



2025-26 YEAR IN REVIEW



The Lincoln Academy
LIONS

I AM A MIGHTY LION

I focus on rigorous academics, character development and career exploration. I am on a mission to discover my future and to lead a choice-filled life.

I WILL carry myself as a leader who shows courage and honesty.

I WILL serve others with kindness and respect.

I WILL use my creativity and find joy in all that I do.

I WILL cooperate with others and show empathy and gratitude.

I WILL be responsible, work hard and always do my best.

I WILL show perseverance and will welcome challenges as opportunities.

I WILL honor my community and my country.

I AM A MIGHTY LION... HEAR ME **ROAR!**

The TLA Proclamation is an integral part of school culture at TLA. It is recited at morning assembly, is visibly represented on the main stairway linking the three levels of the school, and is integrated into all classroom and school activities.

As the guiding star for scholar expectations at TLA, the proclamation focuses on emphasizing qualities and virtues that will support scholars in successfully achieving their dreams well beyond their time at TLA.

OUR VISION: The Lincoln Academy will be the premier 4K-12 school in the state of Wisconsin providing college and career pathways for scholars to lead happy, choice-filled lives. TLA is committed to an equitable environment with rigorous instruction, joyous interactions, and strong community partnerships.

LETTER FROM OUR CEO



As I reflect on the past year at The Lincoln Academy, I am struck by how much our school community has accomplished together. This has been a year of milestones. Milestones that affirm the incredible work happening every day in our classrooms. Milestones that demonstrate the growing confidence that families, partners and educational leaders have in our mission. Milestones that prove The Lincoln Academy is becoming exactly the school we set out to build.

Behind every milestone is a scholar who grew, an educator who inspired, a family who believed in our mission, and a community that chose to invest in our future. I am reminded that meaningful success is never achieved alone. It is built through shared purpose, unwavering dedication, and the collective belief that every scholar deserves the opportunity to thrive.

This year, those efforts were recognized in remarkable ways. The Lincoln Academy earned a five-year charter renewal and received a four-star rating on the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction School Report Card. Our Technology Education program was also honored by the Wisconsin Technology Education Association as its Program of the Year, while our athletic program celebrated another milestone with full membership in the Wisconsin Interscholastic Athletic Association (WIAA) and alignment into the Trailways Conference beginning in the 2027-28 school year.

While these accomplishments are certainly worth celebrating, the greatest affirmation of our mission came from the families we serve. This year, more than 400 families applied for just 60 available seats, reflecting the growing confidence in The Lincoln Academy and the educational experience we provide our scholars. That trust is both inspiring and humbling, and it strengthens our commitment to continue growing while remaining true to the mission that has guided us from the beginning.

As I look ahead, I do so with tremendous optimism. These accomplishments are not a finish line, they are the foundation for the next chapter of The Lincoln Academy's story.

Thank you for believing in our mission and for helping us continue to create a school with rigorous instruction, joyous interactions, and strong community partnerships. Together, we are preparing every scholar for a happy, choice-filled life. Together, we are building something truly special, and I look forward to all we will accomplish in the years to come.

With deep appreciation,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kristi Y. Cole". The signature is fluid and cursive, written in a professional style.

Kristi Y. Cole, Ph.D.

