



Arrowhead Union High School District

# ON POINT

## ANNUAL UPDATE 2025

**Arrowhead Students Attain Highest ACT and Advanced Placement Scores in 5 Years. Block Schedule, Resource Period Contribute to Success!** (See page 2)



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# District Performance - *Academic Highlights and Impactful*

## Several Encouraging Data Points!

Arrowhead High School students showed strong academic gains this year. Scores improved on both the Pre-ACT and ACT, and students took 200 more Advanced Placement exams – with average scores also rising. Additionally, the number of students receiving Ds and Fs dropped significantly.

Any one of these improvements would be encouraging, but seeing progress across multiple data points is clear evidence that the changes at Arrowhead are having a real impact.

This momentum is exciting and promising. With block scheduling and the resource period as central parts of the school day, the focus isn't just on adding time – it's on using time more effectively to support deeper student learning.



### ACT Average Score

Elmbrook	23.6
New Berlin	23.1
<b>ARROWHEAD</b>	<b>22.9</b>
Pewaukee	22.8
Muskego-Norway	22.7
Hamilton	22.1
Kettle Moraine	21.9
Mukwonago	20.8
Menomonee Falls	20.5
Oconomowoc	20.4
Hartford Union	19.7

### AP Exams

Percentage of students who scored a 3-5 on their Advanced Placement Exam  
3 is qualified, 4 is well qualified,  
5 is extremely well qualified

<b>ARROWHEAD</b>	<b>93%</b>
Hamilton	88.1%
Muskego-Norway	83.6%
Elmbrook	82.4%
New Berlin	82.1%
Menomonee Falls	81.3%
Pewaukee	77.1%
Mukwonago	73.0%
Hartford Union	71.4%
Kettle Moraine	71.1%
Oconomowoc	61.1%

1,505

Advanced Placement exams taken  
by AHS students in 2024-25

79.1%

Of 2025 graduates earned  
a cumulative GPA of 3.0 or higher

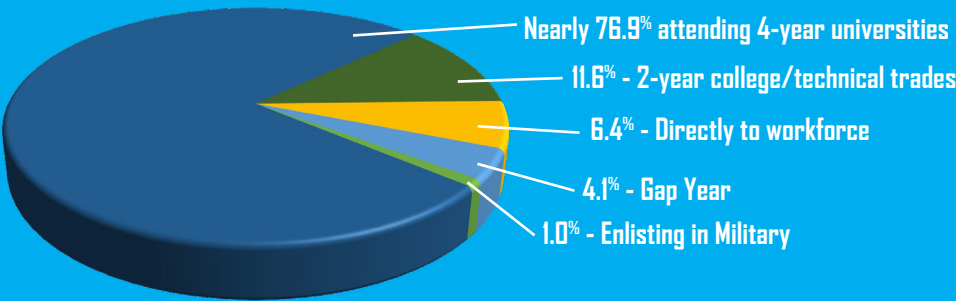
99.1%

4-Year Graduation Rate

80.5

State Report Card  
Exceeds State Expectations

### Where Do Arrowhead Graduates Go?



60 courses offered in construction/  
skilled trades, health care, manufacturing,  
engineering and information technology.

85% of students participated in at least one  
Financial Literacy course.

100% of students participated in Academic  
Career Planning lessons.

60.6% completed college credits  
through Dual Enrollment, AP, and CAPP  
courses.

\* Source: Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction





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## **Arrowhead Students Attain Highest ACT and Advanced Placement Scores in 5 Years!**

The 2024-25 school year brought many changes to Arrowhead High School. Perhaps most significant was the implementation of the new block schedule and the establishment of a dedicated resource period. While reflecting on the changes, Arrowhead Superintendent Conrad Farner states, "Our new schedule allows our educators to teach and assess with meaningful intent so our students are owning their learning!"

## **Deeper Learning Achieved Through Block Scheduling**

The block schedule restructured the school day into fewer, longer class periods. The previous schedule consisted of 10 class periods lasting 40-minutes each. In the block schedule, students attend four classes for 85 minutes. This extended time allows for more in-depth instruction, hands-on learning, and project-based work – giving teachers the opportunity to move beyond surface-level content while fully engaging students in the learning process.

According to a survey conducted this spring, Arrowhead students feel significantly less rushed, more focused, and better able to absorb complex material. Teachers are able to incorporate a wider range of teaching strategies, from collaborative discussions and labs to multimedia presentations and independent work. The result? Greater academic retention, improved classroom relationships, and higher levels of student participation.

