



[www.triowolfcreek.com](http://www.triowolfcreek.com)

**This report uses data collected over the period of  
7/1/2022 through 6/30/2023**

**Student Accountability Report respectfully submitted: December 13, 2022, to the TRIO  
Wolf Creek Distance Learning Charter School Board of Directors, the MN Department of  
Education, and our authorizing agent of Chisago Lakes Public Schools.**

**TRIO Wolf Creek Distance Learning Charter School #4095**  
**2022-2023**  
**Student Accountability Report**

**TABLE OF CONTENTS**

School Mission and Vision Statements	3
Authorizer Information	7
Finances	8
Student Enrollment/Attrition	9
Staff Information	20
Management/Administration	21
Governance	22
Academic Program	24
Innovative Practices	26
Program Challenges	28
Operational Performance	28
Future Plans	29
<b>Appendix Information</b>	<b>30</b>
Hope Survey Results	
Specifics on Board Training	
Q-Comp Report	
WBWF Report and Templates	
Audit/Financial Information	

# **TRIO Wolf Creek Distance Learning Charter School #4095**

**2022-2023**

## **Student Accountability Report**

### **1. SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT**

**Mission “To provide students with a personalized and flexible online education that will prepare them for future success”.**

**Vision “To motivate and empower students to reach their full potential”.**

Our mission is reviewed annually for accuracy at the board of directors’ retreat. During various board meetings, the board of directors reviewed the mission and vision statements for accuracy at the summer 2023 board retreat held on June 13, 2023. This work has brought about conversations that have allowed us to examine our identity as a charter school. The charter school conducted a two-year process and review of our mission statement and modified strategic plan initiatives during the 2022-2023 school year. Final board approval of the strategic plan initiatives can be found in the September 2023 board minutes. More information on these measures will be included in the annual report for next year as we begin to work on these measures.

In addition to our mission driving decision-making at our school, we use our motto of “Learning Anytime - Anywhere” to help ensure that we are making quality online learning opportunities available for all students who attend our charter school.

We know and understand that families are seeking flexibility in their choice of school and modality.

### **SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY**

Our school is based on a “small community” school philosophy. The maximum number of students at full capacity will be about 205 students. Our philosophy includes the belief that each student, even if they have not been successful in another school setting, will make significant progress with us. This progress will be led by one caring individual who helps them in academic, as well as non-academic, areas of their lives. This caring individual is called a Learning Manager and is the center of the model on which we base our educational program. Learning Managers use what is referred to as an IGP (Individual Graduation Plan) to help students gain credits, create standardized test score goals, create short-term and long-term goals, and promote thinking about their future.

Our small school philosophy is shown in our student-to-teacher ratio of approximately twenty-six students per Learning Manager. This ratio is used for the advisor portion of the school program, but most core academic classes are below the enrollment number of 25 students and the small class size creates opportunities for individualization and differentiation for student needs. We also believe that small numbers allow each Learning Manager to build a long-lasting relationship with each of their students. It is the Wolf Creek belief that each student must begin to make progress from where they begin, and that progress will be self-paced for each individual. It is also our belief that all learning starts with a relationship and that students will work harder when they know someone at their school cares about their future success. Taking the time to build on the Learning Manager model can be difficult to do even in a virtual environment but we know the payoff of true student success is worth all the time spent on non-academic areas. Some of our former students

# **TRIO Wolf Creek Distance Learning Charter School #4095**

**2022-2023**

## **Student Accountability Report**

have seen their graduation dates pass whereas others graduate early. We work with each student on an individual basis, starting from where they came from and taking them to where they want to go.

Our school philosophy is embedded in day-to-day interactions with students, parents, staff, and the community; as well as being evident in all working documents for our school. Our philosophy is reflected by the governing body of our school board in all financial decisions.

We work with the larger online learning community in the state and across the nation to help ensure that we are providing research-based educational practices for our students. Our charter school is a member of both the MNOLA Minnesota Online Learning Alliance (MNOLA) and the MN Association of Charter Schools (MACS). We are also a member of MAAP or the Minnesota Association of Alternative Programs. Our work with these organizations and membership in all these organizations shows our commitment to research-based virtual strategies and accountability as a charter school that will help improve student achievement now and in the future.

In addition, we are also a fully accredited online entity through Advanced Education now referred to as Cognita and bearing the NCA (North Central Accreditation) seal. We pride ourselves on being one of the first online learning programs in the state and one of the most respected. We are not the largest online learning program, nor do we enroll the most students, but we feel that we truly touch each student who enrolls with us.

### **HISTORY**

TRIO Wolf Creek Distance Learning was established in 1996 and was first a part of the public school system in the Chisago Lakes School District. From the beginning, the program was focused on using innovative ways to teach students by leveraging the latest technology. We were one of the first online learning programs in the state of Minnesota and continue to be a leader in online learning policy innovations in the state.

In our first three years, we were a part of Chisago Lakes Schools. We operated with the distinction of being executed by a state grant called TRIO (Technology Regional Integration Organization). When the grant ended we were a “school within a school program” for Chisago Lakes for several years. It became apparent that working within the confines of the public school did not always work for us in terms of true innovation. Eventually, the decision to become a charter school became clear. In 2002 we officially opened as a charter school that is sponsored or authorized by Chisago Lakes Schools. This sponsoring arrangement was beneficial to the Wolf Creek Charter School as we first began as a charter school entity. Our charter school has experienced a sponsoring/authorizing relationship unlike any other in the state. For example, our sponsor has aided us by providing invaluable financial, as well as, leadership consultation while still allowing us to be an autonomous entity. We have evolved from an alternative program into a highly successful charter school. In addition, we have expanded from a handful of students to serving several hundred students during a school year. There are those that don’t see the benefits of a local school district authorizing a local charter school that resides within their boundaries, but Chisago Lakes Schools learned many lessons in the late 1990s when another charter school, called Summit

**TRIO Wolf Creek Distance Learning Charter School #4095**  
**2022-2023**  
**Student Accountability Report**

School for the Arts, opened within the borders of Chisago Lakes Schools. At that time Chisago Lakes did not authorize this charter school, but by state law still had to provide transportation to their students and work together on resident special education IEPs and student services. Due to complete mismanagement and legal problems, this charter school was closed in spring 2000. After that unpleasant experience, Chisago Lakes Schools decided that if any other charter schools wanted to open up and serve a majority of Chisago Lakes resident students that they would be involved in some way in ensuring that all legal and ethical protocols were occurring. They believed that as a public school district themselves, they had a lot of experience to provide to a charter school as an entity responsible for overseeing all of these mechanisms within the charter school itself, and they had a passion to not allow another poorly run charter school to affect so many of their students. This rationale for becoming an authorizer is admirable and has allowed Chisago Lakes School and Wolf Creek to forge a new frontier in authorizing that has the highest degrees of accountability and respect from both parties. As allowed in Minnesota law, Chisago Lakes Schools does provide some services to Wolf Creek at a charge that is competitive and goes through a rigorous process set out in statute. In addition, the charter school is responsible for notifying the commissioner of the MN Department of Education that our authorizer may be bidding on services, which is done every time these services go out for bid. Once again this service agreement shows that the charter school is the customer and holds the service provider accountable for providing quality services promptly.