Chief Education Officer

Scholar Demographics



61% Economically Disadvantaged



16% Special Education



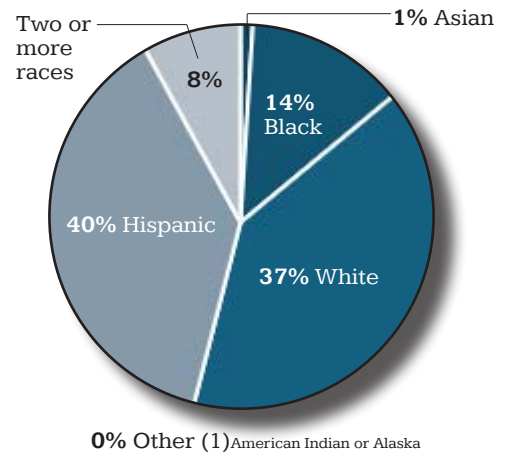
17% English Learners

730
Scholars
Enrolled

44 Scholars
in the
Senior class

**Scholars on the
waitlist:
280**

Scholar Ethnicity



Our Three Pillars

Our vision is grounded in three interconnected pillars: Academic Rigor, Character Development, and Career Exploration. Together, they shape scholars who are not only prepared for academic success, but equipped with the resilience, purpose, and confidence to navigate their futures. Through a project-based, experiential learning model, scholars build strong foundational skills while discovering how their education connects to real-world opportunities and career pathways. As our school continues to grow, these pillars remain at the core of our work—expanding opportunities for scholars to explore, achieve, and define their own paths forward.

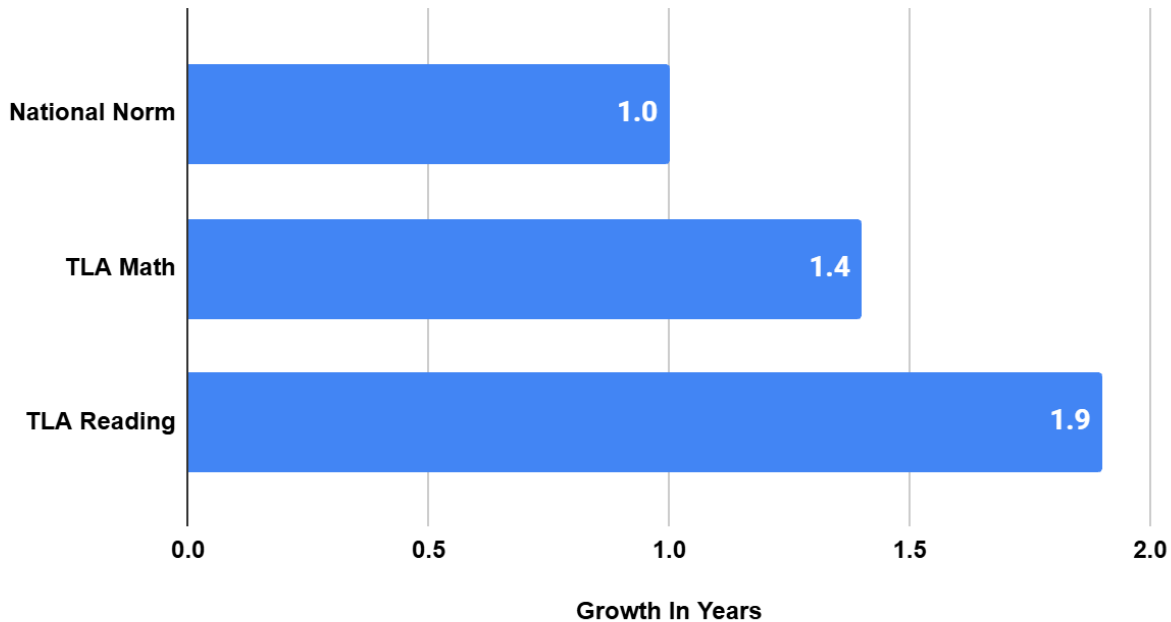
Academic Rigor

Academic Rigor at TLA challenges scholars to think critically, engage deeply, and take ownership of their learning. Through standards-aligned instruction and meaningful, project-based experiences, scholars are encouraged to analyze, problem-solve, and persevere through complex work. Our classrooms foster high expectations alongside strong support, ensuring every scholar is both challenged and empowered to grow. This commitment to Academic Rigor not only drives academic achievement, but also builds the confidence and discipline scholars need to succeed in college, career, and beyond.



