



EXPEDITIONARY
LEARNING



Harborside Academy

“Creating a positive peer culture may be the most important service we offer to the students of Harborside.”

Bill Haithcock, Principal

When Harborside Academy opened, the motto “Nobody eats alone at Harborside” was merely a set of words. Fast-forward to today and it means, “Nobody should be left alone to solve a problem.” Its motto stands for the value of getting to know others well and creating a school climate that celebrates both academic growth and character development.

Harborside is located in Kenosha, Wisconsin in the center of the metropolitan strip that stretches from Chicago to Milwaukee. Harborside believes that outdoor and adventure education are tools that can provide real-life experiences that teach students they are capable of more than they think possible. Its programs are grounded in Expeditionary Learning’s Core Practices, complemented by the staff’s expertise in team building, group development, and experiential education.

A strong service ethic has been nurtured at the school. Harborside students consistently exceed state and district performance in literacy, science and social studies as measured by the Wisconsin Knowledge and Skills Examination.



Harborside students are working to create over 23 school-based gardens across the district.

Evidence of Success

- Award-winning staff: Eight staff members have been named District or State Teacher of the Year or received Distinguished Service Awards.
- 99% Graduation Rate with 85% of students entering two- and four-year colleges.

CITY: KENOSHA, WI
GRADES SERVED: 6-12
STUDENT ENROLLMENT: 603
EL PARTNER SINCE 2007
HARBORSIDE.KUSD.EDU

www.elschools.org

Student Voices: Harborside Helped Shape Our Future

Harborside is about discovering each student's inner potential through a strong sense of community and enduring friendships. The phrase, "Nobody eats alone at Harborside" has become a mantra widely accepted by students. This school-wide focus on the steady inclusion of all students has created our positive school culture. The relationships we've been able to build have given us a set of skills to cooperate with each other and think about the world in new ways.

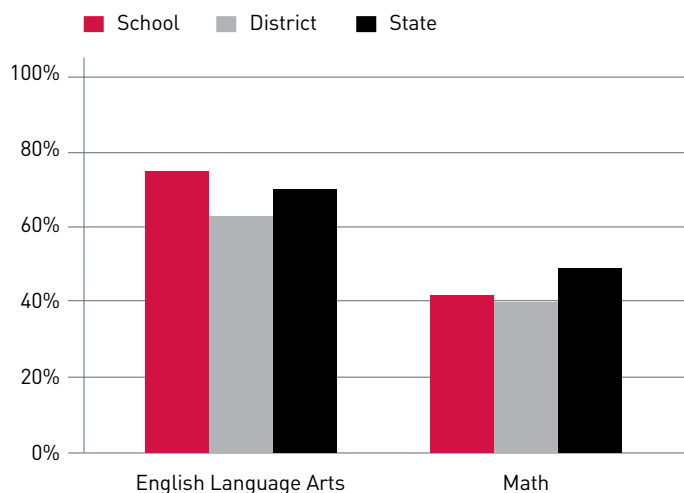


Even Bennett and Logan Hartnell

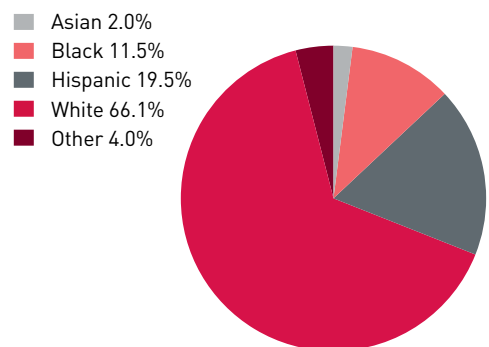
"Hands on learning is a phrase we hear repeatedly, but at Harborside it really works. Through service learning and fieldwork, we better understand our world and what it means to be positive community members. For example, in 11th grade, we studied urban gardening and agriculture in our Food and Justice for All expedition. In this expedition, we learned how each of the trophic levels in an ecosystem provide our community with the food we rely on, how each part of the food system in our community is shaped by laws, and how socio-economic status often influences access to fresh and healthy food. To address the concerns raised in our study, we worked to qualify our market garden for SNAP designation (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program) and helped to create school gardens and nutrition curricula for a number of local elementary schools in high poverty neighborhoods.

In our final expedition at Harborside - Seniors to Seniors - we learned about the cognitive degenerative disease Alzheimer's. Through this expedition, we developed strong relationships with senior citizens and witnessed how this disease and the ageing process impact each person and the community. Our teachers taught us how to examine the world, evaluate problems, and explore creative options to resolve those problems. These skills will forever shape who we are as students and who we become as professionals, as well as helping us encounter and solve obstacles that we will face in all areas of our life. There are few times during a class where we have had to ask, "Where will we use this?" Not only have we learned where our learning is applied, we have learned how to apply it.

English Language Arts & Math % of Students Proficient (2014-2015)



Student Profile (2014-2015)



Free/Reduced-Price Lunch Eligible 35.4%
Special Education 8.2%