



YOU WORK HARD  
FOR YOUR MONEY  
**YOU DESERVE**  
TO KNOW HOW  
YOUR **TAX DOLLARS**  
ARE PUT TO  
**WORK**



Name  
Address

### A Strategic Approach

Ensuring High-Quality Infrastructure and Academic Opportunities Throughout the District

At Westminster Public Schools (WPS) we understand that sustained excellence and innovation can only be achieved through wise use of our money. We work strategically to ensure that all expenditures and investments support our vision and goals.

Only by taking a long-term view, creating a roadmap, and making budget decisions that match our goals can we improve education to create opportunities for learners to think, work together, and succeed in life.

WPS's "Vision 2020: A Pathway to the Future" is available at [westminsterpublicschools.org/vision](http://westminsterpublicschools.org/vision).

Para ver en español visite: <http://bit.ly/SPspecialEdition>

"It's not hard to  
make decisions  
when you know  
what your  
values are."

- Roy Disney

**"Education** is for improving the  
lives of others and for leaving your community and  
world **better** than you found it."

- Marian Wright Edelman

**PREPARING  
FUTURE LEADERS  
LEARNERS  
AND THINKERS  
FOR A GLOBAL  
COMMUNITY**



*“Public schools do their best work when they have a strong bond with the community, and we believe it is critically important for all families to have a sense of pride and ownership of their local schools. As you read this brochure, I think you will find that Westminster Public Schools and your Board of Education have spent taxpayer money wisely so graduates will have the values and skills enabling them to give back to our wonderful community.”*

-Dr. Pamela Swanson  
Superintendent of Schools



**WE STRIVE FOR THE HIGHEST QUALITY EDUCATION CHALLENGE OUR STUDENTS AND STAFF AND ARE COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE**

## Creating an Environment for Success

### Building Schools that Support Innovative Learning

Over the past decade, WPS has invested in:

- Building the state-of-the-art Westminster High School. Two high-quality performance arts spaces and a modern theater enable the school to have a thriving, award-winning performing arts program.
- Building Hodgkins Elementary school, a modern building to support a thriving neighborhood community.
- Renovating John E. Flynn A Marzano Academy, home to one of the most innovative schools in the state.
- Renovating Harris Park Elementary School so that the look of the building reflects the quality instruction.
- Creating a forward-thinking and health-conscious nutrition program.
- Building an industrial kitchen at Hidden Lake High School so graduating culinary students can step into professional careers.
- Expanding the Career Technical Education (CTE) Program, enabling students to graduate with job-ready skills in the construction and trade industries.
- Maintaining safe, comfortable environments so that students can focus on learning. Major initiatives included: replacing 13 roofs, installing new air conditioning and heating systems at 8 schools, and installing safety upgrades in all buildings.



*Culinary students graduating from Hidden Lake High School are ready to go directly into a career with certifications in food safety and preparation and up to six college credits.*



**THE WHS CLASS OF 2018 WAS AWARDED A RECORD NUMBER OF SCHOLARSHIP DOLLARS AND HAD TWO DANIELS FUND SCHOLARS**

*John Lam and Cruz Marrujo, pictured right, have each been awarded a four-year Daniels Fund Scholarship!*

## Achieving Excellence

WPS has invested in resources to create engaging, relevant teaching and learning experiences that prepare students for life.

Over the past decade WPS has:

- Attracted top performing teachers by offering competitive salaries, benefits, and a culture of respect.
- Modernized classrooms and provided one-to-one technology for all students to support 21st century learning.
- Implemented a district-wide after-school math program to provide extra support for students.
- Created an after-school literacy program providing reading tutors to elementary school students.



## Leading Innovation

WPS creates personalized learning opportunities which enable ALL students to develop the skills and knowledge required to achieve their dreams.

Over the past decade, WPS has:

- Led the national movement toward Competency Based Learning Systems. This innovative vision for public education ends social promotion by requiring students to master their learning content and only advance when ready.
- Created three innovation schools, each with a specialized approach – Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM); Westminster Academy for International Studies (WAIS); and the Marzano Academy.
- Developed a Creative Arts Pipeline for students to turn their passion of the arts into career opportunities.
- Invested in a virtual academy to create anywhere, anytime online learning opportunities.
- Expanded Early Childhood learning programs across the district to ensure kindergarten readiness.
- Delivered high-quality one-on-one teacher time for students by reducing class sizes in K-1.
- Invested in staff and curriculum materials to meet the language and academic needs of all students, including English Language Learners.

OUR STUDENTS WILL BE **PREPARED WHEN THEY LEAVE HIGH SCHOOL POSSESSING THE KNOWLEDGE AND SKILLS NEEDED FOR THEIR NEXT STAGE OF LIFE WHETHER MOVING INTO THE WORKFORCE OR GOING ON TO HIGHER EDUCATION**



THE DISTRICT'S COMPETENCY BASED SYSTEM MIRRORS REAL WORLD EXPECTATIONS STUDENTS GRADUATE HIGH SCHOOL **READY FOR COLLEGE OR TO STEP INTO HIGH-PAYING REWARDING JOBS**

## High Quality Schools Impact the Entire Community

WPS's growing academic success affects all of us. Schools serve as centers of learning, attract and employ residents, and connect neighbors. The standard of our district has a direct correlation with local housing markets, business opportunities, and character of the community.