



# Achievement Plus Initiative

## 2022—2023 School Year Overview

September 2023

Since 1997, Saint Paul Public Schools and Wilder Foundation have partnered to provide Achievement Plus community schools in support of student, family, and neighborhood success.

The Achievement Plus strategy impacts change at the family, school, and community level by

- **Easing access** to food, clothing, employment, health, and housing resources in support of whole families
- **Creating and sustaining local communities** by promoting and hosting school/neighborhood family events and activities
- **Nurturing school-community relationships** to build systems of support around the school community
- **Engaging local and state leaders** in conversations around child and family wellbeing, equity, and healthy neighborhoods

Achievement Plus Community Liaisons supported 1,292 students and their families at

- Bruce Vento Elementary
- Dayton's Bluff Achievement Plus Elementary
- St. Paul Music Academy

**Achievement Plus Schools are supported by a community investment of over \$2,176,350\***

Every \$1 of SPPS investment is met with **\$6.80** investment from the community

*\* Investments from "core" community partners includes funding from St Paul Public Schools, Wilder Foundation, Children's Dental Services, Every Meal, Neighborhood House/Family Center, St Paul Parks/Rec and the YMCA*

*"The difference between being a school with partners and being an A+ school is the reciprocal relationships and embedding (the A+ model) into what we do as a school. I think **this model helps build trust with families and build synergy between the school and the partners.**"*

—A+ principal

## Achievement Plus Community Engagement

**A+ Liaisons inform and influence community-wide conversations around child and family wellbeing** through leadership and regular participation in groups like the East Side Health and Wellbeing Collaborative, the Sprockets Community Advisory Council, business groups, and interactions with SPPS Family Liaison staff in several East Side and North End schools.

**A+ Liaisons collaborate with over 35 community service organizations** to provide services and programming to students and families in our schools and surrounding neighborhoods.

**A+ Liaisons play key leadership roles in the statewide network of community schools** and were instrumental in successfully advocating for an historic **\$15million investment** by the State to fund community schools.

*“A+ not only brings a partnership to the table but also **brings the voices of families, students, and their A+ Partners...** Their participation and community/school perspective has been essential in the development and communication of our community-supportive work.” —A+ Partner*

## Achievement Plus by the numbers in the 2022–2023 school year

### Collaborative leadership

- A+ Liaisons collaborated **12.6 hours per month** (per school) with school leadership in team meetings focused on school-wide issues such as safety, family engagement, equity, and mental health

### Family and community engagement

- A+ Liaisons **assisted more than 25 families per month** (per school) with direct support such as resource delivery and referrals for service—more than half of these interactions (**14 families per week**) involved collaboration with school staff

### Extended learning

- A+ Liaisons provided **14.7 hours per month** (per school) of support in coordinating and hosting school and partner led enrichment activities with groups such as the Rec Center and YMCA, Urban Roots, St Paul Public Library, Girl Scouts, MN Sinfonia, and many others

### Community partner integration

- **3,630 weekend meals** were provided by Every Meal for students at Bruce Vento, a new site for Every Meal and representing one of the largest single sites for Every Meal in the metro area
- **2,682 therapeutic services (over 1,800 total hours)** were provided to A+ students and their families through Wilder Community Mental Health and Wellness
- **364 A+ students and 81 community members** received dental services and procedures through Children's Dental Services
- **Over 540 A+ students** participated, quarterly, in daytime and afterschool sports clinics offered by the St Paul Rec Center at the three A+ schools; **An additional 100** joined the YMCA Beacon's Program at Bruce Vento **and 50 more students** attended after school programming at the Dayton's Bluff Rec Center

[wilder.org/community-impact/achievement-plus](https://wilder.org/community-impact/achievement-plus) | 651-793-7367

