**



**Two+ Races**

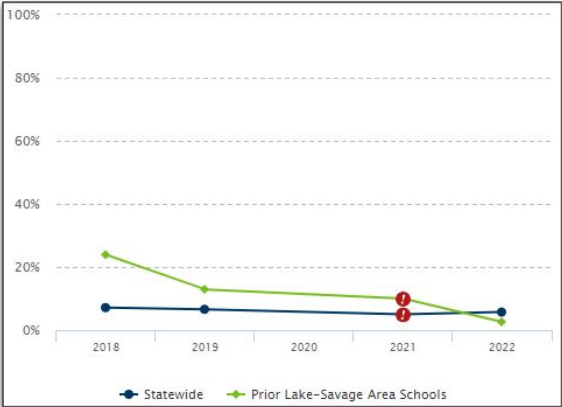


**White**

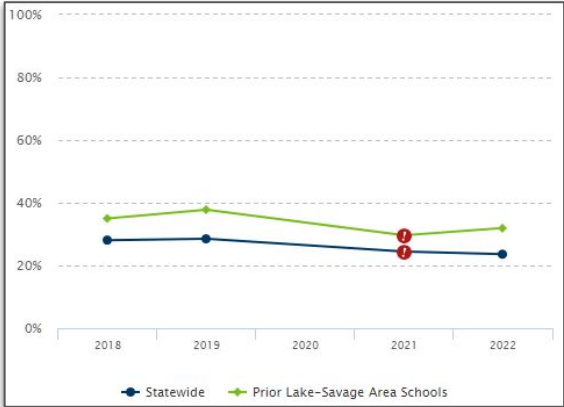




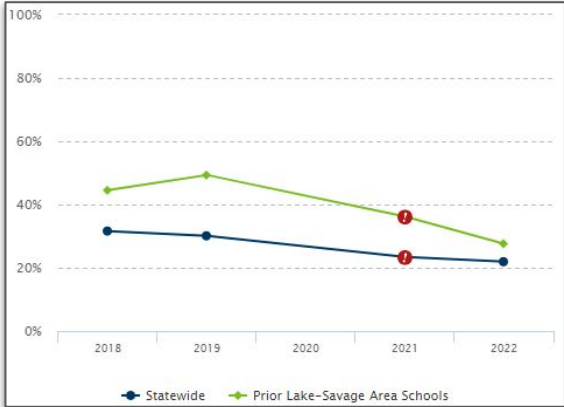
# Science by groups



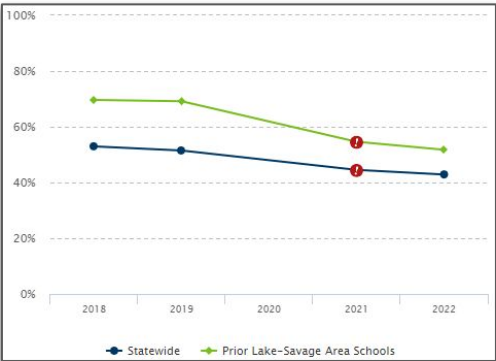
**English Learner**



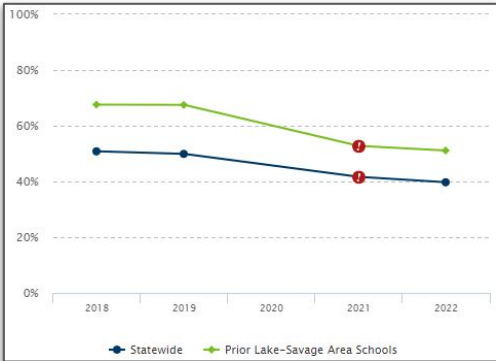
**Special Education**



**Free/Reduced Meals**



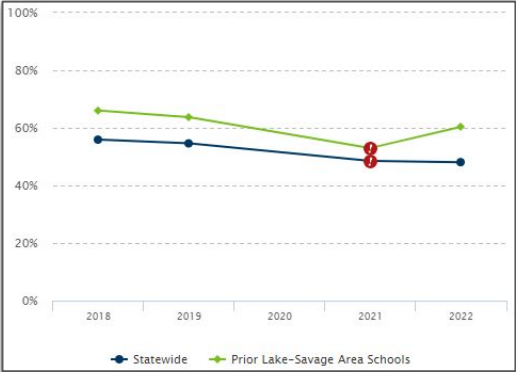
**Male**



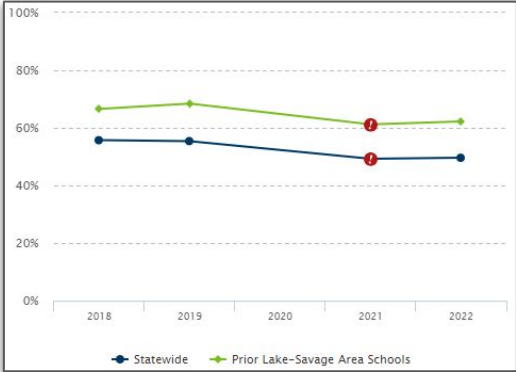