## **Increased Support, Flexibility with the Resource Period**

Along with longer class periods, the new schedule includes a valuable "resource period" - a dedicated block of time during the school day for students to receive academic support, explore enrichment opportunities, or catch up on work. Whether meeting with a teacher, working on a group project, or organizing their week, students now have built-in time to manage responsibilities and develop independence. Students say the resource period helps reduce stress by giving them time during the day to address academic needs that would otherwise pile up after school. Many also say it's a great way to start the day!

Together, block scheduling and the resource period have contributed to lower anxiety, increased engagement, and improved academic performance. The new longer class periods allow for best instructional practice. Rather than over-rely on lecture and memorization, teachers are helping students be more active, reflective learners who can analyze, synthesize, construct and apply knowledge and skills to meaningful, real life situations.

## **Additional Efforts Contribute to Student Success**

In addition to the block schedule and resource period, other initiatives are positively impacting student success.

The 2024-25 school year marked the first time all 11<sup>th</sup> grade students were required to take the same English course. This unified approach ensures every junior has the key skills and knowledge needed to succeed on the ACT and in life after high school.

Another important change this year was the addition of dedicated professional development days for teachers. These built-in days gave educators valuable time to collaborate, improve their practice, and use assessment data to guide instruction – an essential step in helping all students reach their full potential.





# ARROWHEAD PRIDE

*Arrowhead offers over 50 clubs and 30 sports allowing opportunities for students to grow, lead, and excel in a wide range of interests - truly something for everyone. Their achievements reflect an uncommon level of success in both academics and co-curricular activities setting Arrowhead apart as a place where excellence is not the exception, but the standard.*



**WSN CUP** 

**Wisconsin Sports Network  
Cup Winner**

Arrowhead won the  
Large School Division Title  
15 times in the last 17 years!



**Classic 8 Conference  
Champions**

## FALL SPORTS

Football  
Girls Golf  
Girls Tennis  
Boys Soccer  
Girls Field Hockey  
Girls Basketball  
Girls Volleyball  
Boys Volleyball

## WINTER SPORTS

Boys Wrestling  
Girls Basketball  
Girls Ski

## SPRING SPORTS

Boys Track  
Girls Track  
Boys Tennis  
Softball  
Baseball





# Some of the Many 2024-25 Student Accomplishments & Celebrations:

- Nine students were National Merit Scholarship semifinalists.
- The Math Team entered two teams in the Brookfield competition taking first and second.
- Arrowhead DECA club had 10 students qualify for the International Career Development Conference and 4 students who competed at DECA nationals.
- 11 Global Scholars received the Wisconsin Certificate of Global Competence.
- 137 students became published authors, winning over \$10,425 in state, national, and international writing contests.
- 10 students competed in our first state SkillsUSA competition.
- 58 students earned industry certifications in Business.
- 26 students earned industry-recognized certifications through the Woodwork Career Alliance.
- Five student were selected for the WSMA State Honors Music Ensembles for 2025-26 out of almost 1,500 auditions.
- Several Jerry Awards including Outstanding Musical and Outstanding Leads for Arrowhead musicals Bright Star and Cinderella.
- Two students were selected as winners of the statewide 2025 Holocaust Art and Writing Contest out of nearly 300 entries.
- HOSA students attended the State Leadership Conference in Wisconsin Dells.
- Arrowhead students had 50 art pieces displayed at the Pewaukee Area Arts Council Showcase.
- Two students received WIAA Scholar - Athlete Awards
- Nine Arrowhead students have chosen to serve our country in the Air Force, Navy, US Coast Guard, Marines, and Army ROTC.

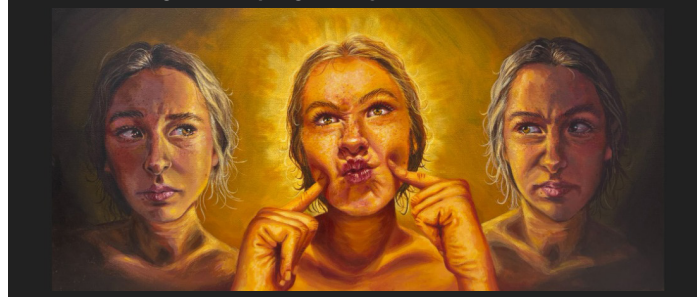
## 2024-25 State Championship Teams

- Hawk Walks for six State Qualifying teams going to State competitions; Girls Basketball, Wrestling, Boys Swim and Dive, Dance team, Gymnastics, and Ski teams.
- **STATE CHAMPION TEAMS**  
Girls Alpine Ski  
Girls Track  
Girls Field Hockey
- **STATE RUNNER UP TEAMS**  
Girls Tennis  
Boys Wrestling  
Girls Basketball

*Over 200 students honored at the new Academic Awards Breakfast!*



**2025 Scholastic Art Wisconsin Exhibition Winner!**  
*Maddie Seeger - Unapologetically Me - Docent Award Winner*





**SCOLARSHIP FUND**  
est. 1958

The Arrowhead Scholarship Fund raised and awarded \$112,500 in scholarships this year! Thank you, ASF, as well as the community members, businesses, and organizations who contributed toward the future of 103 students.