As many public schools and other entities stop being authorizing agents, it is felt by Wolf Creek that Chisago Lakes Schools should be applauded for their efforts in this area.

For additional information on school history please see Appendix Pages.

### **CHARACTERISTICS OF OUR SCHOOL**

TRIO Wolf Creek Distance Learning is an online learning high school serving grades 9-12. We are the only hybrid online high school in the State of Minnesota and feel that we are producing a quality online curriculum for students while still allowing them flexibility.

Many high school students in full-time online schools lack the motivation to get the work completed completely online at a distance, so our hybrid model has an option for students to work 20% of the time in our lab space for more structure and support. The other work is independent and can be completed from home. This work can be completed using a variety of materials, including a personal computer with internet access, educational websites, an online curriculum, etc. Most students complete their work at their home, but other students may complete work at a public library or other location.

Students in our program are most successful if they are independent and self-motivated. When we encounter a student who does not possess these qualifications, their Learning Manager will work with them to personalize the course to accommodate their needs. These students may require weekly, or even daily, goals. Each student works on an individual plan to meet their individual goals. Weekly monitoring by parents is also crucial to student success. Parent involvement is essential for success as an online learner even in the high school grades. We try to involve parents

**TRIO Wolf Creek Distance Learning Charter School #4095**  
**2022-2023**  
**Student Accountability Report**

in a variety of ways through communication at conference meetings, open houses, newsletters, charter school board, and committee meetings, telephone and email communications.

Over the past 4-5 years the charter school has added a virtual campus component to “at home” student days as well as opportunities to meet with content teachers virtually on a variety of academic topics. As the virtual world continues to grow and change, so do the options available for students at Wolf Creek.

**MN Department of Education Certification**

We are also an approved provider of online learning courses in the state of Minnesota, as designated by the Minnesota Department of Education. The documents submitted to the state of Minnesota to continue this certification show Wolf Creek as a highly stable and reliable online entity with good standing on all required reports to MDE. We underwent a thorough three-year evaluation during the 2022-2023 school years in order to be able to continue offering supplemental learning options. For this review cycle, we did not submit a written self-evaluation and instead participated in a group reflection around best practices with other MN online learning programs needing a three-year review. Wolf Creek did fulfill all needed requirements to complete the evaluation materials with MDE as evidenced in communications with MDE.

# TRIO Wolf Creek Distance Learning Charter School #4095

2022-2023

## Student Accountability Report

### II. AUTHORIZER INFORMATION

Authorizer Name: Chisago Lakes Schools ISD #2144

Authorizer Liaison: Sarah Schmidt

[sschmidt@isd2144.org](mailto:sschmidt@isd2144.org) or 651-213-2005

Contract expiration: June 30, 2026.

Chisago Lakes Schools is an approved authorizer through a rigorous MDE process. They currently only authorize our charter school and provide a great deal of oversight. They attend monthly board meetings several times per year and stay in close contact with school policies via the board minutes and meetings. An annual site visit, which includes an interview with staff and students, occurs each year, and constant reporting via documents, such as this annual report, are provided monthly to the authorizer. The authorizer remains committed to its responsibility to ensure quality academic improvements for all students in the charter school shown through a multiple-measure approach. Chisago Lakes Schools has completed all requirements for the MDE MAPES process in the past two years. MAPES-MN Authorizer Performance Evaluation System.

Our sponsor, Chisago Lakes Schools ISD #2144, has been supportive of all of our efforts as a charter school. Chisago Lakes Schools did complete a rigorous process with MDE to become a certified authorizer and takes this responsibility very seriously. Chisago Lakes participates in an evaluation process for authorizers called MAPES, or the MN Authorizer Performance Evaluation System. It is required that they achieve a passing score in MAPES to continue as an authorizing agent. All necessary information on our sponsor agreement was submitted to MDE on time.

We have a very close relationship with our sponsoring agent because we contract with them for specific services which include:

Business services

Payroll services

Technology services

Special Education services-including Director and School Psychologist

Nutrition services

All legislative requirements were fulfilled to contract with our authorizer as described in the 2009 changes to the charter school law when the services contract expires on June 30, 2026. All documents on adherence are available from the charter school director for review purposes upon written request.

**TRIO Wolf Creek Distance Learning Charter School #4095**  
**2022-2023**  
**Student Accountability Report**

**SCHOOL FINANCE**

Director of Business Services

Robyn Vosberg-Torgerson

(651)213-2901

[rvosberg-torgerson@isd2144.org](mailto:rvosberg-torgerson@isd2144.org)

Chisago Lakes Schools, ISD #2144

29678 Karmel Avenue

Chisago City, MN 55013

Wolf Creek maintains a healthy fund balance and has shown to have a track record of superior fiscal management. Please see the fiscal documents located in the appendix of this report for more details on financial matters.

[Annual Financial Report](#) and [Management Letter](#) 6-30-2023

**AUDIT INFORMATION**

**ABDO**

*Certified Public Accountants & Consultants*

5201 Eden Avenue, Suite 370

Edina, Minnesota 55436

952.715.3017 Direct Line

952.835.9090 Phone

952.835.3261 Fax

[www.aemcpas.com](http://www.aemcpas.com)

**TRIO Wolf Creek Distance Learning Charter School #4095  
2022-2023  
Student Accountability Report**

**III. ENROLLMENT/ATTRITION**

**Attrition Rates:**

The attrition rates are very difficult to calculate based on the fact that many students come to Wolf Creek for a short period, or for only a few courses needed at that time. When gathering data we also found that the most common reason for leaving Wolf Creek was graduation.

<b>Grades</b>	<b>2018-19</b>	<b>2019-20</b>	<b>2020-21</b>	<b>2021-22</b>	<b>2022-23</b>
7th			1		
9th	15	23	26	24	23
10th	41	33	43	46	53
11th	82	61	37	65	71
12th	61	64	50	71	58
12+	23	27	24	18	20
<b>Total</b>	<b>222</b>	<b>208</b>	<b>181</b>	<b>224</b>	<b>225</b>

\*2018-2019 includes Full time, OLL, and Tuition students enrolled on May 23, 2019

\*2019-2020 included Full-time, OLL, and Tuition students enrolled on May 28, 2020

\*2020-2021 included Full-time, OLL, and Tuition students enrolled on May 27, 2021, 7th grade student tuition agreement.

\*2021-2022 included Full-time, OLL and Tuition students enrolled on May 26, 2022

\*2022-2023 included Full-time, OLL, and Tuition students enrolled on May 25, 2023

**Notes:**

It is important to note that the snapshot shows a one day timestamp of student numbers, but that our student enrollment numbers fluctuate quite a bit throughout the year. We served 320 full-time students in 2022-2023 In addition, we served 55 supplemental students, and 0 students paid tuition in order to take courses with us. Looking at a day in time snapshot is needed based on our Synergy student data system, but does not tell the entire story of all the students served at Wolf Creek this year.