Academic Rigor

TLA K5-8 MAP Growth Compared to National Norms



Service Learning Hours

3,600



Attendance Rate

Scholars: **95.3%**
Target Goal: **95%**



Honor Roll

High School Scholars on Honor Roll in 4th Quarter: **55**



MS Exploratory Courses:

27

Work-Based Learning Hours:

20,000

College Credits Earned:

414

HS Elective Courses:

66



Character Development

Character Development at TLA is rooted in the intentional teaching of monthly virtues, with a strong emphasis on citizenship, leadership, and service. These values are woven throughout the school experience—embedded across academic content, reinforced through direct classroom instruction, and celebrated during weekly assemblies. We also continued awarding our Leading Lions recognition, honoring scholars from each grade level who demonstrated excellence across all three pillars.

In addition, Character Awards recognized scholars who built meaningful relationships within the school community, applied virtues to make thoughtful decisions, and demonstrated a strong understanding of the character traits that guide personal growth and responsible citizenship.

1,129
Character
Awards



Career Exploration

**14 Dual Enrollment
Courses and 7 AP classes
offered at TLA**

**14 scholars participated in
Start College Now and Early
College Credit Programs.**

**414 COLLEGE CREDITS
EARNED
\$75,000+ IN SCHOLAR
COLLEGE SAVINGS**

200+ Business Partnerships!

Career Exploration at TLA empowers scholars to discover their interests, build practical skills, and envision their future pathways. Through hands-on learning, industry exposure, and real-world experiences, scholars engage with a variety of career fields and begin to see themselves in those roles. From classroom projects to partnerships and work-based learning opportunities, scholars gain insight into the skills and habits needed for success beyond graduation. This intentional focus helps scholars make informed decisions about their next steps, while building confidence and a clear sense of purpose for life after TLA.

WORK-BASED LEARNING CAREER PATHWAYS:

Hospitality, Healthcare,
Human Services, Education,
Manufacturing, STEM, Finance,
IT, Marketing, Agriculture,
Arts & Communication,
Business, Government,
Law & Public Safety,
Transportation, and
Construction.

Quick Facts:

- 87% of scholars attended at least one career panel
- 96% of 6-9th Grade scholars attended a college visit
- 95% of scholars attended at least one industry field trip
- 100% of 8th Grade scholars completed a Virtual Job Shadow
- 88% of 10th Grade scholars completed job shadows in the community
- 99% of grade level Xello lessons were completed
- 100% of 8th Grade and Senior scholars presented their Individualized Learning Plan
- Scholars worked more than 20,000 hours at 36 different work sites
- Scholars earned 28 industry recognized certifications
- 19 scholars participated in Today's Dreamers, Tomorrow's Leaders



Sports, Extra-Curricular Activities & Community Services



Clubs

32

Culinary Club (ES/MS/HS)
 Arts & Crafts (ES)
 Crazy 8 Math Club (ES)
 Top Secret Kindness Club (ES)
 Scrapbooking Club (ES)
 Little Lion Cheer Club (ES)
 BookQuest (ES)
 Art Club (ES)
 Virtual Reality Club (ES)
 Girls on the Run (ES)
 Soccer Club (ES)
 Cheer Club (MS/HS)
 Karaoke Club (MS)
 Gaming Club (MS/HS)
 Flag Football (MS/HS)
 Chess Club (MS/HS)
 Choir (MS/HS)
 Drone Club (HS)
 Scholar Council (HS)
 National Honor Society (HS)
 Esports (HS)
 Health Occupations Students
 of America (HS)
 School Newspaper Club (HS)
 Supermileage Vehicle (HS)
 Yearbook (HS)
 Drama (HS)



Extra Services

8

Breakfasts, lunches & snacks
 Vision Screenings
 Hearing Screenings
 Dental Assessments & Sealing
 Bus Transportation
 Swimming Lessons
 English Language Learner
 Assessments
 Stateline Mental Health
 Services



