

**2022-2023**

**ANNUAL REPORT**

# **SCHOOL OF OPTIONS AND APPLIED**

# MISSION AND VALUES

MISSION: To cultivate independent lifelong learners through customized learning experiences and strong personal relationships.



### VALUES:

Promote student, family, and community engagement.

Develop students that are college/career and life ready by preparing them academically and socially to make positive contributions to an ever changing global society.

Demonstrate student ownership and choice in learning pathways which may include Project Based Learning, seminars, online classes, NPHS courses & field studies.

Encourage students to take risks in a safe environment and accept failure as a part of the learning experience.

### NORTHLAND PINES SCHOOL DISTRICT MISSION:

The Northland Pines Community guarantees rigor, relevance, and relationships to prepare all learners for life.

### NORTHLAND PINES SCHOOL DISTRICT VISION:

All learners will thrive in inclusive and welcoming environments.

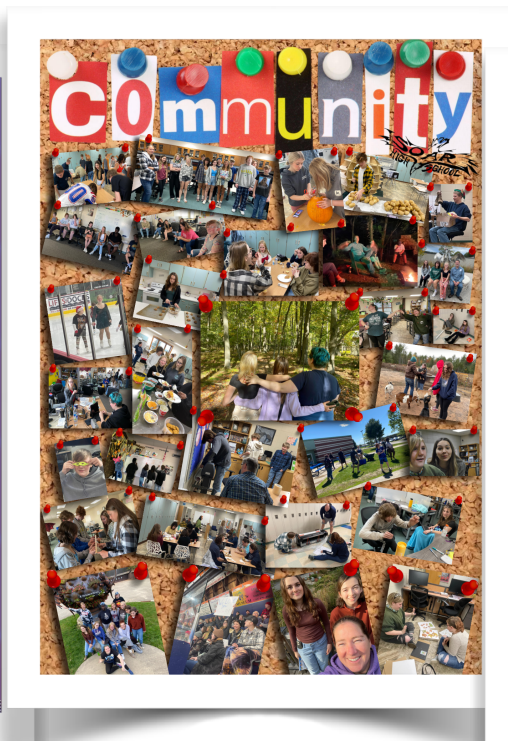


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## BACKGROUND

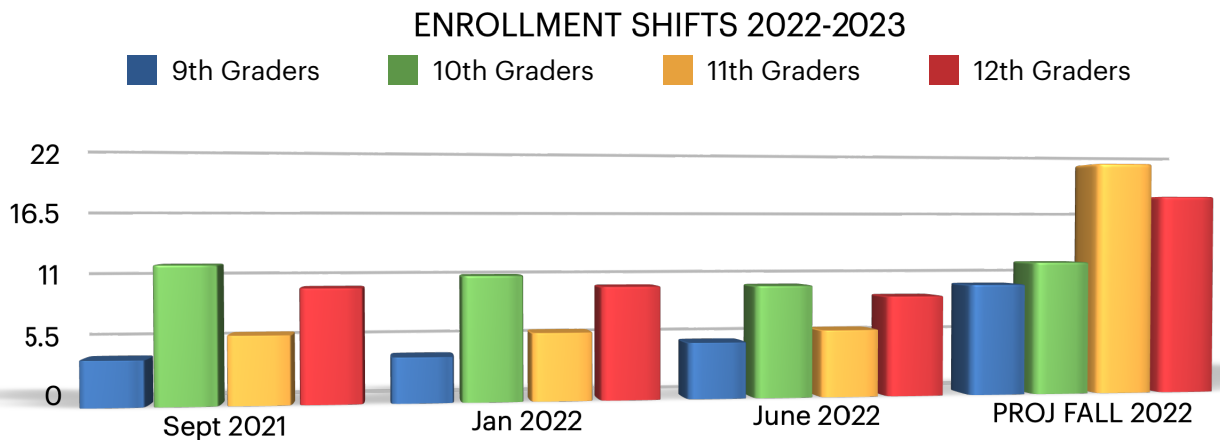
The School of Options and Applied Research (SOAR) High School was established in the fall of 2015 partly to provide an optional continuum for students from SOAR MS and partly to ensure all Northland Pines students have an alternative option to the traditional high school format. Enrollment is open to students entering grades 9 through 12 and has stabilized around 30 students per year. The School of Options and Applied Research HS is led by a Teacher Leader/Advisor and a Co-Advisor, is supported by additional staff from the district, and is located on the Eagle River campus in a building shared with the Eagle River Elementary School. Because high school offers many opportunities for students to set goals and achieve their dreams and because the combination of academic classes, extracurricular activities and social interactions play crucial roles in helping them define who they are and what they want to be, the close proximity to Northland Pines HS ensures student access to all of these important aspects of the high school experience. This annual report is an attempt to share what the year at SOAR HS was like. If you have any questions or comments about this report or SOAR HS please feel free to contact Ann Perry, The School of Options and Applied Research Teacher Leader through the 2022-2023 school year, at [aperry@npsd.k12.wi.us](mailto:aperry@npsd.k12.wi.us) or Harlan Leusink, the School of Options and Applied Research Principal (transition year 2022-2023 and officially beginning July 2023) at [hleusink@npsd.k12.wi.us](mailto:hleusink@npsd.k12.wi.us). The best way to learn more about The School of Options and Applied Research HS is to come and visit, we welcome you all!



# YEAR IN REVIEW

## ENROLLMENT

At the beginning of the school year, SOAR HS saw an enrollment of 32 students. Throughout the year we had some fluctuations in and out as students moved from the district to other locations/states as well as having some continue with Northland Pines School District in the Phoenix Center or as PLP students or Northland Pines HS students, all of which require primary enrollment at Northland Pines HS. Throughout the year, SOAR HS averaged around 31 students (officially reporting 34 students to DPI for the third Friday count), but engaged with 37 individual students at one point or another either as primary or secondary enrollment. Projected enrollment for Fall 2023 is currently sixty-one students and includes 19 returning SOAR students and 10 freshman (typical of our regular average of around 30). The influx of the additional 30+ students breaks down as follows: 7 new, non-freshman that elected to transfer to SOAR HS late in the year (triggering a start date of fall 2023), 7 identified PLP students and the remaining joining from the merger of the Phoenix Center (these are juniors and seniors, accounting for the shift increasing the upperclassmen enrollment).



## STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

One of the of School of Options and Applied Research HS’s original goals was to have demographics reflective of the NPSD district and avoid a homogenous student pool. While our population does not precisely mirror Northland Pines High School, we have historically been very close in many regards. This year however, we have seen a wider gap in two indicator areas. We have a higher percentage of students with disabilities this year. Additionally, our attendance rate percentages showed a marked decrease (5%) from previous years and are *not* equivalent to NPHS for this past year (see chart). Although no category for identification of at risk students exists, School of Options and Applied Research HS would likely also have a higher percentage of students considered at risk than NPHS.

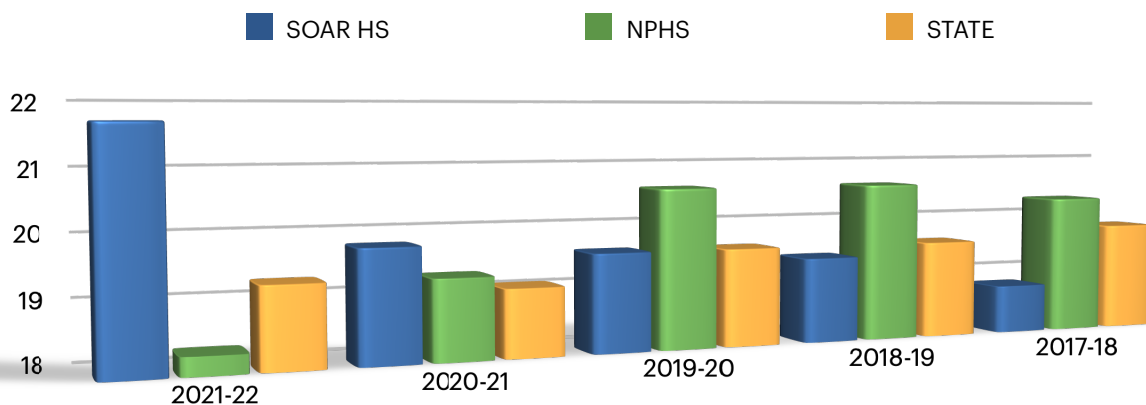
School	% of Students with Disabilities	Rate of Attendance
School of Options and Applied Research HS	17.6%	88.7%
Northland Pines HS	13.2%	93.7%

## STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

The School of Options and Applied Research HS is a public charter school in which all students have the ability to enroll.

**State Testing:** All students at the School of Options and Applied Research HS participate in state required testing. Only some of the results from these tests are available at the time of this report and all data will be shared publicly on the NPSD Website when released. At the 9th grade level, students must complete PreACT Secure (a change from the previous ACT Aspire). In the 10th grade students complete the preACT Secure and the Forward Social Studies. At the 11th grade level, students complete the ACT. Last year, SOAR HS saw 2 families opt students out of state required testing, both in 10th grade, this year again, 2 families opted out of state required testing: one in 9th grade and one in 11th grade.

History of Average Composite ACT Scores for 11th Grade Students



Both 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 data redacted - only 1 student tested at SOAR HS in each of those years.

## ACT

The ACT contains four multiple-choice tests in English, mathematics, reading, and science in addition to a writing test. These tests are designed to measure skills that are most important for success in post-secondary education and that are acquired in secondary education. In writing the highest score is a 12 and in all areas the highest score is a 36. Data for the 2022-2023 school year is still embargoed but data for the previous years has been included. Please note that the small size of the School of Options and Applied Research HS annual testing groups makes it difficult to directly compare to either the state averages or Northland Pines High School.

## History of ACT Scores for 11th Grade Students: School of Options High, Northland Pines HS, & State Averages

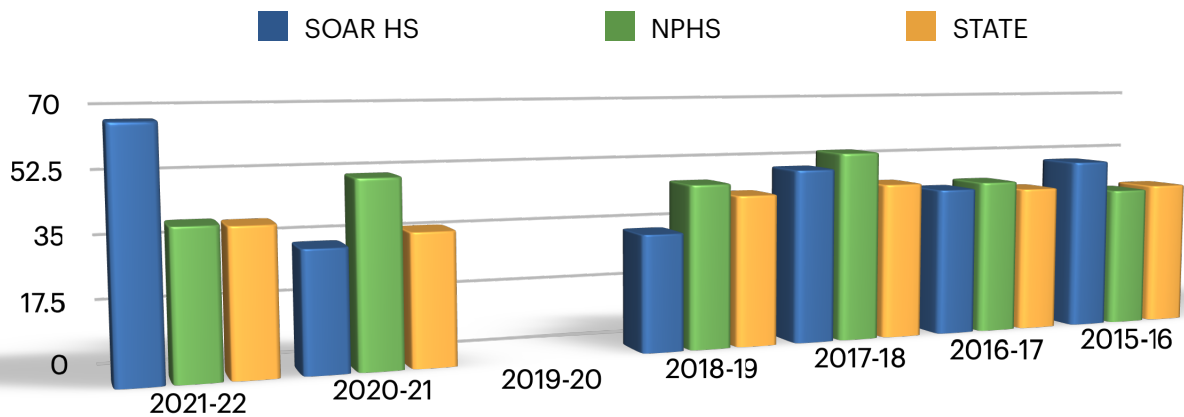
		# Tested	Composite	English	Reading	Writing	ELA	Math	Science	STEM
<b>2021 - 2022</b>	SOAR HS	11	<b>21.7</b>	20.8	24.2	5.5	19.4	20.2	21.1	20.8
	NPHS	100	<b>18.3</b>	16.5	18.5	5.9	16.7	19.2	19.6	19.1
	State	55,626	<b>19.3</b>	18.1	19.7	6.3	18.0	19.2	19.8	19.7
<b>2020 - 2021</b>	SOAR HS	6	<b>19.8</b>	18.8	21.5	6.8	19.5	19.5	19.7	19.8
	NPHS	98	<b>19.3</b>	17.6	20.0	6.7	18.3	19.2	20.1	19.9
	State	56,077	<b>19.1</b>	17.8	19.3	6.3	17.9	19.1	19.6	19.6
<b>2019 - 2020</b>	SOAR HS	7	<b>19.6</b>	18.0	21.0	6.0	18.1	18.6	19.9	19.3
	NPHS	81	<b>20.6</b>	19.2	21.0	6.7	19.4	20.1	21.5	21.1
	State	57,797	<b>19.8</b>	18.6	20.0	6.2	18.2	19.8	20.3	20.3
<b>2018 - 2019</b>	SOAR HS	5	<b>19.4</b>	19.2	22.8	7.2	20.2	16.2	19	17.8
	NPHS	88	<b>20.6</b>	19.4	21.1	6.7	19.2	20.2	21.4	21.0
	State	59,464	<b>19.6</b>	18.4	20.0	6.3	18.0	19.4	19.9	19.9
<b>2017 - 2018</b>	SOAR HS	7	<b>18.8</b>	19.8	19.2	5.8	17.8	18.6	18.2	17.2
	NPHS	92	<b>20.3</b>	19.0	20.9	6.8	19.2	19.6	21.2	20.7
	State	60,545	<b>19.8</b>	18.8	19.8	6.3	18.1	19.9	20.2	20.3