**Tuition Students**

# **TRIO Wolf Creek Distance Learning Charter School #4095**

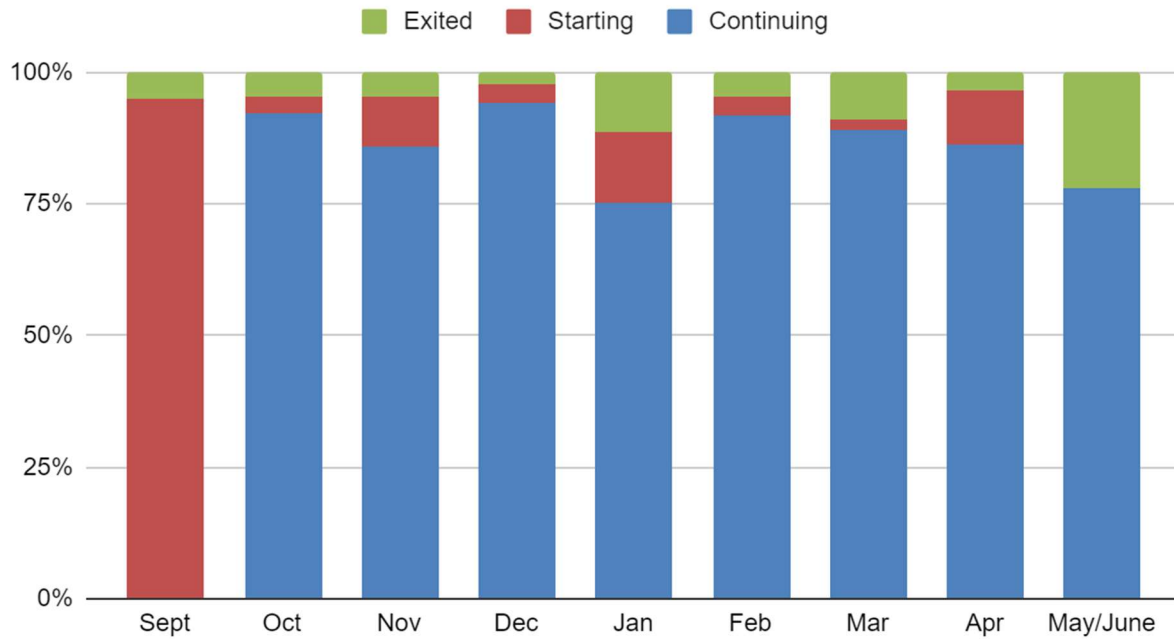
**2022-2023**

## **Student Accountability Report**

Students pay a \$499 fee per half credit due to no longer being able to generate state aid as they are using their state aid at their enrolling school but need more courses being so far behind on credits to meet their graduation goal. Tuition- based often occurs for seniors in the spring term who need a few courses to graduate on time. By offering tuition-based courses, we are allowing these students a chance to earn needed credits and bring those accepted transfer credits back to their enrolling district to be used for graduation purposes. This is a way that Wolf Creek supports students in graduating, but does not earn graduation data points for these students, as the positive data points are earned by the enrolling district and no mention of the part Wolf Creek paid in graduation is mentioned. The exception to this case is students who have aged out with Wolf Creek and are enrolled past the year they turn 21 and, therefore, are charged tuition.

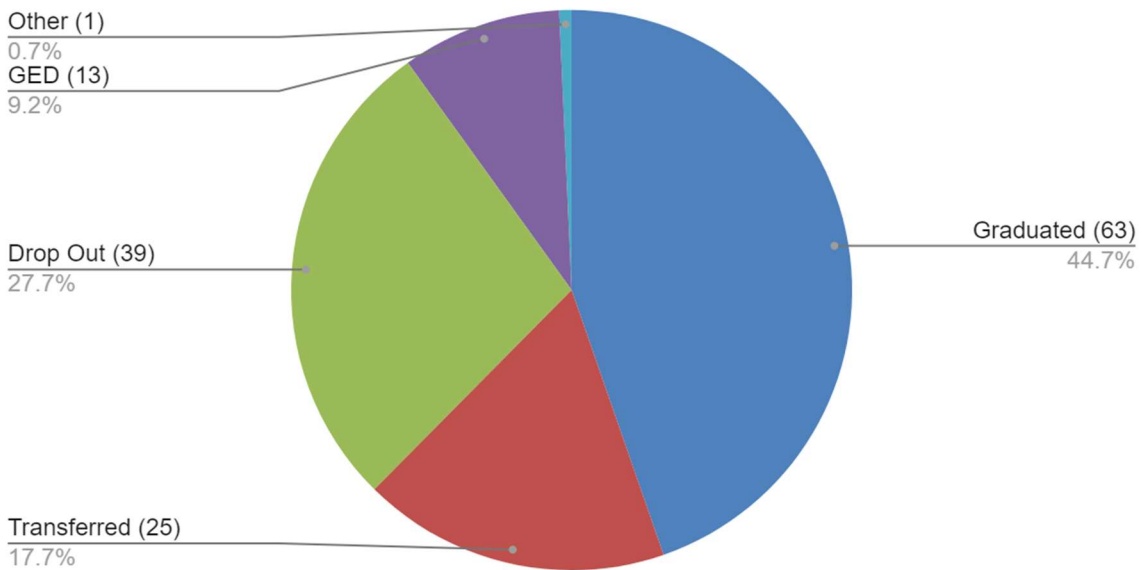
**TRIO Wolf Creek Distance Learning Charter School #4095  
2022-2023  
Student Accountability Report**

22-23 Full-Time Enrollment (304 Students)



2022-2023 Exit Reasons (Total Enrollment: 304)

Excludes Summer Only, OLL and Tuition



# TRIO Wolf Creek Distance Learning Charter School #4095

2022-2023

## Student Accountability Report

### Supplemental Services:

We are one of many schools that are offering online supplemental services and so we are reporting the supplemental numbers here. Supplemental enrollment means that a student is enrolled in a different Minnesota public school district and is taking only a few courses at Wolf Creek to supplement their schedule. The OLL Law in MN says that a student can enroll for up to 50% of their school day with the online learning provider or more if the enrolling school district allows this to occur. Students may be enrolling in this option to supplement a PSEO schedule or to work around a scheduling conflict in a brick and mortar school. Other reasons include needing an abbreviated schedule in a brick and mortar school due to medical reasons or after school activities or being able to fulfill outside obligations such as being a teen parent.

One reason for this decline from 2006/07 to 2007/08 is the legislative changes that allowed supplemental students to only take 50% of their enrolled credits with a certified OLL provider. In previous years many supplemental students took more courses with us and were still considered supplemental students. For more information see the OLL Annual report we submitted to MDE in July of this year.

