

A Year of *Hope*

Hope Academy 

2024-25 ANNUAL REPORT + 2026 CALENDAR



Hope in God changes *everything*.

We've said this again and again over the 25 years of Hope Academy's existence—and the 2024-25 school year was no exception! We opened our new high school, welcomed more students and families, graduated our largest class ever, and launched our succession plan. God's love for the youth of the city is so evident!

The ongoing work of Hope Academy only happens because of the faithfulness of our God and the partnership we share with you. Your giving, your prayers, and your commitment are changing the lives of our students and families, creating hope and a future. We can't wait to see what God does in the year ahead!



Russ Gregg

Founder & Head of School



Kelvin Simms

Associate Head of School



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Kelvin Simms, Associate Head of School

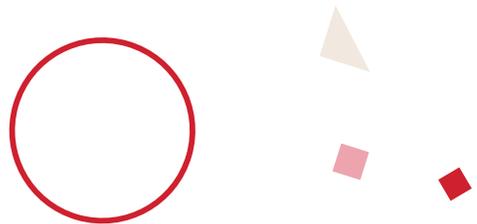
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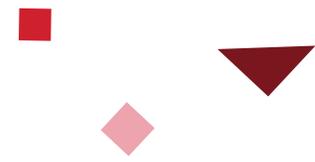
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Dr. Nathan Ziegler, Ed.S., MEd, Chief Academic Officer



Our *Students*



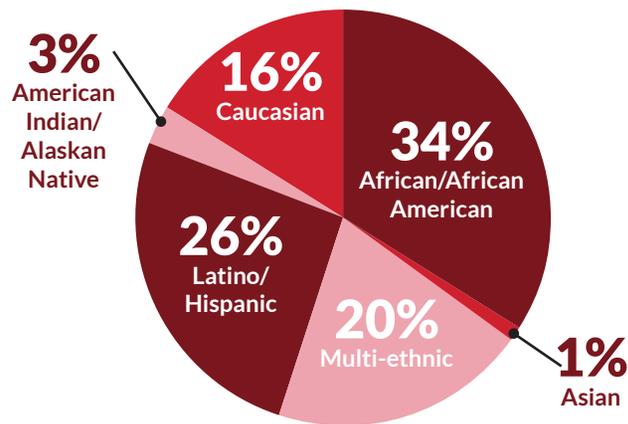
2024-25 SCHOOL YEAR

NUMBER OF STUDENTS:

694

- 192 High School
- 149 Middle School
- 353 Lower School

REFLECTING GOD'S KINGDOM



DOZENS

of languages are spoken by our students, including: Amharic, Spanish, Oromo, Somali, Shona, Portuguese, & more!

LOW-INCOME:

78%

qualify for free/reduced lunch



Hope Academy
MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME

Minneapolis
MEDIAN FAMILY INCOME (2023)

MEDIAN ANNUAL TUITION PER STUDENT:

\$850

Christmas Book *Give-Away*

Each December every student at Hope Academy receives donor-funded books that are carefully selected to ignite imaginations, point to Jesus, and establish roots in classical literature.

- Reading specialists select titles for our lower school students that include Caldecott and Newberry Award winners
- Jesus Storybook Bibles, Adventure Bibles, and Study Bibles are given at pivotal ages and reading levels
- Juniors and Seniors chose two titles from a list curated by teachers, including *To Kill a Mockingbird*, *Watership Down*, and *Fahrenheit 451*



Athletics *Overview*

Chasing excellence as we strive to compete for Christ.

14

staff also serve as high school coaches

115

athletes in high school sports

200

athletes in youth sports

51%

of 9th-12th graders participate in sports

50%

of athletes are female



HOPE ACADEMY *Homecoming*

Hope Academy celebrates Homecoming every January with a week of festivities for Upper School students and a reunion for alumni. Our goal is to build community and school spirit and to strengthen ties to our growing alumni base.

A whopping **54 alumni** (some featured below) returned for Homecoming—that's more than 20% of ALL Hope Academy graduates! **2** alumni spoke in Chapel, and **9** alums visited classrooms to share about their post-grad experiences and encourage our student body.



Our *Teachers*

- **1,291 parent connections** this year via phone calls, emails, and in-person
- **1,765 heart-to-heart conversations** with students that shepherd their hearts toward Christ-likeness
- Lower School teachers integrate **daily prayer and worship** into lessons

WHAT OUR STUDENTS SAY ABOUT *Hope Academy teachers:*

“When I switched to Hope Academy in the middle of 7th grade, my grades got way better because the teachers cared about me and helped me learn more. . . .

Before Hope Academy, I did not know how to talk to God and have a relationship with Him, but now I pray and read His Word more and I feel like He’s a real part of my life.”

“One of my favorite parts about Hope is that no matter what subject or teacher I am with, they always show that they truly care about me and find ways to involve Jesus and the Bible in their lessons.”