All data retrieved from WISEdash Public Portal July 2022

## PRE ACT SECURE

Beginning this year, the state elected use the PreACT Secure rather than the ACT Aspire. According to the DPI website, the PreACT Secure closely mirrors the ACT test in many ways, including implementation, test delivery, scoring, and reporting and runs 155 minutes for standard-time testing, compared to 285 minutes for ACT Aspire. The new test does not include a separate Writing test and students must complete the administration as a single battery in one sitting (like the ACT), unless they have accommodation needs for multi-day testing (also like the ACT). The PreACT Secure was administered online for both Northland Pines HS and School of Options and Applied Research HS, but data is still embargoed. The ACT Aspire data for 2021-22 was still embargoed at last year's publishing of the annual report so it is included here as reference.

### Percentage of Students Making Progress with Text Complexity ACT Aspire for 9th Grade

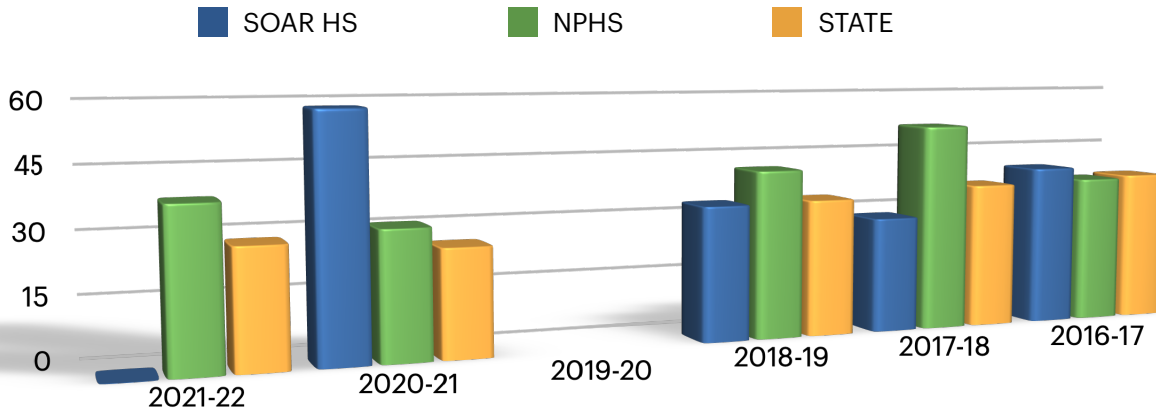


\*No 2019-20 Data due to COVID-19 Pandemic

History of ACT Aspire Scores for 9th Grade Students: School of Options High, Northland Pines HS, & State Averages									
READINESS BENCHMARK SCORES				426	425	428	428	430	435
		# Tested	Composite	English	Reading	ELA	Math	Science	STEM
2021 - 2022	SOAR HS	6	<b>425.7</b>	431	425.3	427.5	421.8	424.5	423.5
	NPHS	124	<b>425.2</b>	426.8	421.9	425.0	426.4	425.2	426.1
	State	63,543	<b>425.1</b>	427.1	421.8	425.4	425.4	424.9	425.1
2020 - 2021	SOAR HS	2	<b>426.0</b>	433	422.3	428	423.7	425.7	425
	NPHS	77	<b>426.5</b>	428.2	423.3	426.2	427.1	426.2	426.9
	State	50,885	<b>425.6</b>	428.2	422.0	425.7	425.3	425.8	425.9
<b>2019-2020 School Year has no data: COVID-19</b>									
2018 - 2019	SOAR HS	6	<b>424.8</b>	429.2	421.3	426.2	423.7	424.5	424.5
	NPHS	84	<b>427.3</b>	429.4	422.3	426.7	428.3	428.6	428.6
	State	60,966	<b>426</b>	428.3	422.1	426.0	426.6	426.1	426.7
2017 - 2018	SOAR HS	8	<b>429</b>	434	425	430	426	430	428
	NPHS	81	<b>429</b>	432	425	429	428	429	429
	State	60,242	<b>426</b>	429	423	426	427	426	427
2016 - 2017	SOAR HS	7	<b>426</b>	432	423	427	424	425	424
	NPHS	94	<b>427</b>	430	423	427	427	427	427
	State	60,224	<b>426</b>	428	423	426	426	426	427
2015 - 2016	SOAR HS	4	<b>428</b>	432	426	430	428	426	428
	NPHS	85	<b>427</b>	430	424	428	428	427	428
	State	61,995	<b>426</b>	428	422	426	426	426	426



### Percentage of Students Making Progress with Text Complexity ACT Aspire for 10th Grade



\*No 2019-20 Data due to COVID-19 Pandemic AND 2015-2016 data redacted- only 1 student tested at SOAR HS