This is yet another way that Wolf Creek supports students in graduating but does not earn graduation data points for these students as the positive data points are earned by the enrolling district and no mention of the part Wolf Creek played in graduation is mentioned.

Another unique feature of supplemental coursework is that state aid is only assigned to supplemental coursework that results in a passing grade in the course. So a student could enroll in a supplemental course at Wolf Creek and use Wolf Creek resources all term but not pass the course, and we have essentially offered them the course at no cost to the enrolling school district. We have helped enrolling school districts to offer courses not offered in their school. Also, we have helped enrolling school districts to provide for students who are sick and hospitalized often or undergoing medical treatments, yet they are still allowed to remain in their home school district and graduate if possible with peers.

### SUPPLEMENTAL STUDENT NUMBERS

2005-06	100 Courses provided on a supplemental basis and passed
2006-07	130 Courses provided on a supplemental basis and passed
2007-08	43 Courses provided on a supplemental basis and passed
2008-09	66 Courses provided on a supplemental basis and passed
2009-10	83 Courses provided on a supplemental basis and passed
2010-11	84 Courses provided on a supplemental basis and passed
2011-12	83 Courses provided on a supplemental basis and passed
2012-13	53 Courses provided on a supplemental basis and passed
2013-14	71 Courses provided on a supplemental basis and passed
2014-15	101 Courses provided on a supplemental basis and passed
2015-16	165 Courses provided on a supplemental basis and passed

**TRIO Wolf Creek Distance Learning Charter School #4095**  
**2022-2023**  
**Student Accountability Report**

2016-17	125 Courses provided on a supplemental basis and passed
2017-18	147 Courses provided on a supplemental basis and passed
2018-19	136 Courses provided on a supplemental basis and passed
2019-20	140 Courses provided on a supplemental basis and passed
2020-21	125 Courses provided on a supplemental basis and passed
2021-22	125 Courses provided on a supplemental basis and passed
2022-23	162 Courses provided on a supplemental basis and passed

2022-23 Additional Supplemental Student Information:

- 55 students served in a supplemental or part-time manner
- 170 courses offered in total
- 162 courses passed
- 8 courses resulted in a grade of F or W (and no state aid was received for these courses)

2022-2023

Our enrollment numbers for the 2022-2023 school year was at a record high for most of the academic school year. In term 4 this spring we did have a waiting list and eventually needed to close for enrollment due to the high numbers of students interested in attending Wolf Creek. Having a waiting list is not something that is commonplace at Wolf Creek but does occur from time to time.

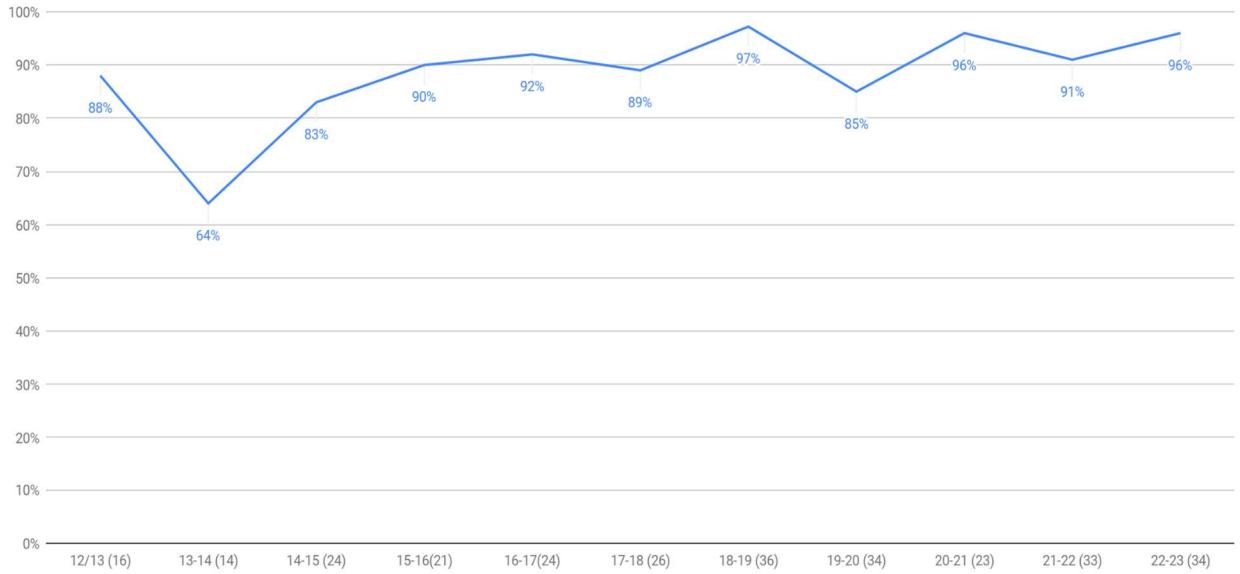
**TRIO Wolf Creek Distance Learning Charter School #4095**  
**2022-2023**  
**Student Accountability Report**

School years designated	Number of Graduates
2012-13	42
2013-14	24
2014-15	40
2015-16	49
2016-17	55
2017-18	61
2018-19	65
2019-20	55
2020-21	52
2021-22	56
2022-23	67

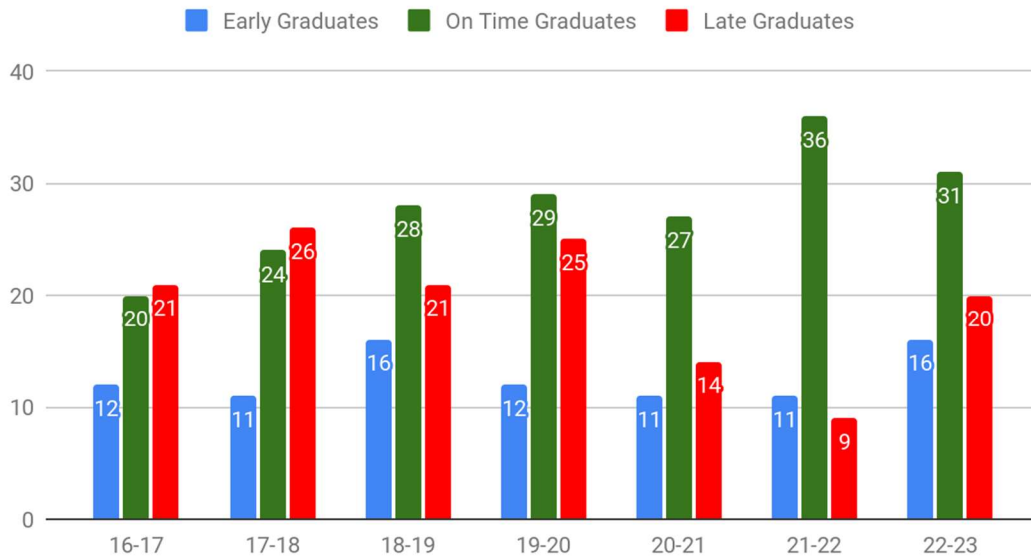
**GRADUATION DATA** The number of graduates does fluctuate due to the number of seniors on track to graduate when they come to us and those that make-up credits with us. Every student who graduates is an indicator of our success. Wolf Creek also believes that the ESSA changes to graduation rate will more clearly show our success with graduates. In years to come we will continue to see growth and is incremental and steadily moving in a positive direction.