**National Publication Names Arrowhead Among the Best!**



*"Best High Schools in the Nation"*

**Ranked 11<sup>th</sup> in Wisconsin and 577<sup>th</sup> Nationally (out of over 25,000)**

**"Top STEM School"**  
**Top 2.5<sup>th</sup> in the Nation and Top 2.8% in Wisconsin**

# Annual District Budget Explained

## Our Budget Process

The Arrowhead Administration and School Board continue to balance priorities, maintaining and improving student programs, attracting and retaining quality staff, and ensuring a safe learning environment. The district budget must meet state and federal regulations as well as School Board policies. Arrowhead's budget received preliminary approval from the School Board in June. District residents have the opportunity to provide an advisory vote on the District's projected tax levy at the Annual Meeting in October. The final tax levy is approved by the School Board in late October, following the final staffing plan, student enrollment count and state aid and property value certifications.

## Numbers Explained at Annual Meeting

Arrowhead's 2025-26 budget and tax levy will be reviewed at the Annual

## ARROWHEAD'S 2025-26 MILL RATE

# \$1.84

Down from \$1.85 the prior year.  
Mill rate equals the tax impact  
per \$1,000 of home value.

Home Value	=	Tax Impact
\$300,000		\$553
\$500,000		\$922

Meeting at 6:00 PM on October 15, in the South Campus Cafeteria.

The budget, summarized in this bulletin, shows that about 65% is allocated to personnel expenses, which is typical for school districts. With a 3% salary increase, personnel costs will rise by

approximately \$605,000 compared to last year. By adjusting our health insurance structure, the district remained within healthcare trends in terms of premium increase. For high deductible plan employees, the district pays 88% with employees paying 12%. For the lower deductible plan, the district covers 85%, and employees pay 15%.

## Budgetary Challenges

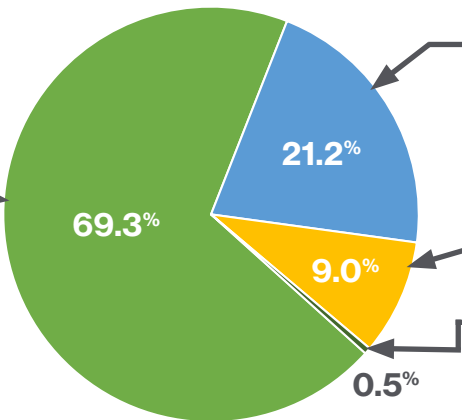
Arrowhead's costs for insurance, utilities, transportation, and supplies have been rising, while state revenues have not kept pace with inflation. Despite these challenges, we remain committed to delivering exceptional educational and co-curricular opportunities in the most cost effective way.

## 2025-26 District General Fund and Capital Expansion Revenue Source

**Total Revenue**  
**\$30,773,483**

**Local Sources: \$21,330,675**

Taxes levied by the district on the assessed valuation of property located within the Arrowhead Union School District, as well as local fees, gate receipts, interest income, etc.



**State Sources: \$6,519,508**

Money received through the state based on property value per student. This includes money for special education, transportation, and state equalization aid.

**Other Sources: \$2,764,313**

Includes donations and various fees

**Federal Sources: \$158,987**

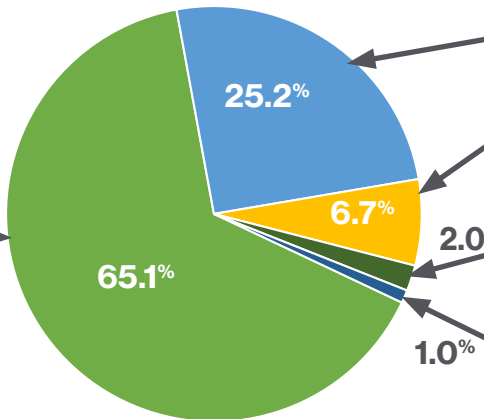
Includes Federal Grant monies and Medicaid revenue

## 2025-26 District General Fund and Capital Expenditures

**Total Expenditures**  
**\$30,773,483**

**Personnel: \$20,032,200**

Wages and benefit payments for Arrowhead employees



**Continuing: \$7,765,748**

Services, supplies and dues

**Special Education: \$2,063,175**

Special services beyond regular education services

**Supplemental: \$610,860**

Equipment, technology, and textbooks

**Building & Grounds Supplemental: \$301,500**

Capital improvement projects



# Schools Are Not Funded Equally

In 1993, revenue/taxing limits were established for school districts based on their spending at that time. Schools that were big spenders have been locked into higher funding. Schools like Arrowhead, who were conservative spenders, have been locked into the constraints of lower funding for the last 30 years.