**Female**



# Reading by grade



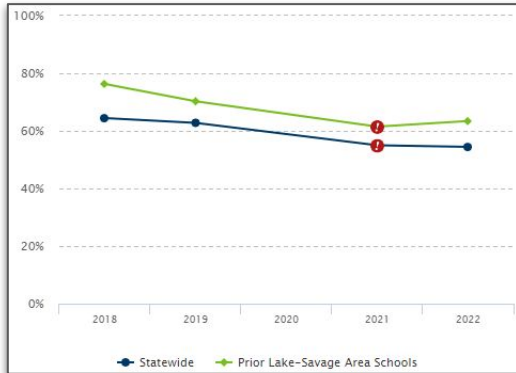
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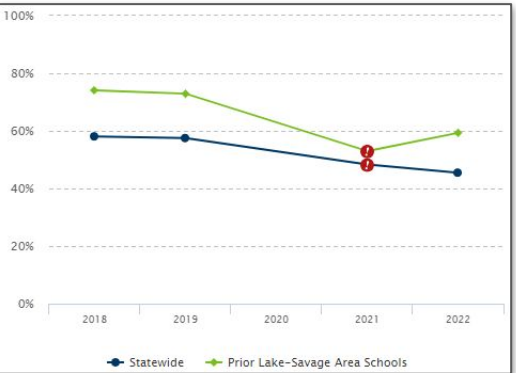
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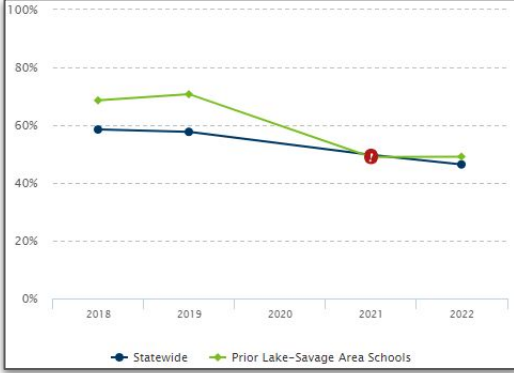
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**6th**



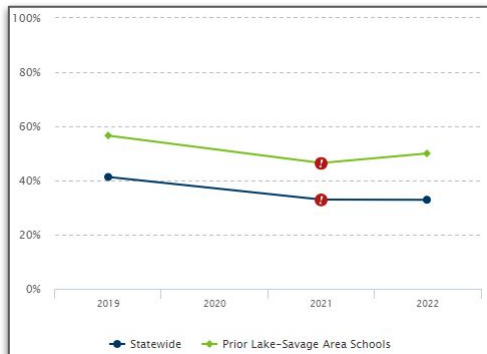
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**8th**