### History of ACT Aspire Scores for 10th Grade Students: School of Options High, Northland Pines HS, & State Averages

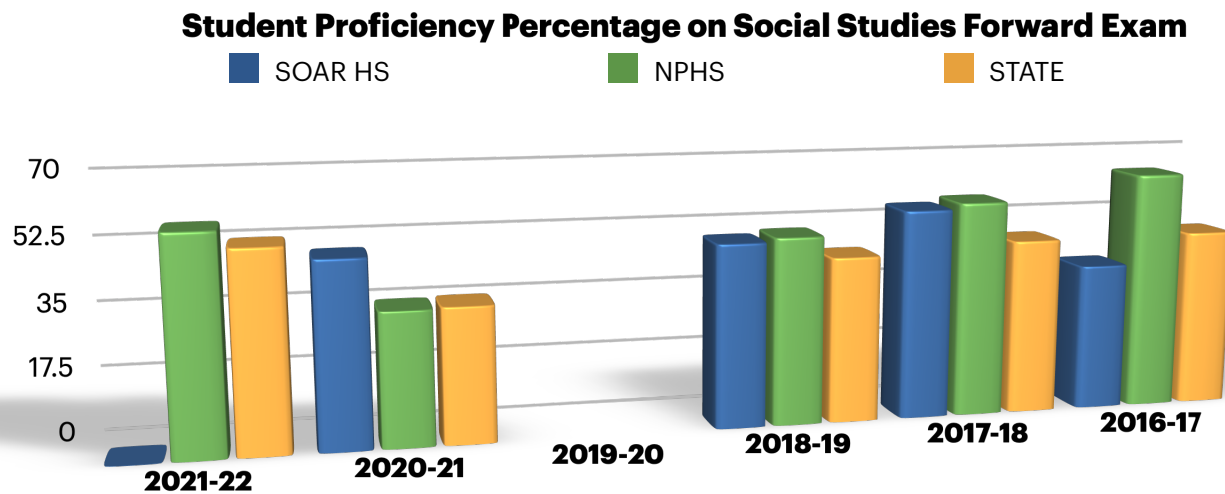
		READINESS BENCHMARK SCORES		428	428	430	432	432	437
		# Tested	Composite	English	Reading	ELA	Math	Science	STEM
<b>2021 - 2022</b>	SOAR HS	2	<b>426.5</b>	431.5	424.0	430.0	430.5	421	426
	NPHS	81	<b>428.7</b>	430.7	425.0	428.6	430.2	428.3	429.4
	State	60,174	<b>426.8</b>	429.3	422.9	426.9	427.5	426.4	427.3
<b>2020 - 2021</b>	SOAR HS	12	<b>420.0</b>	430.1	427.8	431.1	430.3	431.2	430
	NPHS	99	<b>425.7</b>	428.2	422.2	425.9	426.4	425.5	426.2
	State	49,471	<b>427.3</b>	430.1	423.3	427.1	427.2	427.6	427.7
<b>2019-2020 School Year has no data: COVID-19</b>									
<b>2018 - 2019</b>	SOAR HS	6	<b>428.2</b>	431.5	423	428.3	429.2	428.3	429
	NPHS	86	<b>428.6</b>	430.7	424.4	428.2	429.1	429.9	429.8
	State	58,231	<b>427.5</b>	430.2	423	427.2	428.2	427.5	428.2
<b>2017 - 2018</b>	SOAR HS	7	<b>427</b>	431	425	427	424	426	425
	NPHS	92	<b>429</b>	431	426	429	429	429	430
	State	58,100	<b>428</b>	431	424	428	429	428	428
<b>2016 - 2017</b>	SOAR HS	5	<b>428</b>	434	423	428	428	426	428
	NPHS	87	<b>429</b>	433	424	429	429	428	429
	State	59,036	<b>428</b>	431	424	428	428	428	428
2015-2016 School Year data redacted - only 1 student tested									

The ACT Aspire for which data was added for the 2021-2022 year, has been in place for a number of years, is a summative assessment, taken by both 9th and 10th grade students, measures what students have learned in the areas of English, Reading, Math, Science, and Writing. It intends to predict how students will perform on the ACT when they reach 11th grade. Testing for the 2021-2022 year was broken up into academic disciplines and modules that were taken on different days. The PreACT Secure was taken by 9th and 10th grade students for the 2022-2023 year and data is still embargoed for this test.

Three forms of data results are shared out as on the ACT Aspire: progress with text complexity, comparison scores to readiness benchmarks, and individual projected ACT scores. Progress with text complexity is meant to identify whether students are making sufficient progress toward reading complex texts that they will encounter as they further their education and work toward college and career. Students are also provided with readiness benchmark scores for each subject area. Students who score at or above these benchmarks are considered on target for college readiness when they take the ACT test as a junior. A history of SOAR HS ACT Aspire results are shown on the next two pages. Results are summarized by grade level and for each of these is the text complexity data as well as a table with the individual benchmark areas.

### WISCONSIN FORWARD EXAM

This 10th grade only spring test is designed to gauge how well students are doing in relation to the Wisconsin Academic Standards in Social Studies. The test is scored in five areas (Behavioral Sciences, Economics, Political Science & Citizenship, History and Geography) and students receive proficiency ratings of Advanced, Proficient, Basic or Below Basic in each of those areas. State reporting indicates overall proficiency (the percentage of students scoring either Advanced or Proficient).



\*No 2019-20 Data due to COVID-19 Pandemic AND 2015-2016 data redacted- only 1 student tested at SOAR HS

**District Testing:** All 9th and 10th grade students also participate in district STAR testing in the areas of reading comprehension and mathematics up to three times per school year. Each year, the School of Options and Applied Research HS sets a goal aimed at increasing the scores of students whose baseline is

in the lowest level on the fall assessment. A brief summary of the goals and results from the 2022-2023 school year can be found below.

### LITERACY (READING COMPREHENSION)

All STAR tested students who perform at the below basic level on the reading comprehension will increase their scaled score to either the basic level or improve by at least 10 points. Baseline data from the fall test indicated that four students of the fifteen tested received a below basic rating. By mid-year, one student moved out of district and of the remaining three, **all improved by well over 10 points AND moved to the basic level.** Student A went from 1011 to 1077, Student B from 1056 to 1081 and Student C from 992 to 1066.

### MATHEMATICS

All STAR tested students who perform at the below basic level on the mathematics will increase their scaled score to either the basic level or improve by at least 10 points. Baseline data showed that eight of the fourteen students tested received a below basic rating. With an action plan including small class sizes and the continued implementation of UDL practices and predictable supports for all students, by mid-year one student moved out of district, **one reached the basic level and another three students improved by at least 10 points.** Of the three remaining students students, one increased one point, one dropped two points and the final dropped 17 points.