# TRIO Wolf Creek Distance Learning Charter School #4095 2022-2023 Student Accountability Report

**Wolf Creek: On Track Graduates (Enrolled on Oct 1 with 19 Credits) Goal 90%**



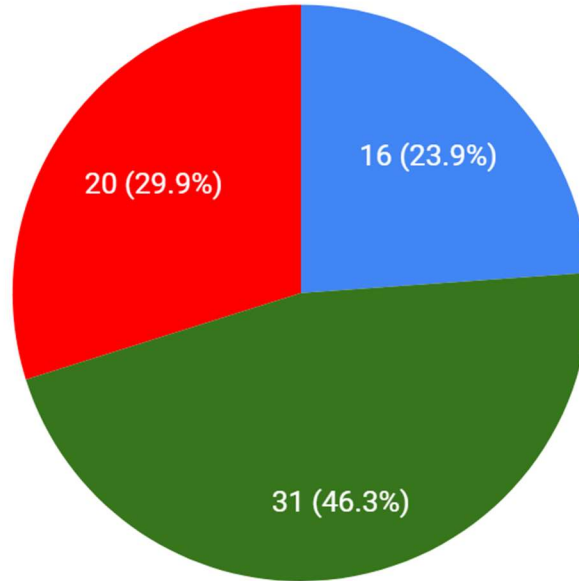
**Early, On-Time, and Late Graduates by Year**



**TRIO Wolf Creek Distance Learning Charter School #4095  
2022-2023  
Student Accountability Report**

**Graduates 22-23**

● Early Graduates   ● On Time Graduates   ● Late Graduates



**Admissions Data**

Criteria	Student Percentage
Eligible for Free/Reduced Lunch	115 or 38.6%
English Language Learners	0
Special Education Students	47 or 15.7%
At-Risk Students	74% of full-time students enrolled in Feb of 2023
Ethnicity Statistics	By student number
Am Indian	6
Asian	3
Hispanic	13
Native Hawaiian / Pacific Islander	0
Black	3

**TRIO Wolf Creek Distance Learning Charter School #4095  
2022-2023  
Student Accountability Report**

2 or More	19	
*combining all starred categories above	47	
White	252	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>298</b>	
<b>Gender</b>		
Male		
F/T	OLL	Total
116	20	136
Female		
F/T	OLL	Total
182	35	217

This data was gathered using MN statute definitions in a gathering process conducted each year. We deal with a variety of factors that influence this at-risk definition including being behind peers academically and having a past poor school academic record which can result in gaps in learning. We worked as a staff to gather more data on our at-risk population this year and were surprised to find the following data points.

From data collected in October of 2022 we know that, of 206 full-time enrolled students, 75% had at least one risk factor assigned to them. In February of 2023, of 217 full-time students, 74% had at least one risk factor assigned to them. See the table below for data points.

<b>Risk Factor</b>	<b>October 2022 Student Count (206)</b>	<b>October 2022 Percentage</b>	<b>February 2023 Student Count (217 )</b>	<b>February 2023 Percentage</b>
Below Grade Level	67	33%	64	29%
Behind in Credits	122	59%	123	57%
Parent or Pregnant	5	2%	5	2%
Assessed Chemically Dependent	2	1%	2	1%

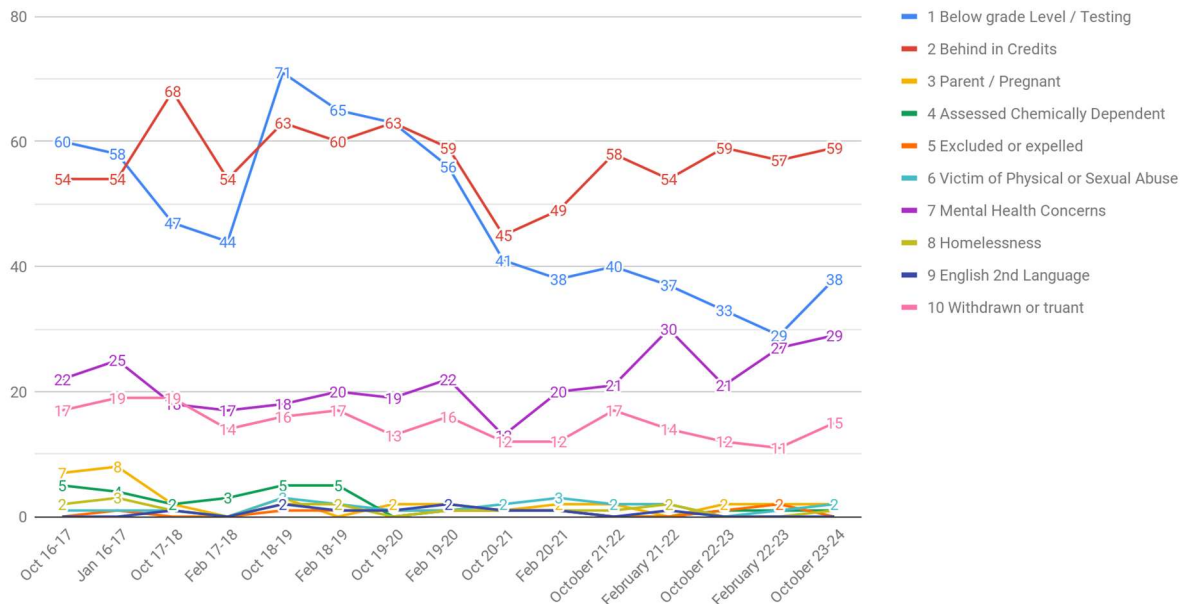
**TRIO Wolf Creek Distance Learning Charter School #4095**  
**2022-2023**  
**Student Accountability Report**

Excluded or Expelled	2	1%	2	1%
Victim of Physical or Sexual Abuse	1	0%	4	2%
Mental Health Concerns	44	21%	61	28%
Homelessness	1	0%	1	0%
English Second Language	0	0%	0	0%
Withdrawn or Truant	25	12%	25	12%

October 2022 Average of 1.3 At-Risk Factors per student  
 October 2022 Average of 3.9 Stars per student  
 October 2022 75% of students had 1 or more risk factors

February 2023 Average of 1.3 At-Risk Factors per Student  
 February 2023 Average of 4.8 Stars per student  
 February 2023 74% of students had 1 or more risk factors

Trend: At Risk Factors - Full Time Students (Percent of Total Student Count)