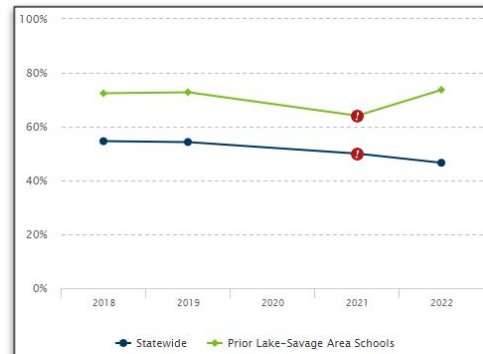
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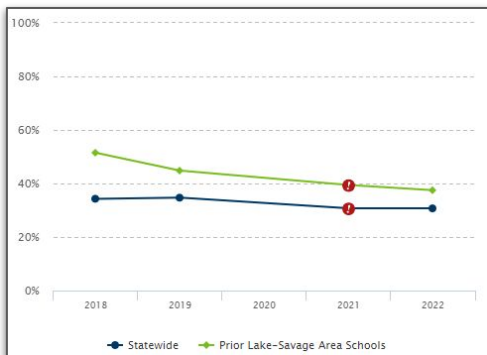
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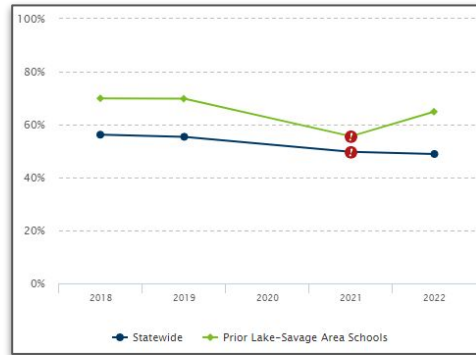
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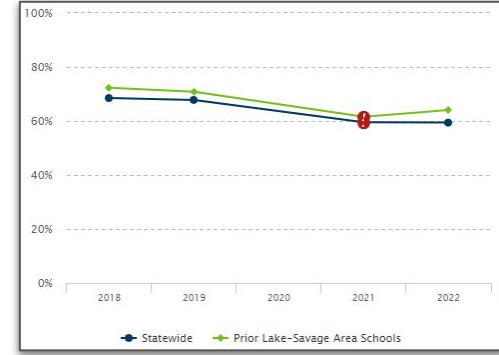
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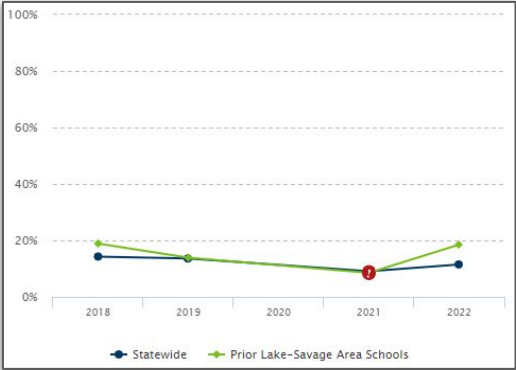


