SPEARFISH SPARTANS

Annual Report

Spearfish School District 40-2

2025-26 SCHOOL YEAR

"Empowering All Students to Succeed in a Changing World"

www.spearfish.k12.sd.us

Spearfish Schools District 2025-2030 Strategic Plan

The Spearfish School District is excited to share a high-level overview of our 2025-2030 Strategic Plan, which will serve as our road map for the next three to five years. This comprehensive plan is designed to enhance student outcomes, operational efficiency, and community engagement by focusing on four key areas.

Our primary goal in ***Teaching and Learning*** is to boost academic achievement across math, ELA, and science, with clear targets for improving student attendance and raising test scores each year on assessments like Acadience, state assessments, and the ACT starting with the 2025-2026 school year.

In ***Resource Management***, we aim to optimize our use of financial, human, and physical resources, which includes balancing the budget, developing a strategy for hiring and retaining highly qualified staff, and providing professional development for all of our staff.

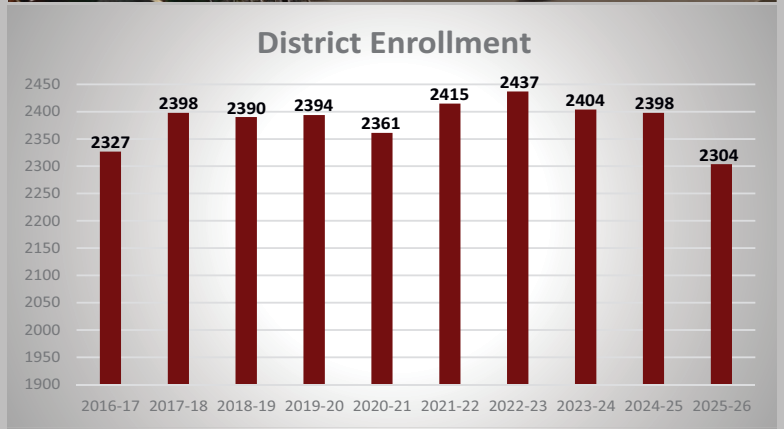
Our focus on ***Family and Community Engagement*** is centered on fostering transparent, two-way communication to strengthen trust and partnerships by sharing the awesome things happening is our schools.

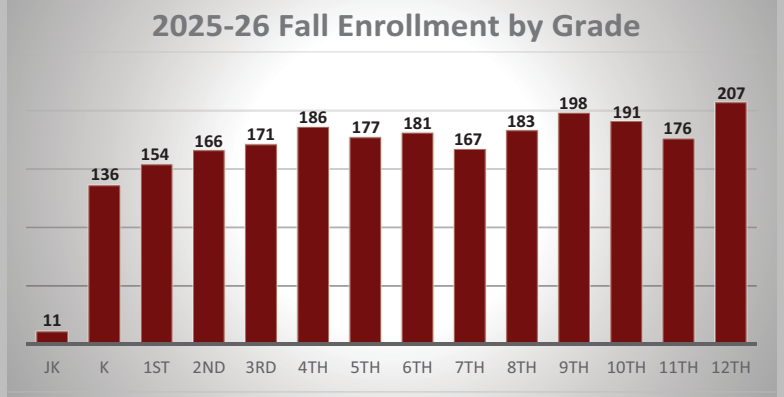
Finally, under ***Climate and Culture***, we are committed to cultivating a safe, supportive, and respectful environment for all, which will involve training all certified staff on Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) and ensuring all buildings complete essential emergency response drills.