### ALTERNATE ACCOUNTABILITY

**B**ecause School of Options and Applied Research HS hasn't met the requirements (testing pool of at least 20 Full Academic Year students) to be considered for a DPI report card, each year an Alternate School Accountability Determination form has been submitted to the DPI detailing specific goals and outcomes in three Priority Performance Areas: Literacy, Mathematics and On-Track for Success. Our school was then categorized as "Alternate Rating - Needs Improvement" if one or more of the performance areas was rated as Declining or "Alternate Rating - Satisfactory Progress" if all three of the performance areas were rated as Maintaining or Improving. Previous ratings are summarized in the chart below.

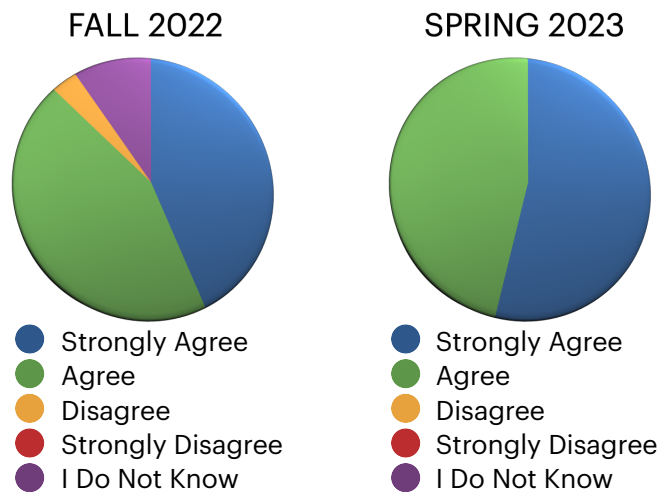
School Year	Alternate Rating	# FAY	Notes
2015-2016	Satisfactory Progress	7	
2016-2017	Needs Improvement	9	Alternate Accountability form not submitted
2017-2018	Satisfactory Progress	16	
2018-2019	Satisfactory Progress	13	
2019-2020	No Accountability Reports	24	waived due to COVID-19
2020-2021	Satisfactory Progress	31	
2021-2022	Satisfactory Progress	28	

## STUDENT CULTURE

Each year, advisors at School of Options and Applied Research HS strive to make strong, enduring relationships with all of our students in addition to providing a feeling of security while at school. In order to understand how well we do this, we ask students to complete a survey at the beginning and end of each school year in which students reflect on these ideals. Advisors devise goals after the fall survey and then revisit the survey in the spring to see how student perception of the SOAR HS culture changes or not. In the sections below, the baseline data is included along with the goal in bold, followed by the assessment on how we did based on the spring survey results.

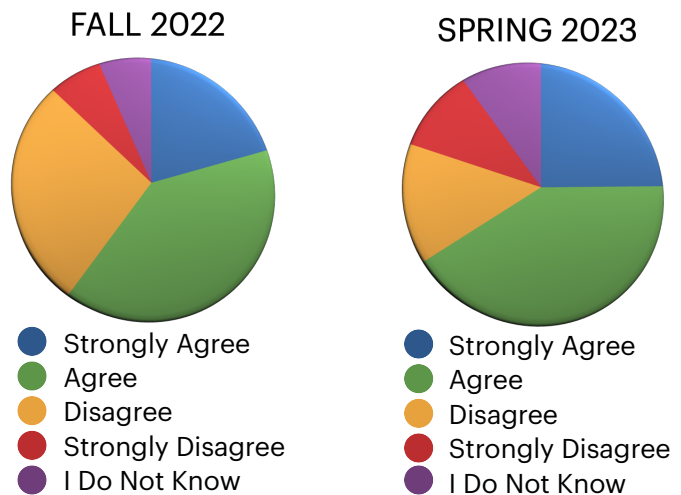
### SAFETY

Of the 30 students who participated in the survey, one disagreed that the advisors work to promote a safe and comfortable atmosphere and another 3 indicated that they did not know (86.6% agreed or strongly agreed). **By the end of the year at least 90% will agree or strongly agree that they feel safe and comfortable.** On the spring survey had 29 respondents and 26 (89.7%) agreed or strongly agreed that advisors work to promote a safe and comfortable atmosphere, but it fell short of the 90% stated in the initial goal.



### SHARING WITH ADVISORY

Eight students indicated they disagree, two student strongly disagreed and two more students did not know when asked if they feel comfortable sharing ideas with the whole group in advisory (60% agreed or strongly agreed). **By the end of the year at least 80% will agree or strongly agree that they feel comfortable sharing their ideas with the whole group able to share their ideas with the whole group.** On the spring survey, 2 students disagreed, 2 strongly disagreed and 2 students indicated they didn't know, but students agreeing that they are able to share their ideas increased from 60% to 65.5%, but fell short of meeting the goal of at least 80% agreeing.



## GRADUATION 2023



The Class of 2023 was the fifth graduating class of School of Options and Applied Research HS and included ten members. Nine of the ten completed SOAR HS graduation requirements and the final one completed GEDO2 graduation requirements to earn their diploma. The GEDO2 route is something that we have seen in the past (two in 2022, one in 2021 and one in 2020) and represents yet another pathway for our students.

This class of seniors was the largest group to date and collectively graduated with nearly 290 credits, meaning that they averaged 28.9 credits each (needing only 26 to graduate from SOAR HS). Five of the ten graduates earned 30 or more credits and one student maxed out at 38 credits, earning college credit and completing an Associate’s Degree through Nicolet College while still enrolled in high school.

## FINANCIALS

### ANNUAL BUDGET

In each fiscal year, the School of Options and Applied Research HS is allocated an annual budget for expenditures. Below is the history of the full year activity for each of the preceding years as well as the upcoming year’s planned budget as presented by Mr. Leusink.

