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Perpich Center for Arts Education

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AT A GLANCE

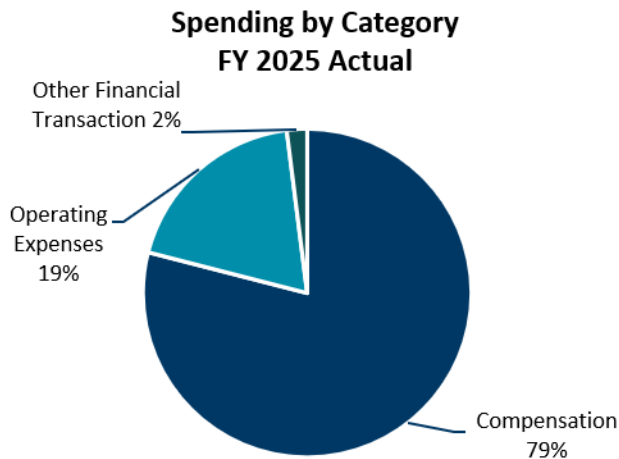
- Authorized by the Legislature in 1985.
- Provides a nationally recognized, unique, and challenging learning environment to artistically-talented 11th & 12th grade Minnesota students in seven arts areas with an optional residential program.
- Provides high-quality professional development opportunities for arts teachers in 480 Minnesota public and charter school districts. Provides leadership for the development of Minnesota K-12 Academic Standards in the Arts, leads the Comprehensive Arts Planning Program (CAPP) statewide, and leads the Arts Education Data Project in Minnesota.
- Provides specialized library collections of arts and arts education items, including resources by Native Authors and Artists.
- Employs 68 full- and part-time teachers and staff.
- Governed by a statewide, Governor-appointed board of directors with representation from Minnesota Department of Education (MDE).

PURPOSE

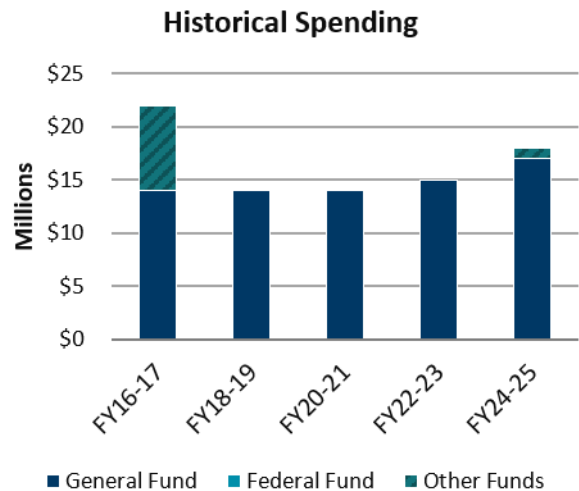
The mission of Perpich Center for Arts Education is to provide all Minnesota students the opportunity to develop, enhance, and integrate their artistic and academic abilities to their highest potential. As a public education institution, Perpich Center is uniquely positioned to fuse artistic passion and academic excellence to produce creative, critical thinkers. We do this by teaching in and through the arts. The agency operates the Arts High School and the Professional Development and Resource Support to accomplish the following:

1. Provide a challenging and supportive learning environment for artistically-talented Minnesota students in grades 11 and 12.
2. Assist all Minnesota students in developing the education and skills needed to achieve their personal goals. Perpich Center programs in arts education address many of the systemic issues affecting student achievement, including social and personal development, equity, and engagement in learning.
3. Prepare Minnesota's future workforce with skills including creativity, communication, collaboration, and critical thinking. These skills result in a better prepared workforce, thus contributing to a thriving economy that encourages business growth and employment opportunities.
4. Support Minnesota public and charter school arts education teachers and administrators through high quality professional development programming.
5. Provide a library for Perpich students, Minnesota public patrons, and arts educators across the State of Minnesota. The specialized professional collection of more than 15,000 items serves as the preeminent arts education resource for the State of Minnesota. Of note is the Library's resources by Native Authors and Artists. The Library hosts print, multimedia, and electronic resources on arts education, arts-integrated education, arts in cultural context, and professional development. Special collections of multimedia and electronic resources are available.

BUDGET



Source: Budget Planning & Analysis System (BPAS)



Source: Consolidated Fund Statement

Note: In FY14-17, the Perpich Center operated the Crosswinds Arts and Science School.

The Perpich Center has a total biennial budget of about \$15 million. Funds are primarily from general fund appropriations. The Center also receives revenues from student fees and federal reimbursements through the MN Department of Education.

