



# Saint Anthony Park Elementary School

## Frequently Asked Questions



**What grades do you offer?** Kindergarten through fifth (no pre-kindergarten)

### **Do you offer before and after school care?**

Our Discovery Club program offers after-school care. You apply separately for this fee-based program. For more information and to register, visit [discoveryclub.spps.org](http://discoveryclub.spps.org) or ask in our school office for a brochure.

Extended Day Learning (EDL) and Community Education (CE) offer after school enrichment options. EDL is free, goes from 2:00 to 3:45 twice per week, and transportation is available. CE has a sliding scale fee, goes from 2:00 to 3:15, and has no transportation. EDL and Community Ed classes start in October and run through early May.

### **What are my chances of getting in to St. Anthony Park?**

It depends on the year. Definitely apply, and find out. Students are accepted in tiers: first our Community School Zone (CSZ) students, then Area E students, then St. Paul students, then out-of-district students. There is sibling preference within each tier.

### **Is there busing?**

Yes, free busing is offered to all Area E students that live farther than one-half mile from school. To check whether your address is qualified for busing, go to <http://apply.spps.org>

### **What are the demographics?**

There were 560 students at SAP in 2019-20 and 525 in 2020-21. Approximate percentages from Fall 2020:

- American Indian 0.9%
- Asian American 11.4%
- Black or African American 15.1%
- Hispanic/Latino 7.2%
- Caucasian American 58.2%
- Two or more races 7.2%
- English Language Learners 18.2%
- # of Languages – 30 (top 5: Somali, Chinese, Hmong, Spanish, Nepali)
- Special Education 9.9%
- Students eligible for free and reduced lunch 32.8%
- Out of district students 7.5%

### **What are the test scores?**

Our test scores are strong, some of the highest in St. Paul. In 2019 (tests were not administered in 2020):

- 68.5% of students tested proficient in **reading** on the Minnesota Comprehensive Assessments (MCA);
- 67.2% of students tested proficient in **math** on the MCA; and
- 63% of 5<sup>th</sup> grade students tested proficient in **science** on the MCA.

### **What options do you offer for gifted and talented students?**

A high percentage of our students have been identified as gifted and talented (50%+), so we offer enrichment opportunities are infused throughout each school day and available to all students. Enrichment and acceleration in core academic subjects are part of everyday school routines. Many additional options are also available, such as Artist-in-Residence programs, Destination Imagination, math grade level-skipping, talent show, Running Club, cross grade-level mentoring, chess, weekly computer and art classes, and much more.



### **What do you offer in the sciences?**

Science, especially environmental learning, is a priority at SAP. We have two excellent science specialists who work with students every third or fourth day. Our local park is designated as an official school forest and regularly becomes an outdoor learning space. Inquiry classes, family science nights (grades 1-3), science fair (grades 3-5), Bakken Institute demonstrations (grade 4), Physics Force field trip (grade 2), and Wolf Ridge Environmental Learning Trip (grade 5) are just a few of the additional opportunities for students.

### **What do you offer in the arts?**

SAP students are immersed in the arts! We have a full-time music teacher and a visual art specialist. Students learn with both, once or twice a week. Each class also works closely with an artist for one to two weeks during our Artist-in-Residence program. We are part of the Minneapolis Institute of Art's Art Adventure Program. Community Education and Extended Day Learning options include many arts options, including instrumental music lessons for fourth and fifth graders, drumming and guitar lessons, and drawing.

### **What is your philosophy on behavior support?**

All students want to be successful and have positive learning experiences. We begin the year by teaching the rituals and routines students will need to know to participate successfully at school. Some children need more time or assistance to learn those routines, and we provide extra support as needed. If children are not demonstrating expected behaviors, they are provided with tools to help them change their behavior, fix a problem they have created, or help themselves be ready to learn again. We hold all students to high standards of behavior, and our principal, counselor, paraprofessionals and teachers work with parents and guardians to help all kids be successful.

### **What opportunities are there for parents to get involved?**

There are opportunities galore! Community events, science family nights, science fair, classroom volunteering, curriculum information night, school support, book clubs, field trips, fundraising, read-a-thon, site council, week-long 5<sup>th</sup> grade Wolf Ridge trip - just to name a few!

The St. Anthony Park School Association (SAPSA) is our fundraising and community planning group. In addition to organizing events and other school supports, SAPSA also has the Advisory Council, our parent advisory group, which works with our principal on issues such as programming, budget, enrollment, and district policies. See [www.sapsamn.org](http://www.sapsamn.org) for more information.

### **Why should I choose St. Anthony Park?**

For many reasons! These include the spirit of community (happy and engaged students, positive energy levels, high parent involvement, community involvement), high test scores, and excellent and caring teachers and staff. In 2017, our school was awarded the designation "National Blue Ribbon School of Excellence" based on our overall high performance and excellent educational practices.

### **What are the hours?**

Our school hours are:

- 7:15 Doors open for arrival
- 7:30 Class starts
- 2:00 Dismissal

### **How can I find out more?**

This year our tours are all virtual due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Times, dates and Zoom access information is available at [www.spps.org/stanthony](http://www.spps.org/stanthony). Reservations are not necessary. Our website also contains more information and videos about our school.

**For more information, or to tour our school, call 651-293-8735, or visit our website at [www.spps.org/stanthony](http://www.spps.org/stanthony)  
St Anthony Park Elementary School ● 2180 Knapp Street, St Paul MN 55108 ● 651-293-8735**