Account	Obj	Func	2018-19 FY Activity	2019-20 FY Activity	2020-21 FY Activity	2021-22 FY Activity	2022-23 Revised Budget	2022-23 FY Activity	2023-24 Budget Request
10 E 650 342 110000 000	EMPLOYEE TRAVEL	UNDIFFERENT CUR	0.00	151.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	310.00	
10 E 650 410 110000 000	SUPPLIES	UNDIFFERENT CUR	2,556.00	2,000.00	1,933.24	1,994.36	2,000.00	873.57	2,500.00
10 E 650 415 110000 000	FOOD	UNDIFFERENT CUR	241.83	40.75	159.79	394.38	400.00	0.00	400.00
10 E 650 551 110000 000	EQUIPMENT	UNDIFFERENT CUR	3,997.34	3,999.99	3,920.39	4,298.56	10,000.00	12,533.60	5,000.00
10 E 650 410 231000 000	SUPPLIES	BOARD OF EDUCAT	17.63	0.00	0.00	55.21	75.00	0.00	
10 E 650 310 240000 000	PURCHASED SERVI	SCHOOL BLDG ADM	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	600.00	750.00
10 E 650 342 240000 000	EMPLOYEE TRAVEL	SCHOOL BLDG ADM	252.19	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00
10 E 650 410 240000 000	SUPPLIES	SCHOOL BLDG ADM	203.14	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	500.00
10 E 650 551 240000 000	EQUIPMENT	SCHOOL BLDG ADM	253.51	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2,000.00
			<b>7,521.64</b>	<b>6,191.74</b>	<b>6,013.42</b>	<b>6,742.51</b>	<b>12,475.00</b>	<b>14,317.17</b>	<b>11,650.00</b>

Below are the individual expenditures made by SOAR HS in the two primary budget areas in Fund 10 that we dealt with for the 2022-2023 school year.

10 E 650 410 110000 000		SUPPLIES		
DATE	DESCRIPTION	VENDOR	AMOUNT	BALANCE
7/1/22	Starting Balance			\$2,000.00
9/15/22	Storage Units for new desks	Amazon	\$569.79	\$1,430.21
11/2/22	Supplies (Ink, command strips)	Amazon	\$123.51	\$1,306.70
12/1/22	Supplies (photo paper/vinyl repair)	Amazon	\$171.85	\$1,134.85
4/19/23	Supplies - roll paper	Amazon	\$921.90	\$212.95
4/24/23	Supplies - protists, balloons project	Amazon	\$200.79	\$12.16

10 E 650 415 110000 000		FOOD		
DATE	DESCRIPTION	VENDOR	AMOUNT	BALANCE
7/1/22	Starting Balance			\$400.00
4/18/23	Aquaponics Seafood Challenge	Trigs	\$57.13	\$342.87
5/24/23	Senior Legacy Dinner	Trigs	\$209.50	\$133.37

## FUNDRAISING & GRANTS

In addition to the annual district budget, SOAR HS relies on fundraising and grants to provide all students with opportunities for expeditions and additional experiences. This year, SOAR HS applied for a number of grants which we were awarded and we raised additional funds through various activities.

GRANTS AWARDED 2022-2023	
GREAT WORLD TEXTS PARTICIPATION (Books & Conference/Travel Stipend)	\$1,752.00
CARL PERKINS PRINTER GRANT (Large Format Inkjet Printer and Supplies)	\$2,595.45
CARL PERKINS CAMERA GRANT (Canon Vido Camcorder, Microphone & Supplies)	\$2,054.48
WI SEA GRANT / CENTER FOR GREAT LAKES LITERACY (Stipend for Mentoring Project)	\$2,000.00
<b>TOTAL GRANTS:</b>	<b>\$8,401.93</b>

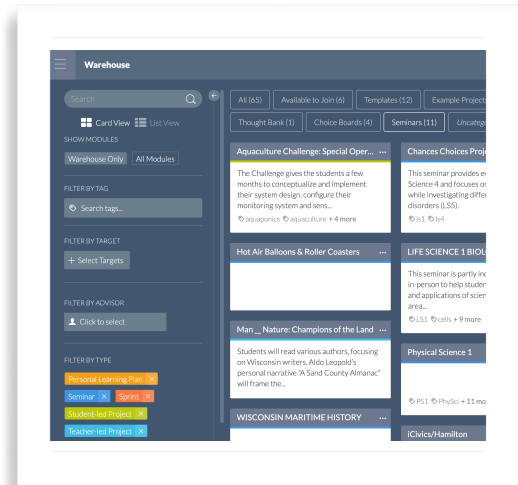
For fundraising, we again sold yearbook ads to businesses/organizations and held the haunted hike at the school forest for Halloween. SOAR HS students and advisors were the videographer team to capture the not only the Chain O Dance recital this year, but the Silver Blades ice show as well. In addition, small vinyl projects were completed which earned additional funds.

FUNDRAISING 2022-2023	
YEARBOOK AD SALES	\$1,015.00
HAUNTED HIKE	\$285.00
DANCE ON DEMAND - CHAIN O DANCE RECITAL VIDEOGRAPHY	\$2,020.00
MIXED EMOTIONS - SILVER BLADES ICE SHOW VIDEOGRAPHY	\$650.00
VINYLS	\$300.00
<b>TOTAL FUNDRAISING:</b>	<b>\$4,270.00</b>

## LEARNING EXPERIENCES

### SHIFT IN LEARNING CYCLES & SEMINARS

The School of Options and Applied Research HS advisors continue to believe that learning takes place at all times and in all locations, that it needs to be modeled and that it should be student created and driven whenever possible. We continue to utilize the Learning Cycle model implemented two years ago following the HS quarters, but the focus was changed this year with the addition of Headrush as a Learning Management system. Advisors moved many of the seminars into the online format and while students could continue to participate in a seminar scheduled in a face to face format, the added flexibility of independent and blended options lessened the burden on scheduling seminars for the advisors. Additionally, as we started into second semester students and advisors realized that more frequent assessment and feedback was necessary and so rather than keeping to the HS quarters, students would submit work at least monthly in Headrush.



## SEMINARS

The following is the (mostly complete) list of seminars that students took advantage of in the 2022-2023 school year.