But I am like an olive tree
flourishing in the house of God;
I trust in God's unfailing love
forever and ever.

PSALM 52:8





Student *Outcomes*

This past year we served a student population with greater support needs, poverty being a contributing factor. Consistent with national and local outcomes, our recent test scores reveal a decrease in both math and reading. At the same time, we are encouraged to see these outcomes:

- **HIGH ATTENDANCE.** Prioritizing attendance is crucial for our students. **89% of K-12 students achieved consistent attendance** (meaning they attended more than 90% of days enrolled).
- **LONGEVITY.** For the past two years, **the majority of 9th graders with 2+ years at Hope Academy scored proficient in math and reading**, showing that a consistent Hope Academy education has measurable results.
- **GRADUATE SUCCESS.** Hope Academy celebrates a **96% graduation rate**, with lives marked by our Hope values!



Celebrating our *Graduates!*

42 students graduated in 2025—
Hope Academy's 14th graduating class!

100%

have chosen to be paired
with a Grad Support
mentor for the next 3 years.

40%

attended Hope
Academy for
9 or more years.

93%

said "The staff and
teachers at Hope Academy
knew and cared
about me personally."

95%

said "Hope Academy
encouraged me to become
a lifelong learner."

95%

said "My faith is very
important to me."

100%

said "Most of my
teachers authentically
live out their faith."



SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS ARE CELEBRATING significant awards to the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, University of Wisconsin-Madison, St. Mary's University, St. Thomas, George Washington University, and Louisiana State.



Summer *Session!*

Every K-8 student participates in our 4-week program to combat summer slide.

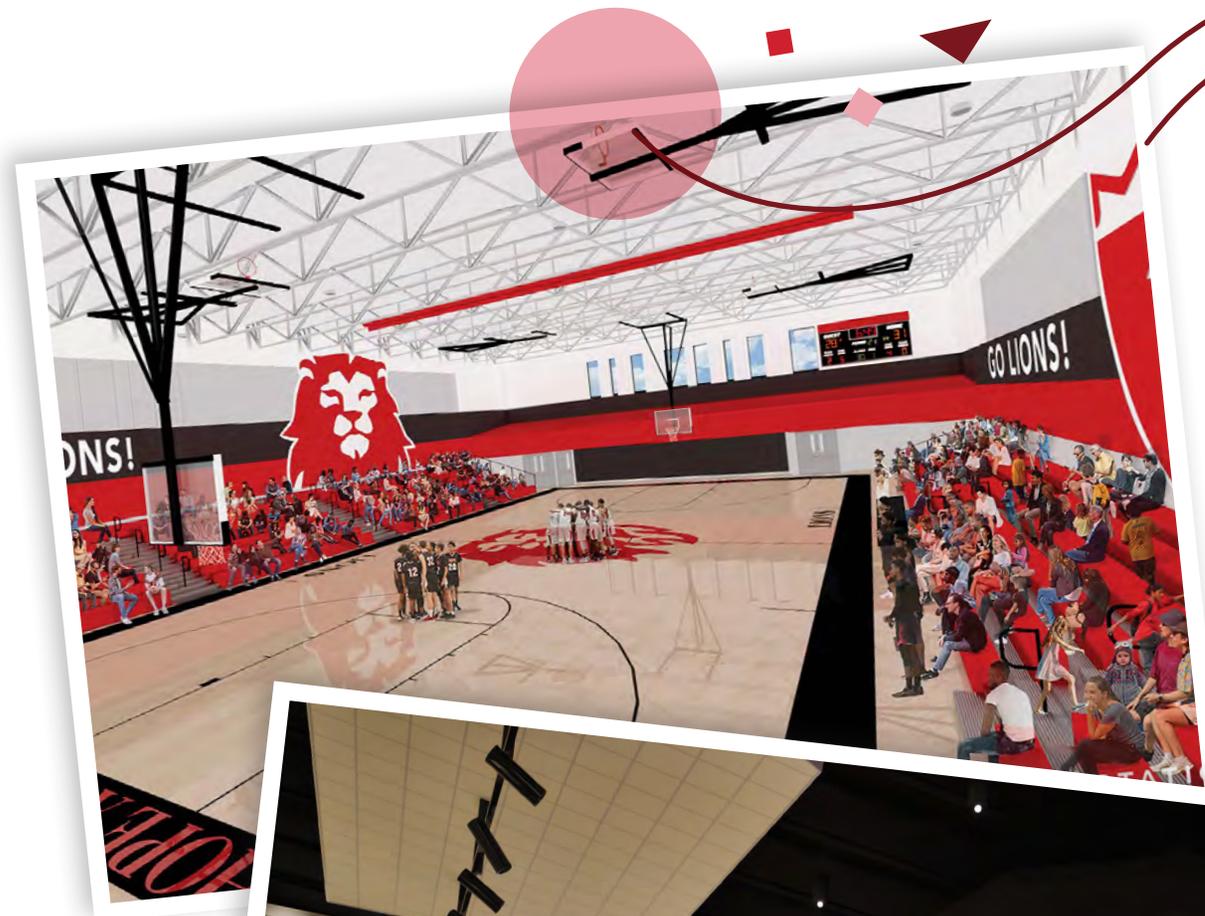
A glimpse at what our students experience:

- Daily support in reading and math
- **Field trips** (Nature Centers, Fort Snelling, Vertical Endeavors, and more!)
- **Unique elective options for 6th-8th grade** (e.g., sewing, fencing, computer coding, music production, woodworking)
- **Mission experience for 7th grade**

CELEBRATING THE
Hope Rising
Campaign

The three phases of the Hope Rising Campaign expansion—renovated high school, new competition gym, and chapel auditorium—will provide the Hope Academy community with opportunities for student academic growth, parental support, faith formation, and community-building.

We prayerfully anticipate completion of all construction in **SUMMER 2026!**





Our *Volunteers*

Our amazing volunteers contributed **643 HOURS** of student-facing interactions, including:

- **5,100 MINUTES** spent reading
- **9,600 MINUTES** playing chess and strategic games
- **5,000 MINUTES** teaching standardized test-taking strategies

Curious about what options are available?

Volunteers support teachers and Hope Academy in a variety of ways and with varying commitment.

CHECK OUT OPTIONS
AND LEARN MORE HERE:



Our *Families*

We believe excellence in education is only possible when families are actively involved.

To maximize family involvement at Hope Academy, families attend seven events throughout the year that educate, encourage, and empower them in building healthy partnerships with teachers and the larger Hope Academy community.

94% of families said, "I am pleased with my child's educational experience at our school, and I would recommend Hope Academy to others."

97% said "Hope Academy staff genuinely care about me, and I feel welcome as a member of the school community."

All families contribute to their child's tuition. We meet with every new family to determine a customized tuition amount based on their unique financial situation.



HOME VISITS

Every October, our teachers and staff spend 3 days visiting families in their homes. These visits are a time of connecting with families, enjoying food and conversation, and building trust and genuine friendship with parents.

- **363 HOMES** were visited in 2024!

PARENT INVOLVEMENT

- **94% OF PARENTS** attended Parent Involvement Day to be encouraged and learn valuable parenting skills
- **98% OF PARENTS** attended Teacher Conferences





Give thanks to the
Lord, for he is good.
His love endures forever.

-PSALM 136:1

Remarkable *Generosity*

FOR FISCAL YEARS ENDED JULY 31, 2025 AND 2024



INCOME

	2024-2025	2023-2024
Donations - Annual Fund	9,985,196	9,064,584
School Tuition and Fees	847,600	846,538
Other Income	444,928	494,951
Total Income	11,277,724	10,406,074

EXPENSE

Salary & Benefits	9,002,866	8,052,815
Administration Expenses	329,850	201,701
Development	95,461	71,649
Admission and Family Ministry	51,741	63,270
Classroom Expenses	144,156	104,047
Information Technology	159,276	192,273
Athletics/Extracurricular	96,320	103,536
Facility	975,584	884,140
Total Expense	10,855,254	9,673,431
School Capital Expenditures	249,205	216,187
Transferred to Operational Reserves	173,266	516,456

GIVE WITH CONFIDENCE

Charity Navigator Rating:



ASSETS

	2024-2025	2023-2024
Current Assets	26,322,101	15,974,734
Fixed Assets	41,558,897	20,641,133
Other Assets (Construction In Progress)	350,555	18,085,008
Total Assets	68,231,553	54,700,875

LIABILITIES & EQUITY

Total Payables and other Current Liabilities	568,012	1,528,012
Total Long Term Liabilities	9,850,000	0
Total Equity	57,813,541	53,172,863
Total Liabilities & Equity	68,231,553	54,700,875

Notes: 1. The figures here are meant to show the basic inflow and outflow of cash during our fiscal year. It does not include In-kind donations, the value of Title services or Designated In/Out accounts. Free/Reduced Lunch Reimbursements and District Textbook Reimbursements are subtracted from expenses. 2. The Facility expense represents Hope's share of the building expenses. Teen Challenge's rent covers additional building costs. 3. Hegenes Properties, Inc manages the building on behalf of Hope Academy. The building and school financial reports are combined at year end and audited by an independent accounting firm. Audited financial statements are available upon request. The 2024-25 audit was not finished at the time of publication. 4. Income and Expense numbers are for School Operations, and do not include activity for the Hope Rising Capital Campaign. Asset and Liability information below does include HRCC.

Our Generous Donors

KEY

Legacy Donor: +

Hope Rising Capital Campaign Donor: ~

Donor for 20 years or more:

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