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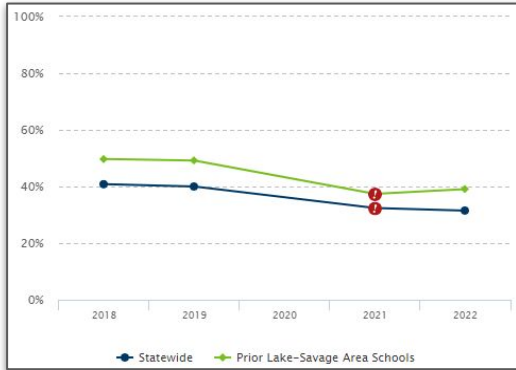
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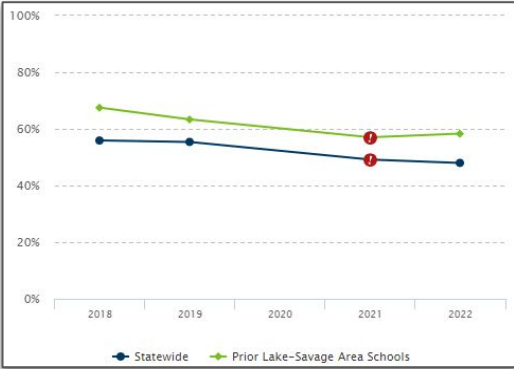
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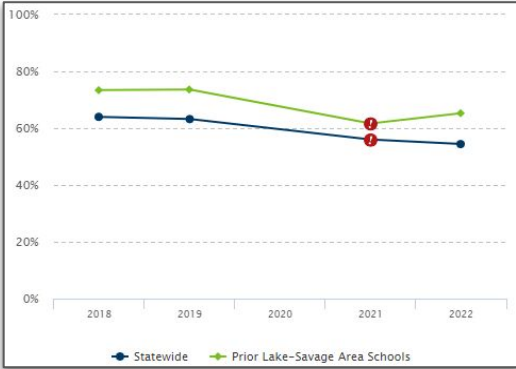