STRATEGIES

To accomplish its mission, Perpich Center for Arts Education programs incorporate the following strategies:

1. Elevate Artistic and Academic Excellence Through a Culture of Belonging:

Perpich Center for Arts Education advances artistic and academic excellence by fostering a culture of belonging where students, educators, and employees can thrive.

- Through its Arts High School, the agency strengthens academic achievement, literacy, interdisciplinary learning, and comprehensive student supports while creating an inclusive environment that promotes student success and well-being.
- Statewide, Perpich expands access to high-quality arts education by building educator capacity, supporting implementation of the Minnesota Academic Standards in the Arts, and providing professional learning, consultation, research, and instructional resources to schools and districts across Minnesota.
- The agency also invests in its own workforce through employee learning, onboarding, coaching, and leadership development, ensuring a strong foundation for delivering exceptional educational experiences.
- Success is measured through student outcomes such as enrollment retention, graduation rates, belonging, and literacy progress; statewide impact through educators, charter schools, and legislative districts served; and organizational excellence through employee engagement, retention, and onboarding.

2. Cultivate Connections and Boldly Tell Our Story:

Perpich Center for Arts Education cultivates meaningful connections and elevates the impact of arts education by expanding awareness, strengthening partnerships, and sharing the stories that demonstrate its statewide value.

- The agency increases access to the Arts High School through strategic recruitment and outreach while highlighting the achievements of students, educators, alumni, and partners.
- As Minnesota's trusted leader in arts education, Perpich collaborates with the Minnesota Department of Education, arts organizations, legislators, schools, and communities to advance arts learning across the state.
- The agency also modernizes communications, enhances customer service, strengthens alumni engagement, and improves operational support to better serve Minnesotans.
- Success is measured through increased Arts High School applications and enrollment, broader geographic representation, stronger digital engagement and earned media, expanded legislative and statewide partnerships, greater alumni involvement, improved customer satisfaction, and more efficient contract and procurement processes.

3. Optimize Systems to Support a Thriving, Future-Ready State Agency:

Perpich Center for Arts Education strengthens its organizational foundation by optimizing systems, modernizing operations, and investing in the long-term sustainability of the agency.

- Through strategic planning, technology modernization, cybersecurity enhancements, standardized processes, and improved financial stewardship, the agency ensures it can efficiently and effectively serve students, educators, and communities across Minnesota.
- Perpich also invests in its facilities through asset preservation, preventive maintenance, and energy efficiency improvements while building organizational resilience through documented procedures, cross-training, succession planning, and knowledge preservation.
- Success is measured by the completion of strategic initiatives, improved technology performance and cybersecurity, on-time and on-budget capital projects, strong financial accountability, reduced deferred maintenance, documented operational processes, and a well-prepared workforce equipped to sustain the agency's mission into the future.

M.S. 129C (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/129C>) provides the legal authority for the Perpich Center for Arts Education.

Program: Arts Education**Activity: Agency Operation**<http://perpich.mn.gov/>**AT A GLANCE**

- Provide for overall operation and planning for agency divisions.
- Oversee 33-acre campus in Golden Valley.
- 4,000 annual visitors that attend performances, exhibitions, workshops, and trainings.
- Plan for financial viability and sustainability.
- Manage school food service operations for breakfast, lunch, and dinner.
- Support a residence hall for up to 140 students.
- Manage stakeholder communications and web site developments.

PURPOSE AND CONTEXT

Operations includes the structural divisions necessary for the agency to conduct business: human resources, facilities, administrative management, finance, communications, technology, security, and administration.

Perpich Center for Arts Education operates Perpich Arts High School, a student residential dormitory, Professional Development and Resource Program (PDR) formerly known as “outreach”, and Perpich Library. The agency employs 68 full- and part-time teachers and staff. The general fund appropriation to Perpich funds the majority of operations, the arts high school, the student dormitory, and professional development and resources.

Perpich Center provides a safe, healthy, and sustainable environment; empowers employees through resources, mentorship, training, and accountability; serves as good stewards of public dollars and public facilities; and fosters an agency-wide culture that welcomes diversity, employee engagement, and informed decision making.

Perpich is a key part of the arts education landscape in Minnesota*:

1. Minnesota is recognized as having all nationally accepted policies and standards in place for delivering effective K-12 programs for arts education.
2. Minnesota is one of 21 states having a State Arts Education Grant Program or School for the Arts.
3. Minnesota is one of 27 states mandating that high school students obtain course credit in the arts as a requirement for graduation.