\*\*2020-2021 below grade level counts could be impacted by the inability to identify students through MCA & MAP testing due to COVID-19

# TRIO Wolf Creek Distance Learning Charter School #4095 2022-2023 Student Accountability Report

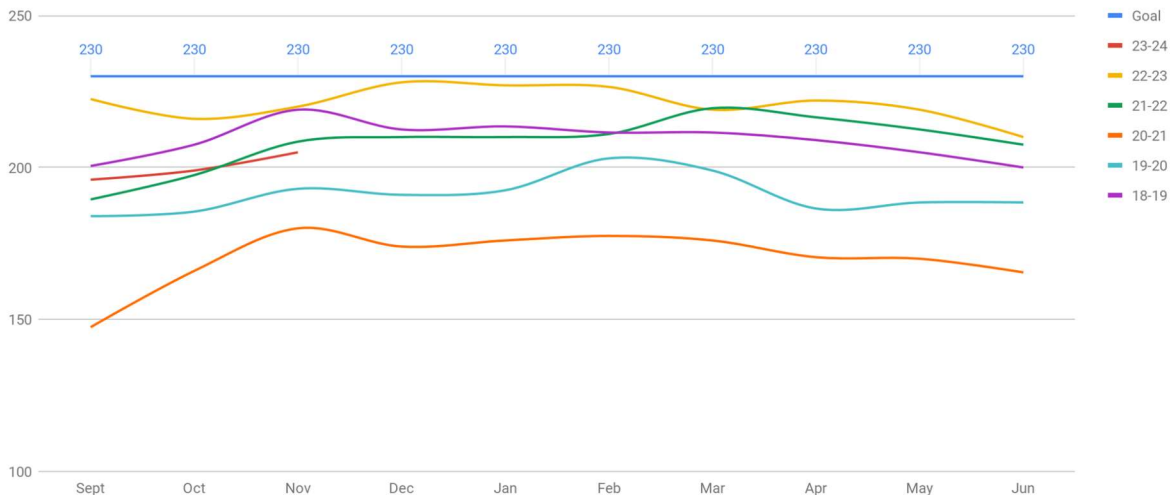
Free and reduced populations increased slightly from the previous year in eligibility. This is due to more students coming to the lab to participate in the lunch program and because students who filled out the form were eligible to take the ACT exam for free this past year. This is the first year that the ACT exam was not free when administered at Wolf Creek. As an online school, we find it difficult to show families the need for this paperwork if students are not coming to the lab or need lunch price modifications so this was an added incentive for all families to fill out the form. We continue to work to have all students, whether they take lunch at school or not, complete the paperwork so that good data can be used for title funding and other purposes.

Our Ethnicity data continues to show that we have a majority white student population, as identified on the enrollment forms voluntarily by families.

Below is a graph of enrollment reported at our board meetings which shows that our enrollment in 18-19 (green line) was consistently higher than in 19-20 (yellow line). Enrollment continues to increase in 20-21 as shown by the red line. Enrollment fluctuations are expected as many new online programs are starting in MN. Over 100 new programs were approved by MDE this fall. It is our strong belief that Wolf Creek will continue to see consistent enrollment with some fluctuations as a veteran online learning program for over twenty years in MN. Marketing and awareness of our offerings has been a high priority for the board over the past year.

Wolf Creek Enrollment Reported at Board Mtgs vs Goal

Total Adjusted with Parttime Counted as Half (Goal: 230)



**TRIO Wolf Creek Distance Learning Charter School #4095  
2022-2023  
Student Accountability Report**

Additional graphs shown at the link below are a snapshot of enrollment from November 2022 that was shared with our authorizer.

[Enrollment Graphs based on Enrollment at the end of Term 1.](#)

**TRIO Wolf Creek Distance Learning Charter School #4095**

**2022-2023**

**Student Accountability Report**

**IV. TEACHING STAFF INFORMATION - Licensed teachers**

<b>Name</b>	<b>File #</b>	<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Years at TWC</b>	<b>22-23 Status*</b>
Tracy Quarnstrom Director	349108	Social Studies	21	R
Brenda Swanson Dean of Students	348443	Life Sciences	21	R
Hannah Edblad	480564	Special Education	9	R
Shelli Matheson	479604	Mathematics	10	R
Brianna Karnes	484358	Special Education	4	R
Chad (CJ) Hanson	480136	Instrumental and Classroom Music	4	R
Chloe Jackson	489757	Language Arts	6	R
Renee Anick	1004183	Social Studies	4	R
Lindsay Coppernoll	437249	Life Sciences	16	R
Sandra Flint	421010	Mathematics	18	R
Chris Wallin	398607	Phy Ed & Health	7	R
Becki Olseen	444919	Social Studies	13	R
David Alves	515497	American Sign Language	3	R
Lori Nelson	377606	Language Arts	2	R

\*R = Returning; NR = Not Returning

**TRIO Wolf Creek Distance Learning Charter School #4095**  
**2022-2023**  
**Student Accountability Report**

**Wolf Creek is well aware that continuity in staff is important for students and online program success and we are striving for that at all times.**

Wolf Creek continues to work hard to implement mentor programs and to create written staff manuals in the past years for a better retention program at our charter school. It is acknowledged that it is difficult to retain staff when we are known as a highly reputable school and other online schools attempt to take staff from us regularly, especially start-up online schools.

**Management and Administration**

Tracy L. Quarnstrom is the Director of the Wolf Creek Online High School and has been the director since the opening of the school in June of 2002. The continuity of leadership in the charter school has led to amazing results for the school. Tracy holds both a Minnesota K12 principal license and superintendent licensure, both obtained from Hamline University. It is the belief of the charter school that the knowledge obtained with these degrees has greatly benefited the charter school in many ways.

*Professional Development Plan for Charter School Director is not required due to Director Tracy L. Quarnstrom having superintendent licensure with the State of Minnesota. Please consult file folder number 349108.*

Brenda A. Swanson, also a founding charter board member, has served as the Dean of Students with the charter school since its opening in June of 2002.

Both Quarnstrom and Swanson hold valid teaching licenses in content areas and continue to be vital teaching expertise to the charter school. The location for file folder numbers and other needed information is found in the staff information chart on the previous page.

Looking at other charter schools and turnover rates in the administration makes this a unique situation in this charter school environment.

**TRIO Wolf Creek Distance Learning Charter School #4095  
2022-2023  
Student Accountability Report**

**V. GOVERNANCE**

There were eight board members for the 2022-2023 school year. Our school board is usually made up of nine members however, one parent representative position is currently vacant. Each board member is referred to as a director of our school board. Along with board membership, the following officers are elected at the annual meeting each year from among those duly elected.