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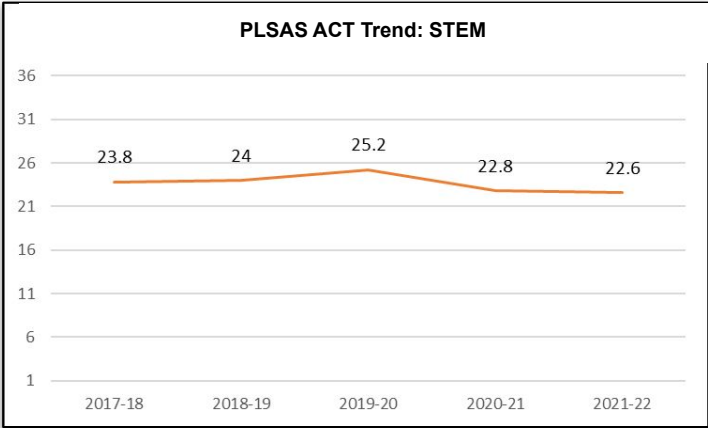
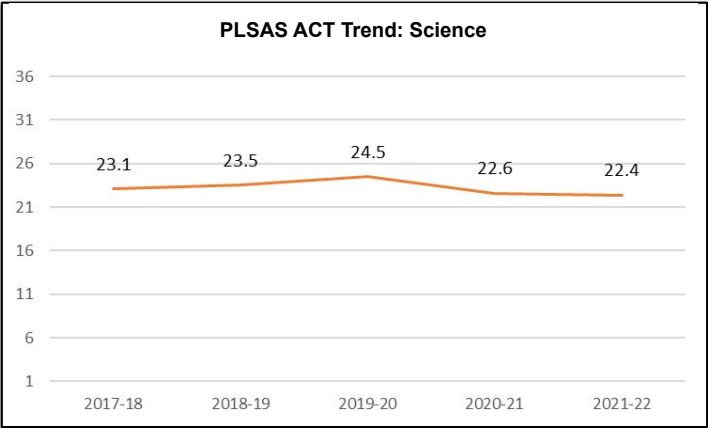
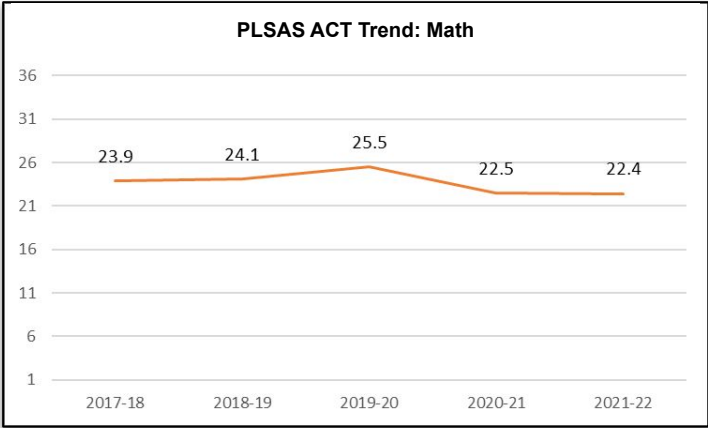
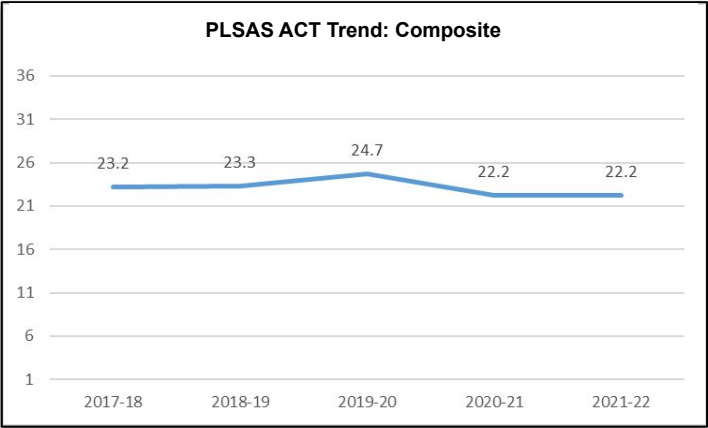
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