*Source: Arts Education Partnership/Education Commission of the States report: 2024 ArtsScan at a Glance, Highlighting State Arts Education Policies, April 2024. <https://www.ecs.org/wp-content/uploads/2024-ArtScan-at-a-Glance.pdf>

SERVICES PROVIDED

- Provide internal and external decision-makers with research-based information supporting the impact of teaching and learning in and through the arts
- Assess state laws and policies and communicate results to decision-makers to assure Minnesota’s compliance with federal laws associated with arts education
- Conduct research and analytical services for internal agency divisions and school district leaders seeking to expand, enhance, or change the delivery of arts education to meet emerging needs

- Monitor school district shifts regarding arts education including: per-pupil spending for arts education, best practices, use of licensed arts teachers, student access to arts instruction, and inclusion of arts education in district strategic plans
- Provide information to managers so they are able to perform their responsibilities, including daily security reports, monthly financial statements, communication updates, and biweekly human resource reports
- Conduct quarterly reviews of internal controls, risk management procedures, and facilities
- Ensure employees within their departments have the expertise, training, resources, and authority to achieve their goals. Members of the leadership team are directors of: human resources, administrative management, finance, program, communications, and administration

Advocacy for Minnesota Arts Education: Research continues to come forward demonstrating the impact of arts education in schools. Perpich provides research, data, and resources that help Minnesota schools make informed decisions about arts education. Recent work includes examining the relationship between access to arts education and chronic absenteeism, supporting activities directors in strengthening arts programming, and leading the Minnesota Arts Education Data Project to better understand and expand student access to arts education statewide. Perpich Center works with the Minnesota Department of Education, the Governor, and the Minnesota Legislature to maintain appropriate laws and policies as a means to support arts education in Minnesota schools.

RESULTS

Part A: Performance Data

Measure	Measure type	Measure data source	Historical trend	Most recent data
Monthly financial reports to program managers	Quantity	Monthly financial reports will be sent to department managers to enable them to monitor their budgets in a timely manner.	Monthly reports were not being sent to department managers on a monthly basis in the recent past. The reports were sent out on an irregular basis or not at all.	Reports will be sent to department managers on a monthly basis beginning in FY24-25.

Part B: Evidence of Effectiveness

This program funds operations which cannot be evaluated using randomized control or quasi-experimental design methods.

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- M.S. 129C (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/129C>)
 - M.S. 43A.38 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/43A.38>)
 - M.S. 16A.057 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/16A.057>)
 - Perpich Board Bylaws
 - Perpich Board Policies

Program: Arts Education**Activity: Perpich Arts High School**<https://perpich.mn.gov/arts-high-school/>**AT A GLANCE**

- Minnesota's only statewide public arts high school serving grades 11-12.
- Tuition-free public school with an optional residential program serving students from across Minnesota.
- Rigorous academic and pre-professional arts education in Dance, Literary Arts, Media Arts, Music, Musical Theater, Theater, and Visual Arts.
- 100% graduation rate with graduates pursuing higher education, careers, and service.
- Nationally recognized arts education program.

PURPOSE AND CONTEXT

Perpich Arts High School is a statewide, public school with a residential option that serves 11th and 12th grade students. The purpose is to empower students who have a passion for the arts to participate creatively, critically, and confidently in the global community. Students who wish to attend the school go through a competitive application and review process.

Perpich expands educational opportunities for talented students from every region of Minnesota, including communities where advanced arts programming may not be available locally. Students develop artistic excellence alongside the creativity, collaboration, communication, and problem-solving skills that prepare them to contribute to Minnesota's workforce, economy, and communities. Those accepted have shown artistic promise and a strong commitment to learning in an environment that supports rigorous academic programs.

This innovative, statewide school attracts students from all over the state who represent all aspects of Minnesota's demographics, including ethnic diversity, underserved youth, and families suffering economic hardship. We support a learning environment that is sharply focused on student artistic growth, personal leadership, and academic achievement.

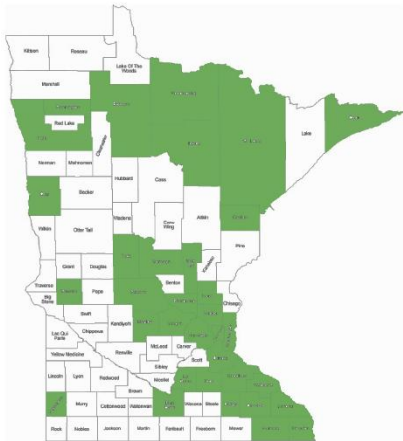
Through partnerships with colleges, universities, arts organizations, and professional artists, Perpich Arts High School provides students with authentic artistic experiences, opportunities to build professional portfolios, and exposure to postsecondary pathways. Each fall, students participate in an on-campus college fair where they present portfolios and academic achievements to representatives from colleges and universities across the country, often earning portfolio acceptance and other opportunities. These experiences prepare graduates for higher education, employment, entrepreneurship, and careers in Minnesota's creative economy and beyond. College admissions counselors consistently report that Perpich graduates stand out for their engagement, responsibility, creativity, and readiness to learn.