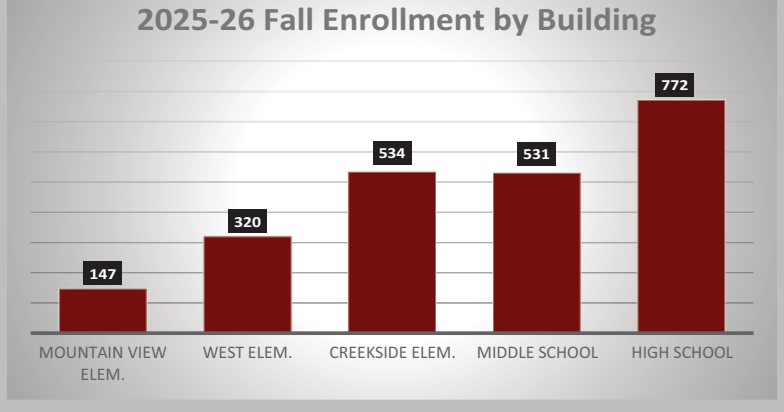
We see this plan as our shared commitment to the future success and well-being of every student and staff member in the district. Public education is vital in shaping the future of our community, and I am proud to highlight the remarkable work being done daily to provide opportunities for all our students. Thank you to our teachers, staff, parents, and the community at large for partnering with us to make this possible for our students.

Kirk Easton, Superintendent









District Finances

District Revenue 2024-25

General Fund $20,041,887

Capital Outlay $6,802,641

Special Education $4,606,457

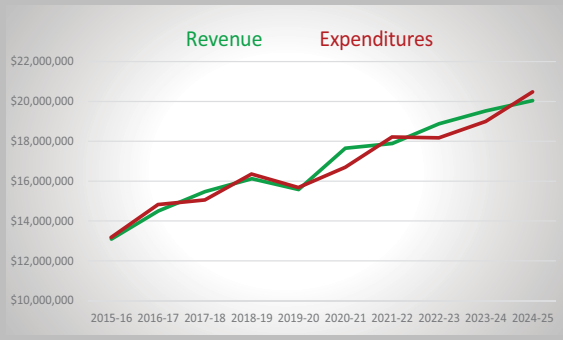
District Expenditures 2024-25

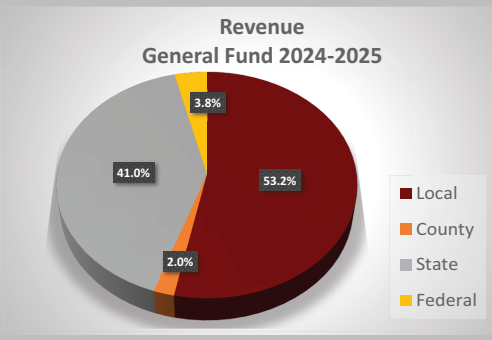
General Fund $20,376,348

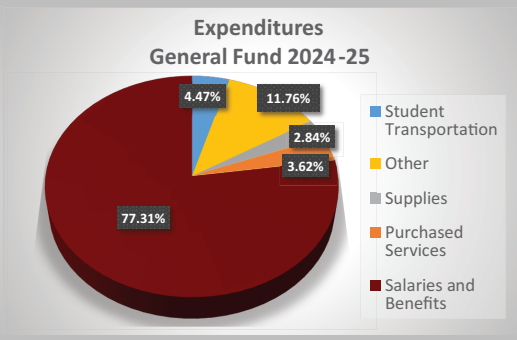
Capital Outlay $4,608,614

Special Education $4,667,328

The State of South Dakota compiles data on school district expenditures, and ranks districts on the amount of money it costs to educate a student in a given district. During the 23-24 school year, it cost $10,103 to educate a student in the Spearfish SchoolDistrict. This ranked Spearfish 134th out of 149 schools, boding well in terms of cost efficiency for the Spearfish Community.