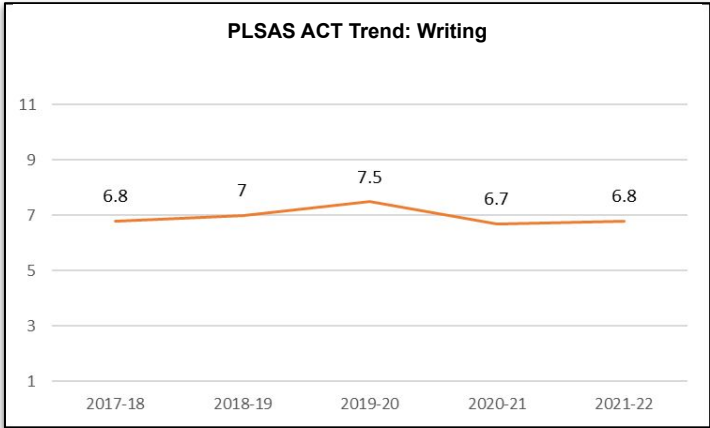
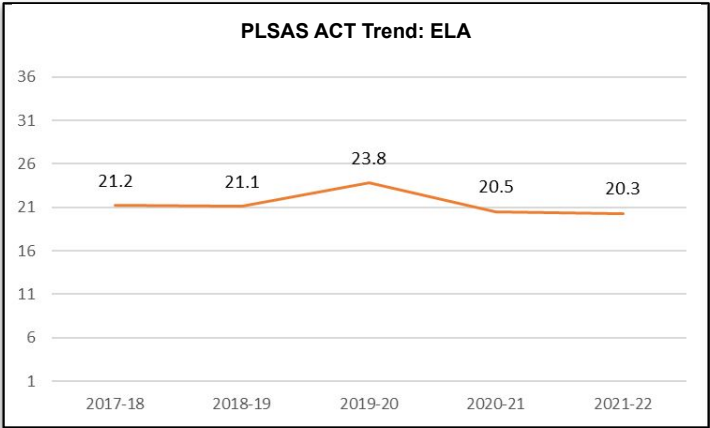
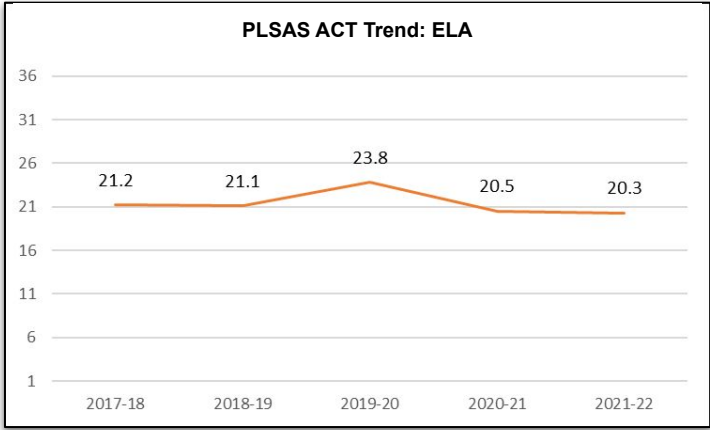
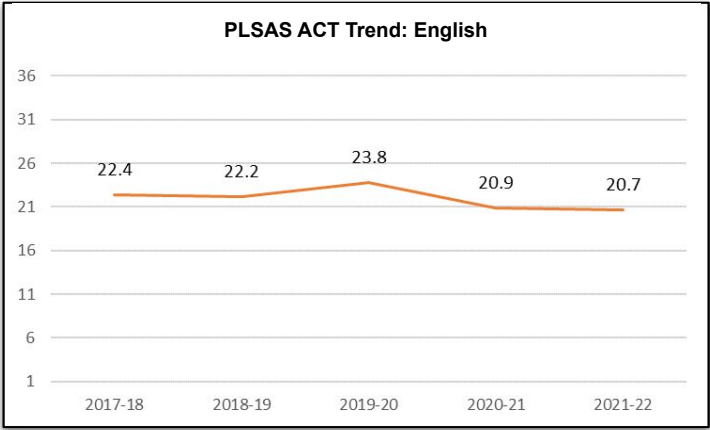
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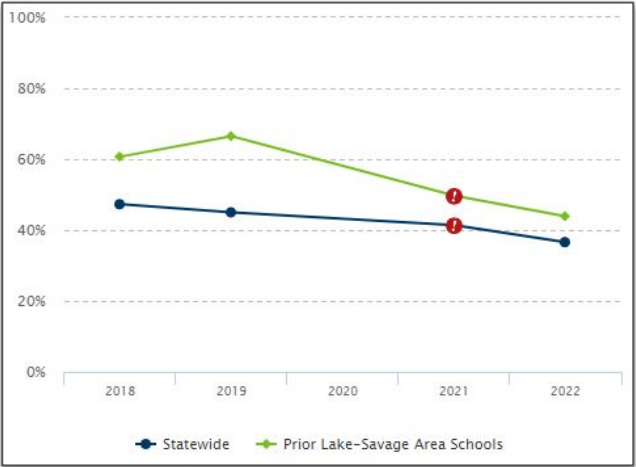
# ACT Scores