### HEALTH

### ICIVICS/HAMILTON

### FEDERAL GOVERNMENT - HOW MUCH IS TOO MUCH?

### GLOBAL DEMOCRACY AND SOCIAL ACTION

### HOLOCAUST AND OTHER GENOCIDES

### FORMATION OF CIVILIZATIONS

### CREATIVE WRITING 1, 2 AND 3

### ENGLISH LANGUAGE ARTS - LANGUAGE 1

### HAMLET

### THE TIME MACHINE

### THE HATE U GIVE

### GREAT WORLD TEXTS: THERE, THERE

### LIFE SCIENCE 1, 2, 3 AND 4

### CHANCES/CHOICES GENETICS PORTFOLIO

### HOT AIR BALLOONS AND ROLLAR COASTERS

### PHYSICAL SCIENCE 1, 2, 3, AND 4

### WOLVES OF ISLE ROYALE

### CHAMPIONS OF THE LAND - MAN VS NATURE

### WISCONSIN MARITIME HISTORY

### AQUACULTURE CHALLENGE

### FOUNDATIONS OF MATHEMATICS

### ALGEBRA 1

### ACADEMIC AND CAREER PLANNING

### CREATING THE SENIOR LEGACY TED TALK

## ACTIVITIES, EVENTS, EXTRACURRICULARS & COMPETITIONS

Students are continuously encouraged to find additional paths and opportunities to have experiences outside of the classroom and document learning. This year was no exception as students participated in a myriad of these events.

## ONE ACT

Five students tried out for the One Act Forensics Play this year. All were cast in *Mr. Clouds*, with an additional two SOAR HS students assisting in set design and lighting. There was a family performance in October and the show went to regionals in Tomahawk where they received a passing rating moving them on to sectionals in Eau Claire. Again they passed and performed at state at UW-Stevens Point.

## YOUTH CONSERVATION SPEECH CONTEST

One student elected to participate in this speech contest and she performed brilliantly, sailing through both the local and regional competitions with 1st place accolades. She moved on to state and took the 1st place honors in the Senior Division for the Wisconsin Land and Water Conservation Speaking Contest.

## WINTER FORUMS

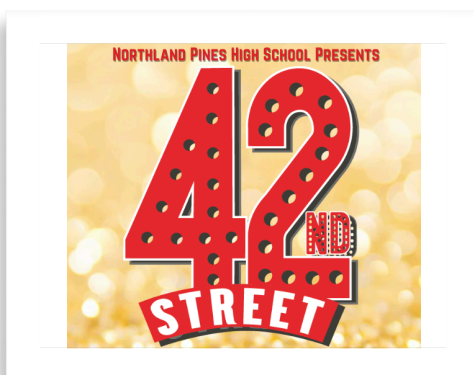
All students were able to sign up for different forums sessions throughout the second quarter. Offerings included: yoga, learning to play chess, robotics, crafts/gifts, holiday cookie baking, scrapbooks, T-shirt blanket making, and a digital gaming tournament.

## GNC HONORS BAND AND CHOIR FESTIVAL

Two SOAR HS students were nominated and selected along with 6 NPHS students to perform with students from the Great Northern Conference in the choir performance. Students worked with Dr. Robert Gehrenbeck, the Director of Choral Activities at UW-Whitewater where he conducts the UWW Chamber Singer, Concert Choir, Harmonia and opera and musical theater productions to prepare a variety of choral selections which were performed in Antigo the evening of the festival.

## TOURNAMENT OF ROSES PARADE

One SOAR HS student was a part of the trip to Pasadena that also brought 31 other NPHS musicians along with nearly 400 students from across the Northwoods out to sunny California as a part of the Wisconsin Northwoods Marching Band. These students prepped for months beforehand and spent a week performing at Band Fest, visiting the Rose Parade Float Barn, having a photo taken in front of the stadium, and playing tourist at Santa Monica Pier, Griffith Observatory, Universal Studios and Hollywood Boulevard before marching in the Tournament of Roses Parade.



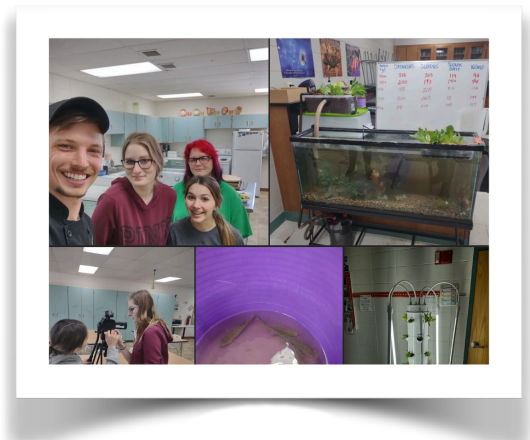
## NPHS MUSICAL - 42ND STREET

Eight students performed on stage, 5 were backstage and 1 worked in the technical booth. Additionally, 3 students assisted with some of the set design activities before performance weekend. Performances were February 18-20th and were offered both in person and virtually. Three SOAR HS students were nominated as outstanding performers for the Jerry Awards and two were award recipients. One of those students plus another SOAR HS student went on to perform at the Overture Center in June of 2023 during the Jerry Awards Performance and Celebration.



## AQUACULTURE

Some of our students elected to participate in Lake Superior State University and Michigan Sea Grant sponsored Aquaculture Challenge. The program has four categories and sub teams took charge of each: design, business plan, monitoring and seafood challenge outreach. During a zoom award ceremony in early May, SOAR HS was one of the schools highlighted for great supporting documentation in all challenge categories, an entertaining business pitch and great outreach with a social media campaign that featured local Private Chef Luke. SOAR HS won the Entrepreneurial Spirit Award for best business plan, the Tastemaker Award for seafood outreach and the Grand Prize award for the best overall integrated design.



## COLLEGE COMPETITION DAY

Nearly half of the SOAR HS student body elected to participate in Nicolet's College Competition Day. This opportunity presented students with many opportunities to challenge themselves with activities that Nicolet College supports in their offerings to the community including, the Cupcake Challenge, Still Life Drawing, Business Jeopardy, Building a Website, Flash Fiction, Interactive Reading to Young Children to Young Children, Cosmetology and Crime Scene Investigation. Students were awarded 1st place awards for Elementary Education Interactive Reading, Building a Website and Cosmetology.

## MOCK CRASH

Deputy Wilson approached SOAR HS advisors and students to see if we'd like to assist with setting up the Mock Crash this year. Students took on the roles of actors and videographers in addition to creating the backstory and staging the booking process and death notification videos. On the day of the Mock Crash, students once again became videographers and actors/actresses and a few even participated in the panel discussion after the event.