Board of Education

Ryan Niesent
Board President

Ellen Plocek
Vice President

Eric Skavang
Member

Nathan Hoogshagen
Member

Alesha Limbo
Member

School Administrators

Kirk Easton
Superintendent
717-1229

Craig Crosswait
Business Manager
717-1201

Sarah Heilman
Special Services Director
717-1201

Lana Main
Curriculum Director
717-1201

Joe Williams
High School Principal
717-1212

Jim Seyer
High School Asst. Principal
717-1212

Dalton Wademan
High School Activities Director
717-1206

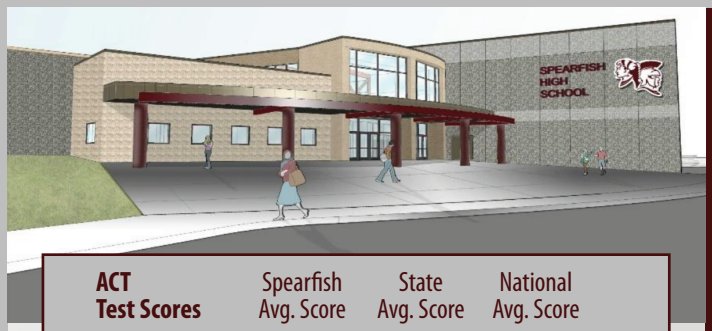
Don Lyon
Middle School Principal
717-1215

Mark Jacobs
Middle School Asst. Principal
717-1215

Brady Sumners
Creekside Elementary Principal
717-1210

Nick Gottlob
West/Mtn. View Elem. Principal
717-1205

Ashley Anderson
Elementary Asst. Principal
717-1209



ACT Test Scores	Spearfish Avg. Score	State Avg. Score	National Avg. Score
2024-25	**22.5**	**21.1**	**19.4**

State Assessments

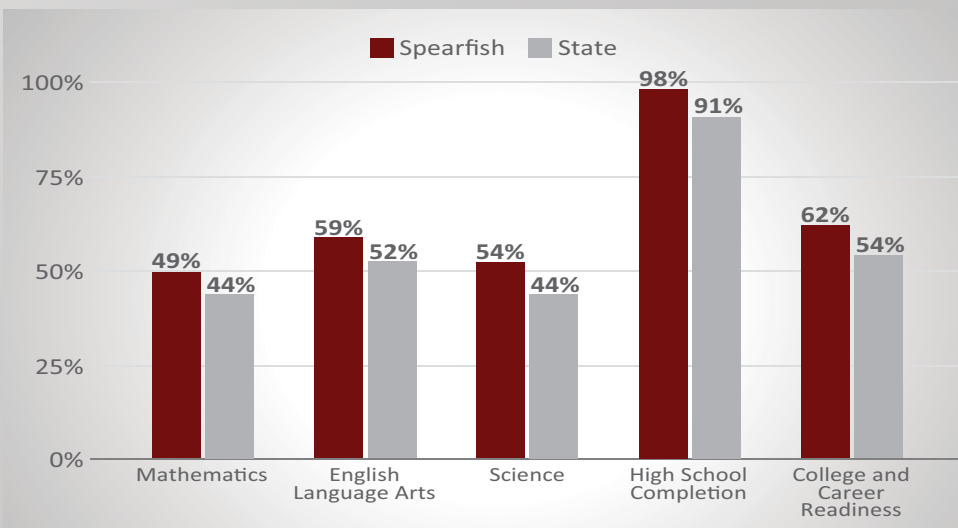
South Dakota public school students in grades 3-8 and 11 participate annually in summative testing in English Language Arts and Mathematics. Students in grades 5, 8, and 11 also take an annual Science assessment. These assessments, as well as other metrics, such as graduation and attendance rate, are part of the South Dakota Department of Education's state accountability system. The Spearfish School District uses this data to identify areas of strength and weakness in our commitment to serve students, families, and the Spearfish community.

Percent Proficient

- **Mathematics**
- **English Language Arts**

High School

- **Completion**
- **College and Career Readiness**



District Snapshot

K-12 Enrollment as of September 2025: **2304**

Percent Receiving Special Education Services: **13.01%**

Certified Staff to Student Ratio: **1:13.7**

Average Students per Class: **18.09**

Number of 2025 Graduates: **190**

Certified Teaching Staff: **168**

Average District Teaching Salary: **$60,033**

Starting Teacher Salary: **$50,500**

Teachers with Advanced Degrees: **48**

Teachers Highly Qualified under the federal mandate of the Every Student Succeeds Act: **99.9%**