Jeff Vitali	Chairperson & Community-at-Large Representative	Elected February 15, 2022, to a 2-year position (non-staff or non-parent required for this position)
Sue Frame	Vice-Chair & Community-at-Large Representative	Elected February 7, 2023, to 1-year position (non-staff or non-parent required for this position)
Sandy Flint	Secretary/Treasurer, Officer, and Teacher Representative	Elected February 15, 2022, to a 2-year position (must be a teacher at the charter school)
Greg Paine	Community-at-Large Representative	Elected February 7, 2023, to a 1-year position (non-staff or non-parent required for this position)
Jennifer Lake	Community-at-Large Representative	Elected February 7, 2023, to a 1-year position (non-staff or non-parent required for this position)
Lori Nelson	Full-Time Teacher Representative	Elected February 7, 2023, to a 2-year position (must be a teacher at the charter school)
Chloe Jackson	Full-Time Teacher Representative	Elected February 7, 2023, to a 2-year position (must be a teacher at the charter school)
Catherine Veith-Bruno	Parent Representative	Elected February 7, 2023, to a 1-year position (must be a parent or legal guardian with a student enrolled in the charter school)
OPEN	Parent Representative	Vacant 1-year position (must be a parent or a legal guardian with a student enrolled in the charter school)
Brenda Swanson	Dean of Students	Ex-officio Representative
Tracy Quarnstrom	TRIO Director	Ex-officio Representative

**TRIO Wolf Creek Distance Learning Charter School #4095**  
**2022-2023**  
**Student Accountability Report**

Robin Vosberg-Torgerson	Director of Business Services	Chisago Lakes ISD #2144/TRIO Charter School #4095
Sarah Schmidt	Authorizer Representative	Authorizer Representative - Chisago Lakes ISD #2144

*For access to biographies, please visit our website at [www.triowolfcreek.com](http://www.triowolfcreek.com).*

The 2022-2023 board election was certified on February 7, 2023.

Based on school board minutes, the board had an average attendance of 88.5% for the 2022-2023 fiscal year. The Board meets once a month, usually on the second Tuesday of the month, and for approximately two hours in duration. It is acknowledged that from time to time, board members need to miss meetings. Some members were excused from meetings for required board training or other needed school business.

Wolf Creek's Board is highly committed to attending and participating in meetings and they are thanked for their commitment to Wolf Creek in this manner.

To view all minutes and up to date board information, please visit our school board link at [www.triowolfcreek.com](http://www.triowolfcreek.com).

# TRIO Wolf Creek Distance Learning Charter School #4095

2022-2023

## Student Accountability Report

### VI. ACADEMIC PROGRAM

MCA Graphs from MDE Report Card

- [MCA Math](#) [MCA Math FRP](#) CTSR for SPED
- [MCA Reading](#) CTSR for all subgroups

#### MMR Rating for 2015

Wolf Creek was designated as a Focus School in previous years based on test data. We were labeled as a school in need of support from the Regional Centers for Excellence in the fall of 2022. We have worked with diligence with the Regional Centers since 2015 and will continue to do so to improve our graduation rates. Our only designated cell was in the area of graduation rates and so we were not assigned to work with a regional center for excellence this year. We are working with MAAP (MN Association Alternative Programs), MACS (MN Association of Charter Schools), and MDE (MN Department of Education) to allow small charter schools who do not have valid test data based on student mobility, small cells for comparison, and other data measures to use other multiple measures of accountability in the future. Our authorizer, Chisago Lakes Schools is very interested in working with us to determine other ways to measure our success that include, but are not exclusively based on standardized test scores.

#### Notes on Graduation Rate:

The majority of Wolf Creek students enroll at the charter school behind on credits. This means that they may have spent years in another public school and fallen behind, but once they walk in the doors of Wolf Creek, we are now held accountable for not graduating them on time. Recent legislation allows for a longest not last provision that gives a student's graduation rate or non graduate rate to the place they were enrolled last if they drop out of school in a given period of time. That period of time is usually six months or half a school year so if a student is only enrolled at Wolf Creek for a few weeks they no longer count as not graduating with us. This is one area where we have seen improvements in the measurement analysis but more work needs to be done in this area. Wolf Creek administration has participated in various MDE task forces on graduation rate analysis and will continue to do so until all student successes including GED preparation are counted accurately.

Not all students graduate in four years and not all students experience high school in the way we would wish they could. Wolf Creek students often experience barriers that make graduation in four years unattainable. Wolf Creek recognizes the need to meet students where they are on their academic and graduation pathway and assist them in meeting many goals along the way.

Wolf Creek continues to strive to improve our academic performance on all required statewide testing measures, but at the same time, Wolf Creek would like to acknowledge that the number of students taking these measures at Wolf Creek is at times not a large enough pool of students to conduct reliable statistical analysis for comparison purposes with other schools or even year to year data within Wolf Creek numbers.

**TRIO Wolf Creek Distance Learning Charter School #4095  
2022-2023  
Student Accountability Report**

We will continue to strive to create a flexible and personalized pathway to an accredited high school diploma for our students and families who choose Wolf Creek as their high school option.

# TRIO Wolf Creek Distance Learning Charter School #4095

2022-2023

## Student Accountability Report

### VI. Innovative Practices

TRIO Wolf Creek Distance Learning Charter School is one the longest running virtual school models in Minnesota. Since 2002 Wolf Creek has prided itself on building relationships with students and families, allowing for individual student success, and supporting all student needs.

TRIO Wolf Creek Distance Learning Charter School continues to grow and develop itself as a model for online hybrid programming across the state and the nation. Here are just a few of the ways we are improving and using innovation to advance student academic success.

Again, during the 2022-2023 school years, ADSIS funds were dedicated to supporting under-achieving general education students in grades 9-11 in the area of math and in grades 9-12 for behavior interventions. Students were identified for math based on FastBridge test scores. Students were identified by behavior based on work completion goals not being met. Student support consisted of an on-campus math lab offered every Tuesday and Thursday and virtual math and organizational tutoring through Google Meets. Virtual campus on Mondays allowed students to check in with a staff member and create checklists and provided organizational tools for success. In addition, some students received additional math support and instruction through ALEKS, either integrated into their core math class or by taking Math Intervention as a math elective course. Students received one-to-one tutoring of both on topics and prerequisite skills and small group sessions. Students also received virtual tutoring support from Wolf Creek math teachers in small groups and one-on-one settings. Virtual tutoring sessions help students fill in skills gaps, understand prerequisite skills, review course performance, and supplement topics in individual students' math classes.

#### ADSI 2022-23

	Math	Behavior
Number of students identified for ADSIS	13	9
Hours of direct intervention instruction	176	148

#### Look at Students Needs:

This school year continued to see a need for more interventions on campus and online in a variety of ways. Increased mental health supports were utilized on campus as the needs of students in these areas continued to grow. We continued to contract with Family Based Therapy and Associates in order to have a therapist on campus on Tuesday and Thursday mornings for check-ins that are not billed to insurance. This allows students who utilize mental health support outside of campus to have a check-in on campus to allow for more access. This check-in approach helps students with anxiety, which is also increasing for our student body. We increased hours due to receiving some federal pandemic funds and also utilized telehealth options for about 40% of appointments which gave us more flexibility and allowed students not attending campus to utilize these services.