Annually, over \$750,000 of the ARROWHEAD portion of your property taxes goes directly to private, parochial, and charter schools.

Maximum Revenue (taxing authority) Comparison Waukesha County School Districts (2025-26)				
District	Max. Revenue per Student per Year	Max. Revenue per Student times # of Arrowhead Students (1,900)	Annual Difference	Five-Year Difference
Kettle Moraine	\$14,048	\$26,691,200	\$4,271,200	\$21,356,000
Hamilton	\$13,550	\$25,745,000	\$3,325,000	\$16,625,000
Elmbrook	\$13,018	\$24,734,200	\$2,314,200	\$11,571,000
New Berlin	\$12,650	\$24,035,000	\$1,615,000	\$8,075,000
Menomonee Falls	\$12,407	\$23,573,300	\$1,153,300	\$5,766,500
Arrowhead UHS	\$11,800	\$22,420,000	\$0	\$0
Pewaukee	\$11,780	\$22,382,000	(\$38,000)	(\$190,000)
Oconomowoc	\$11,763	\$22,349,700	(\$70,300)	(\$351,500)
Waukesha	\$11,656	\$22,146,400	(\$273,600)	(\$1,368,000)
Muskego	\$11,650	\$22,135,000	(\$285,000)	(\$1,425,000)
Mukwonago	\$11,650	\$22,135,000	(\$285,000)	(\$1,425,000)

## Students Assist Our Community

Arrowhead High School's mission is to promote academic success while empowering students to become engaged, confident, and lifelong learners who contribute to their communities. By practicing compassion, hard work, and collaboration in school, students prepare to make a meaningful impact in the world. Each year, students participate in over 130 service projects through classes, clubs, and sports – donating thousands of items, raising tens of thousands of dollars, and contributing over 10,000 hours to hundreds of community causes. We are proud of their efforts and pleased to share a few highlights here.



The girls swim team held its annual food drive for the Hartland Food Pantry and collected over 8,500 items! They also raised over \$10,000 for the Make-A-Wish Foundation.



The Student Senate hosted their Annual Blood Drive which helped over 174 local patients and held a Food Drive where they collected approximately \$2,000 in food items.



Arrowhead students raised more than \$11,000 to help victims of Hurricane Helene.



Arrowhead Union High School District  
700 North Avenue  
Hartland, WI 53029-1143

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## FOLLOW AHS



As a result of postal routes, residents from neighboring districts may receive this publication.  
Given the limitations of bulk mailing, this overlap could not be eliminated without significant costs.

**WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 15, 2025**

6:00 PM - Budget Hearing  
6:30 PM - Annual Meeting

**SOUTH CAMPUS CAFETERIA**

700 North Avenue  
Hartland, WI 53029

## NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING - Arrowhead Union High School District

Notice is hereby given to qualified electors of the Arrowhead Union High School District that the Budget Hearing and Annual Meeting will be held on October 15, 2025.

The Annual Meeting agenda and district budget information regarding the 2025-26 school year, as well as annual notices including the Wisconsin Accountability Report Card, are available on the district website at [www.arrowheadschoools.org](http://www.arrowheadschoools.org) or copies may be obtained from the Arrowhead Union High School District Office.

## ARROWHEAD VALUES VETERANS!



Students and staff have built strong, meaningful relationships with local veterans, forming bonds that extend far beyond the classroom. These connections have offered students a richer understanding of history, along with important life lessons in character, resilience, and perseverance. For the veterans, sharing their personal stories brings a sense of camaraderie and purpose, offering a firsthand look into the events that shaped their lives. These powerful interactions create a space for reflection and intergenerational dialogue, enriching both students and veterans. It's a mutual exchange—where history, wisdom, and personal experiences come together to form lasting relationships and shared memories.

- Veterans were invited as guest speakers during various classes.
- Arrowhead supported Stars & Stripes Honor Flight events.
- Annual Veterans Day Breakfast is hosted by Arrowhead's Rho Kappa Honor Society.
- The SAVE Team (Survivor And Veteran Experience) conducted interviews with veterans to preserve their stories for future generations.
- Band ensembles raised \$1,500 during a holiday concert, donating the proceeds to the Homeless Veterans Initiative of Milwaukee.
- Arrowhead students wrote hundreds of heartfelt letters to veterans through the Creative Writing class and various student clubs.