PERPICH IMPACT ACROSS THE STATE

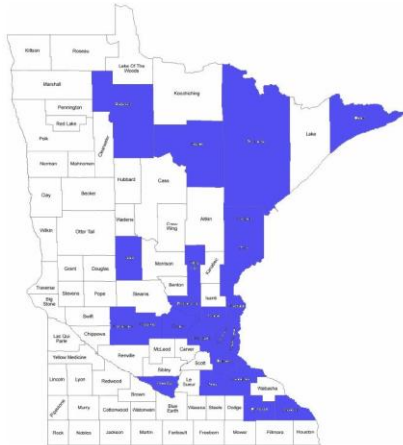
Perpich Arts High School is Minnesota's only statewide public arts high school, open to students from every Minnesota community. The school currently serves students from 29 counties representing all eight congressional districts. By providing access to rigorous arts and academic programming regardless of a student's geographic location, Perpich expands educational opportunities for students across the state. Graduates return to their communities with artistic excellence, leadership skills, and college and career readiness that strengthen Minnesota's workforce and creative economy.

Expanding Opportunity Across Minnesota

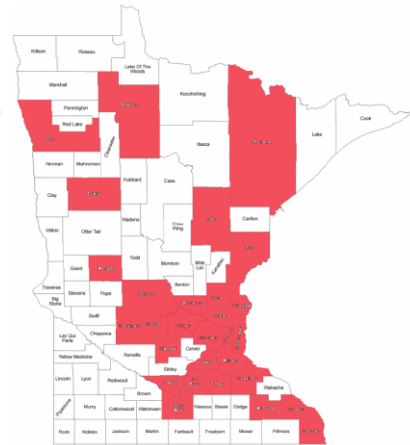
PERPICH ARTS HIGH SCHOOL COUNTY REPRESENTATION



2024/2025



2025/2026



2026/2027

Statewide Reach

- Students currently represent 29 Minnesota counties.
- Students come from communities in all eight of Minnesota's congressional districts.
- The school serves students from urban, suburban, and rural communities across the state.
- The residential program removes geographic barriers, allowing students from Greater Minnesota to access specialized arts education not available in many local districts.

Statewide Return on Investment

- Perpich provides opportunities that many local school districts cannot offer independently, helping ensure Minnesota students have equitable access to advanced arts education regardless of zip code.
- Graduates pursue higher education, employment, military service, entrepreneurship, and careers that contribute to Minnesota's economy and communities.
- Students maintain connections with their hometowns and frequently return to enrich local arts organizations, schools, businesses, and civic life.
- Through its statewide enrollment model, Perpich builds connections among students from diverse geographic, cultural, and economic backgrounds, strengthening understanding and collaboration across Minnesota.

SERVICES PROVIDED

Perpich Arts High School provides:

- Opportunity for Minnesota junior and senior students to attend a school focused on teaching and learning in and through the arts.
- A model community where students thrive in an innovative, challenging, and safe learning environment.
- Provides statewide access to rigorous arts and academic education regardless of a student's geographic location.
- Supports students through academic advising, college and career planning, residential life programming, counseling, and individualized learning supports.

As a result, Perpich graduates 100% of students annually and places 70%-75% directly into 2-4 year colleges.

Perpich also engages in teacher evaluation and continuous improvement:

- Perpich teachers engage in continuous improvement planning through a Professional Learning Community process. The school is re-accredited every five years with ongoing benchmark goals and curriculum evaluation in between accreditation years.
- Perpich continuously evaluates student outcomes, instructional practices, accreditation goals, and statewide impact to ensure responsible stewardship of public resources and continuous program improvement.
- Perpich Arts High School develops Thinking Artists through four interconnected areas of practice: Creative Practice, Relational Practice, Thinking Practice, and Individual Practice. This framework prepares students to be innovative makers, critical and creative thinkers, empathetic collaborators, effective communicators, engaged citizens, and reflective, accountable lifelong learners.

Perpich Arts High School is committed to developing the capacity of teachers, staff, and students with regards to racial equity and inclusion. The school engages in this work through professional development series, partnership with racial equity and educational organizations, schoolwide forums, and strategic planning.