# **TRIO Wolf Creek Distance Learning Charter School #4095**

**2022-2023**

## **Student Accountability Report**

We received training from the CAREI Institute around MTSS Multi-Tiered Systems of Support and began to analyze our identification and problem-solving methods in more detail. We will continue this work in future school years with in-house problem-solving meetings and consultations with SCRED for the problem-solving process. This is going to be an area of high need for students and staff in the future. The staff has planned some Mental Health First Aid training in the fall of 2023 to continue to gain support around being able to best assist students and still care for themselves as individuals and professionals.

### **Campus option**

We are the only high school online program in the State of MN to offer a regular weekly campus option that allows local students to come to a physical space for reliable Internet and face-to-face time with highly qualified licensed instructors.

Special Education programming in an online arena has caused us to use virtual meeting spaces and work with students within the due process requirements of special education while still being very innovative around how to deliver these services on an anytime-anywhere basis to our 21st-century learners.

### **Wolf Creek employs several innovative practices**

- Wolf Creek is the state's only fully hybrid high school model. We believe that we are a leader in creating a quality online curriculum, as well as offering high-quality special education services in an online setting.
- Wolf Creek has worked to implement a young parenting class series with valid research methods due to the needs of our at-risk teen parent population. Working in coordination with Chisago County Health and Human Services we offer our young parents a variety of services to meet their needs.
- Wolf Creek has worked to implement mental health needs for at-risk students. Most occur in a face-to-face model at this time, but work continues to surface around other methods of needed counseling for online students. We offer a variety of free mental health options on campus for students that are unheard of in the public school arena.
- The learning manager model is a truly innovative and effective practice that is used throughout the Wolf Creek School and is emulated in other online settings.
- Utilizing online Advisory options to fulfill the promise of the WBWF report submitted to MDE each year.

## **VII. PROGRAM CHALLENGES**

Our largest challenge is the mobility of students.

**TRIO Wolf Creek Distance Learning Charter School #4095**  
**2022-2023**  
**Student Accountability Report**

Another area of concern for at-risk students continues to be the completion rate of courses and the amount of time that students are committed to working productively as online learners. Using the hybrid model and finding a balance between requiring students to come into a lab and allowing them the flexibility of online learning is always a challenge. It is the belief at Wolf Creek that this is not only a challenge for us but for all OLL providers. We will continue to strive each day to reach students who have not been able to find academic success in other school settings.

**VIII. OPERATIONAL PERFORMANCE**

Wolf Creek is a very effective organization. From our school board to our business management services you can see the traits of an effective organization at Wolf Creek. We work with our authorizer Chisago Lakes Schools and several reputable consultants in the charter school world to have needed consultations and advice. We are members of MSBA and MACS in good standing. We serve the online community as a beacon of accountability and reputable practices. We are in good standing with the MN Department of Education for all reports and records requested or needed from MDE. All documents in this report offer evidence of the efficiency of the organization.

**TRIO Wolf Creek Distance Learning Charter School #4095**  
**2022-2023**  
**Student Accountability Report**

**FUTURE PLANS - Strategic Plan from Board Agenda**

**Strategic Plan Initiatives:**

1. Meeting enrollment numbers to fulfill the needs of students and Wolf Creek's capacity through marketing efforts.
2. Curriculum review and continued enhancement toward achieving goals of engaging, flexible, differentiated, and personalized learning. To achieve this we will offer high-quality professional development to all staff members.
3. Engaging parents as partners in their student's academic progress.

**Quality Compensation Goals**

The percentage of all students in grades 9-10 at TRIO Wolf Creek Distance Learning Charter School who meet FAST aReading will increase from 61.1% in spring 2022 to 66.1% in spring of 2023.
--

**Above all else, our ultimate goal is that:**

*We will continue to strive to be seen as the most reputable and accountable online entity in the state of Minnesota through all documents submitted to MDE and our authorizer.*

**APPENDIX INFORMATION**

**TRIO Wolf Creek Distance Learning Charter School #4095**  
**2022-2023**  
**Student Accountability Report**

**Hope Survey Data**

The Hope Survey documents student responses to 5 support areas:

- Engagement
- Autonomy
- Belongingness
- Goal Orientation
- Academic Press

**Results:** [Hope Survey Results Wolf Creek Spring 2023](#)

There are areas where Wolf Creek is very strong and areas where we can improve.

For questions about the Hope Survey, please contact the Charter School Director Tracy L. Quarnstrom at [tquarnstrom@wolfcreekhs.org](mailto:tquarnstrom@wolfcreekhs.org).

**Budget Data Sheets**

For questions on the budget documents, please contact our current business manager, Robin Vosberg-Torgerson at [rvosberg-torgerson@isd2144.org](mailto:rvosberg-torgerson@isd2144.org)

**Board Training Dates and Attendance**

**Financial Matters:**

April 11, 2023, Robyn Vosbrg-Togerson ( Business Manager) provided financial training to all board members.

Sue Frame was absent and updated after the meeting.

**Personnel Matters:**

June 13, 2023, Tracy Quarnstrom brought all agreements and discussed our procedures around and pertaining to personnel policies.

Sue Frame was absent and updated after the meeting.

**Board Governance:**

Board Governance was discussed at the yearly retreat held on June 14, 2023. Director Greg Paine was absent and reviewed all information with Director Quarnstrom after the retreat.

New board training notations

**TRIO Wolf Creek Distance Learning Charter School #4095**  
**2022-2023**  
**Student Accountability Report**

Lori Nelson is a new board member and participated in financial training with business manager Robyn Vosberg-Togerson on March 14, 2023.

Application [link](#) for enrolling in the charter school-

Families are encouraged to use the link provided but can also request paper copies and assistance in completing the application if needed. All candidates are accepted before asking for any academic or ability data on the student and enrollment positions are filled accordingly.

Questions on the application process can be directed to our Dean of Students Brenda Swanson at [bswanson@wolfcreekhs.org](mailto:bswanson@wolfcreekhs.org)

### **Q Comp Goal**

The percentage of all students in grades 9-10 at TRIO Wolf Creek Distance Learning Charter School who meet their growth projection on FAST aReading will increase from 61.1% in spring 2022 to 66.1% in spring of 2023.

**Q Comp Annual Report:** [Quality Compensation Annual Report 2022-2023](#)

### **Additional References**

[Link to 22-23 WBWF Template](#)

[Link to Audit Information FY Ending June 30, 2023:](#)

2023 Final Annual Financial Report  
2023 Final Management Communication  
2023 Final Audit Presentation  
(Audit performed by Abdo, LLP)

### **Conclusion**

Thank you for taking the time to read our annual report. Please report errors, omissions, or comments to the Charter School Director Tracy L. Quarnstrom at [tquarnstrom@wolfcreekhs.org](mailto:tquarnstrom@wolfcreekhs.org).