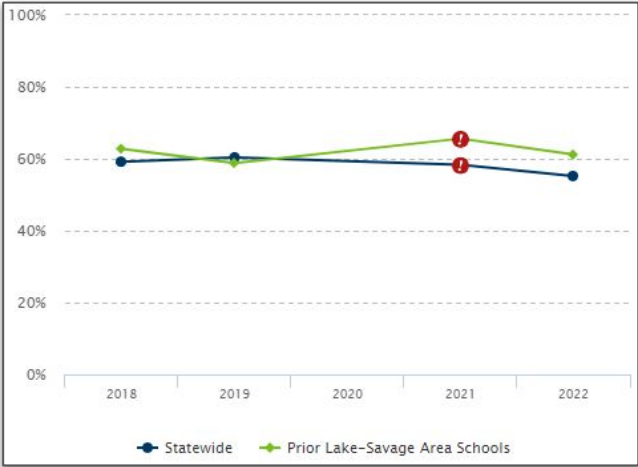
# ACT Scores



# Data Review: High School



**Math, Gr. 11**



**Reading, Gr. 10**







# OUR FRAMEWORK FOR THE FUTURE

**OUR MISSION** Our mission is to educate all learners to reach their full potential as contributing and productive members of our ever-changing global community.

## CORE VALUES

What drives our words and actions

**Partnership:** Collaboration of resources and talents to achieve high mutual goals for the benefit of all

**Innovation:** Creative problem solving connecting creativity with usefulness

**Respect:** Valuing ourselves, each other and our world across all differences

**Wise Stewardship:** Developing and effectively using our knowledge, human, financial, physical and environmental resources

**Accountability:** Holding ourselves and each other accountable for our actions and words

**Strive for Excellence:** Committing to continuous learning and improvement

July 2019

## VISION

A compelling educational picture of what we intend to create

Sustainable environmental focus recognized at the state and national levels

Challenging, diverse and personalized learning

A culture of excellence fostering a love of learning and appreciation of the arts and activities

Safe and respectful schools

A district of stakeholder partnerships

Technology enhancing instruction, communication and administration

Innovative and flexible staffing through wise financial stewardship

## STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

Goals that guide educational programs, services and applied resources

Increase measurable student learning and reduce achievement gaps as we provide equitable student opportunities through personalized learning and student engagement

Continue fiscal accountability through operational excellence and the alignment of human, financial and physical resources to district goals

Expand innovation to improve the learner experience

Integrate E-STEM focus across the district

Provide a safe, secure and supportive environment that nurtures the social and emotional well-being of all learners

Engage students, parents, families and community to strengthen a culture of respect and inclusion



## What to expect next...

- Foundations: full implementation of phonics, spelling and handwriting curriculum to benefit all K-3 students.
- Piloting teaching approaches and resources in math (K-5) and science (K-9), aligned to new state standards. Full implementation in 2023-24.
- Increased use of student achievement data with our new data visualization tool (EduClimber) to better identify student needs for early intervention and instructional adjustments throughout the school year. (Quarterly data reporting)
- Regular attendance = better success in school





**Coming Up...**

## Presence

When we're curious about the story someone is telling us, when we're respectful of them as they tell it, then we are honouring that person. We are welcoming them into a relationship with us and we're creating the conditions that support our working together. (Margaret Wheatley)





# Strong Schools = Strong Communities

## Thank you to our partners

- Cities of Prior Lake, Savage, Credit River
- Townships of Spring Lake, Cedar Lake and Sand Creek
- Shakopee Mdewakanton Sioux Community
- Prior Lake and Savage Rotary
- Prior Lake and Savage Chambers of Commerce
- Prior Lake Lions Club
- Prior Lake-Savage Optimist Club
- Laker Educational Foundation
- Middle School and High School Parent Advisories
- PTCs
- DOGs
- LABC
- PAA
- R.O.C.K.



# WE ARE HIRING

## MULTIPLE POSITIONS

- **FOOD SERVICES STAFF**
- **SPECIAL EDUCATION PARAEDUCATORS**
- **CUSTODIANS**
- **EARLY CHILDHOOD TEACHER ASSISTANTS**
- **KIDS' COMPANY ASSISTANTS**
- **CAMPUS SUPERVISORS**
- **LUNCHROOM SUPERVISORS**



**APPLY AT:**

[www.priorlake-savage.k12.mn.us/employment](http://www.priorlake-savage.k12.mn.us/employment)



**We want to hear from you**



## **Superintendent's Listening & Learning Tour**

**September 19, 4:30-6:00 p.m.**  
Savage Library

**September 21, 6:30-8:00 p.m.**  
Prior Lake Library

**September 27, 9:00-10:30 a.m.**  
Credit River Hall

**October 11, 1:00-2:30 p.m.**  
Club Prior





# State of the District

Sept. 14, 2022

*Helping all students  
reach their full potential*

**Dr. Michael Thomas**  
Superintendent

 @SupePLSAS