RESULTS

Part A: Performance Data

Measure name	Measure type	Measure data source	Historical trend	Historical trend	Most recent data
Graduation Rate	Quantity	Students that have met graduation requirements	FY24- 100%	FY25- 100%	FY26- 100%
English Lit & Comp Mean AP Score	Quality	AP English Lit AP English Comp	FY24 – 3.1	FY25 – 3.58	FY26-3.29
Calculus Mean AP Score	Quality	AP Calculus	FY24 –5.0	FY25 – 2.0	FY26-2.67
Art History AP Mean AP Score	Quality	AP Art History	FY24 –2.29	FY25 – 2.18	FY26 – 2.58
State, National Awards	Quantity	Student generated awards	FY24 - 113	FY25 - 100	FY26 – 80
ACT Composite	Quality	ACT test scores	FY24 – 21.7	FY25 –24.0	FY26-22.8

Perpich Arts High School expands educational opportunities for students across Minnesota by providing rigorous academic and arts instruction in a statewide, public school setting. Through high expectations, comprehensive student support, and continuous improvement, the school prepares graduates for higher education, careers, and civic engagement while strengthening Minnesota's creative workforce and communities.

Part B: Evidence of Effectiveness

This program funds operations which cannot be evaluated using randomized control or quasi-experimental design methods.

M.S. 129C.10 (<https://www.revisor.mn.gov/statutes/cite/129C.10>)

Program: Arts Education**Activity: Professional Development and Resource Programs**<https://perpich.mn.gov/professional-development/>**AT A GLANCE**

- Offers technical assistance, consultation, and professional development to arts educators, administrators, and non-arts educators statewide.
- Leads the Comprehensive Arts Planning Program (CAPP) statewide.
- Leads the Arts Education Data Project in Minnesota.
- Co-leads revisions to the Arts Teacher Licensure Standards.

PURPOSE AND CONTEXT

The goal of Professional Development and Resource Programs (PDR) is to build educator and administrator capacity statewide so they can provide innovative, inclusive, and student-centered learning in and through the arts. To reach that goal, programming priorities include:

- Addressing educator isolation and building communities of belonging.
- Supporting implementation of Minnesota K-12 Academic Standards in the Arts.
- Meeting the changing needs of the field.
- Sharing curated resources and research.
- Collaborating to advance equity and social justice.

PDR is a department of eight highly-qualified and experienced staff:

- Dance Education Specialist
- Music Education Specialist
- Theater Education Specialist
- Visual and Media Arts Education Specialist
- Leadership & Data Specialist
- Comprehensive Arts Planning Program (CAPP) Specialist
- Administrative Specialist
- Program Director

SERVICES PROVIDED

PDR specialists work with school districts and charter schools in every Legislative District, and have done so consistently FY23-FY26:

- Facilitate arts-specific professional development, technical assistance, and consultation with arts educators, administrators, and non-arts educators.
- Develop and collaborate K-12 curriculum, instruction, and assessment models in dance, media arts, music, theater, and visual arts.
- Support ongoing implementation of the Minnesota K-12 Academic Standards in the Arts.
- Lead action research in areas impacting arts education.
- Lead strategic planning in arts programming through the CAPP program.
- Lead the Arts Education Data Project in Minnesota.

- Co-lead revisions to the Arts Teacher Licensure Standards with Minnesota Department of Education (MDE) and Professional Educator Licensing Standards Board (PELSB).

RESULTS

Part A: Performance Data

PDR specialists have provided service to school districts and charter schools in every Minnesota Legislative District every year, FY23 through FY26.

Measure name	Measure type	Measure data source	Historical trend
Number of professional development events	Quantity	Count of events scheduled and completed	FY26 – 280 events FY25 – 313 FY24 – 373 FY23 – 352
Number of school districts and charter schools served	Quantity	Count of school districts and charter schools receiving services	FY26 – 254 districts FY25 – 275 FY24 – 256 FY23 – 211
Total points of contact at all events (educators + administrators)	Quantity	Count of total attendees at events (educators + administrators)	FY26 – 3,052 attendees FY25 – 2,755 FY24 – 2,498 FY23 – 1,578
Number of arts educators served at one or more events	Quantity	Count of arts educators receiving services	FY26 – 1,425 educators FY25 – 1,467 FY24 – 1,105 FY23 – 739
Number of non-arts educators served at one or more events	Quantity	Count of non-arts educators receiving services	FY26 – 471 educators FY25 – 400 FY24 – 329 FY23 – 140
Number of administrators served at one or more events	Quantity	Count of administrators receiving services	FY26 – 131 administrators FY25 – 107 FY24 – 137 FY23 – 83

Part B: Evidence of Effectiveness

No Evidence-based Practices were identified.

M.S 129C.15
M.S 129C.20
M.S 129C.25-26