## CITIZEN SCIENCE FEATURED ON WXPR

As a part of her senior legacy for bat monitoring, a student began borrowing the acoustic monitoring equipment from Vilas County Land and Water Conservation Department. The coordinator connected her to an editor for WXPR for an interview which became part of an article on citizen science participation being highest in Vilas County and featuring the bat monitoring project.

## EXPEDITIONARY LEARNING

**S**tudents and advisors were tired of desks and devices. With the challenges presented over the past two years and the transformation of access to learning all schools have faced, the momentum we built in 2019 was quickly turned into efforts to make sure our students continued to connect with their learning in new and creative ways. Now that we have a better understanding of how we can all continue to grow in this new world post-pandemic we're ready to build back the momentum and excel with expeditionary

learning. Students are encouraged to include hands-on activities that also bring small and large groups to locations that will enrich their learning as well as model for them learning activities that continue outside the classroom and into their lifelong learning goals. Our primary goal for expeditionary learning this year was to work on getting out of the building whenever possible.

### **ICE AGE TRAIL AND LANGLADE COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM**

This student created expedition saw a group of eight students and one advisor arriving first at the Langlade County Historical Museum. The director and educational consultant greeted us and although the museum's train cars and log cabin are closed this time of year, they gave us the red carpet tour. Lunch was picnic style at a local park and then students headed to a spot to hike the ice age trail where they located a few geologic features common to the trail system. A bonus opportunity presented itself when a local ham radio operator had set up his antenna as part of the Ham Radio National Parks on the Air event.

### **SPRING GREEN**

This advisor designed overnight trip was open to the advisors and all juniors and seniors. The trip highlights included the choice between Upper Dells Boat Tour or a visit to Aldo Leopold's shack and the International Crane Foundation. The group camped at Tower Hill State Park and saw Hamlet at the American Players Theater the next morning. Before returning to Eagle River, the group also toured at House of the Rock.

### **HAVEN PINES EQUINE TRAINING**

A freshman student has connections at Haven Pines Farm and brought a small group out where she completed her first oration on equine training. The participating students and advisors got hands-on experience learning how to connect with and work some of the horses at the farm. Highlights included meeting the property's four resident farm dogs (Pickles, Finn, Goldie and Gabe) and visiting the other livestock at Haven Pines.

### **SLEIGH RIDES AT HAVEN PINES**

SOAR HS students were invited to be among the first participants at Haven Pines for their debut Sleigh Rides. Smaller groups of students were shuttled to the Farm for the sleigh ride, a campfire and

### **CLEAN SNO-MO CHALLENGE OBSERVATION**

Five students observed the annual collegiate challenge where 18 teams competed to optimize snowmobiles for emissions including noise and exhaust while meeting performance standards. This event was an easy option for participation as it occurred at the neighboring derby grounds.

### **SOLDIERS ON SLEDS**

Seven SOAR HS students were paired with a solder and joined the soldiers for an ice fishing event. The Soldiers on Sleds organization provided lunch on the ice and had ice fishing tents for warming up in. Students were able to meet, ask questions, and although no fish were caught, it was a great experience for all involved.

## LOWENWOOD FOR FRESHMAN/SOPHOMORES

Stefan and Ann took an overnight on Wednesday, March 8th and 9th with ten of the freshman and sophomore students. Outdoor classes in Outdoor Survival and Winter Ecology were accompanied by a Night Hike, Campfire, Group Initiatives and some sledding and snowshoeing! We packed a ton into just over 24 hours and Carie and Dave made the drive up after school to join us for dinner and the evening activities.

## GREAT WORLD TEXTS CONFERENCE

After studying the text "There There" and participating in class discussions and activities, students were tasked with creating a product or project that represented a critical analysis of some element of the novel. Students presented these to the class and then they were displayed in the Art Outpost where students voted on which projects they would like to see represent SOAR HS at the symposium in Madison. Students selected 9 projects and those students attended an overnight trip in order to present, view other student interpretations, hear from the author and support the highlighting of one SOAR HS student's project at the full group with over 800 students from across the state.

## WISCONSIN MARITIME MUSEUM AND THE WISCONSIN SHIPWRECK COAST

This trip started with the "Shipwreck Six" - six SOAR HS students helped develop and facilitate mini-modules regarding communication, ship terminology, waterways as highways, causes of shipwrecks and the story of the *Rouse Simmons*, myth vs reality. The Shipwreck Six presented the modules to SOAR MS students and to the ERES 4th grade. The week before we headed to Manitowoc, Mrs. Perry presented to all of SOAR HS, preparing them for the trip as well. Once the 100+ students were at the Museum, they were broken into 6 groups and rotated through the museum for different presentations and activities including learning about the different technologies to locate and document shipwrecks, speaking with an underwater

archaeologist on staff, exploring the galleries, touring the USS Cobia (WWII submarine) and viewing the underwater photogrammetry exhibit.



## **LOWENWOOD FOR SOAR HS**

Just about all of the students attended our spring overnight at Lowenwood. Students were given a crash course in lake ecology before Harlan introduced them to canoeing basics where he was joined by Stefan to practice portaging skills. After lunch, students headed out onto some of the trails to complete a service project for Lowenwood by clearing downed limbs on these trails so they can be maintained for use this spring and summer. Upon their return, it was back to the classroom to discuss how to complete the water quality assessments once we were on the water, which is how the afternoon was spent. Students mucked about in the swamp doing macroinvertebrate studies, collected water samples from three foot depth intervals, performed tests including pH, temperature, dissolved oxygen and conductivity and then had time to paddle about Big Donahue lake. Dinner was a burger, brat and hotdog cookout where students took over the grills and after dinner, we analyzed the data collected and students were introduced to the groundwater model before a campfire with s'mores. The next morning some students got on the water early and after breakfast we toured the Green Machine (wastewater treatment) on site and then the advisors shifted direction and rather than spend more time in seminars and museum tours inside, we allowed more time on the water and shore.

## **THE WALL THAT HEALS**

The three-quarter scale replica exhibit of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall in Washington, D.C., along with a mobile Education Center, came to Rhinelander this past spring. SOAR HS students and many of the social studies classes from NPHS attended Nicolet College and were able to visit the wall.