Sports, Extra-Curricular Activities & Community Services

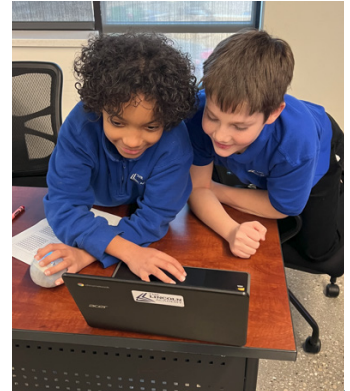
NAVY JUNIOR RESERVE OFFICER TRAINING CORPS



Sports

16

Cross Country (MS / HS)
Volleyball (MS / HS)
Basketball (MS / HS)
Wrestling (MS/HS)
Track (MS / HS)
Baseball (HS)
Golf (MS / HS)
Co-Op Hockey (HS)
Cheerleading (MS / HS)



Scholar Showcase

Parents, staff, local business partners, and community members gathered at the school for the Fourth Annual Scholar Showcase Fundraiser held in May 2026. Money raised at the event will be used to support the purchase of equipment and materials used within the school's specialty labs.

The evening's highlights included entertainment by the Feestet Trio band, drinks, appetizers, and silent auction items created by scholars in Middle and High School. There were also specialty art kits available for purchase as well as a gallery display of scholar art work.



Survey Results



Parent and scholar feedback continues to indicate strong satisfaction in the areas of **LEARNING, FRIENDSHIPS, and SAFETY.**

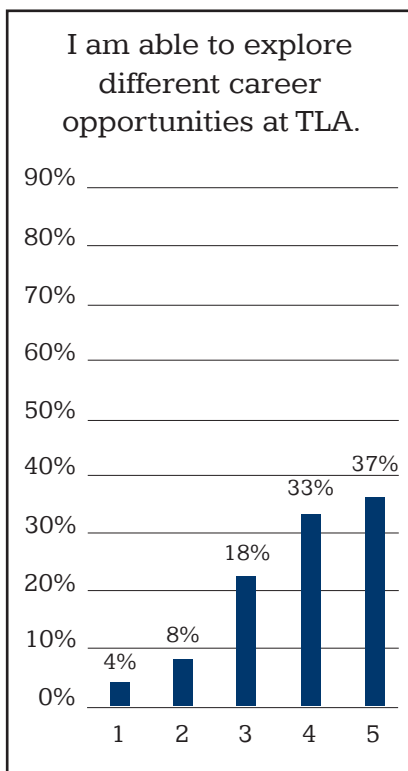
Also, **OPPORTUNITIES FOR CAREER EXPLORATION** received high marks from both parents and scholars.

"TLA has helped me grow academically and personally. I feel so lucky to go here with the wonderful community. I wouldn't go anywhere else."
~ TLA Scholar

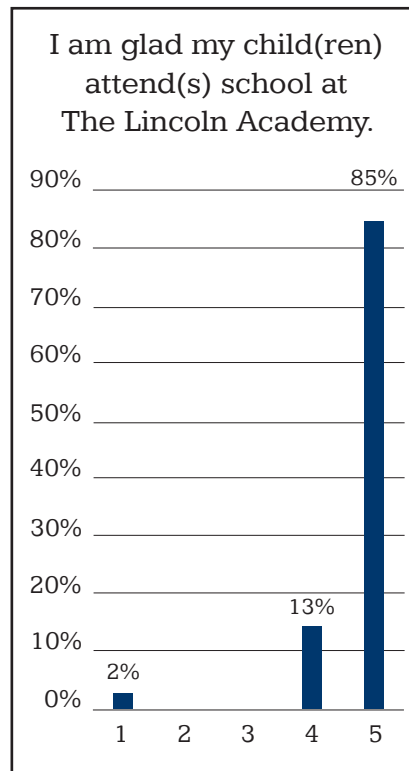
"We love TLA and what it does for our daughter. It is helping to prepare her for a life as a contributing and active member of her community. Thank you!"
~ TLA Parent

"I love working here. I can't imagine teaching anywhere else!"
~ TLA Staff

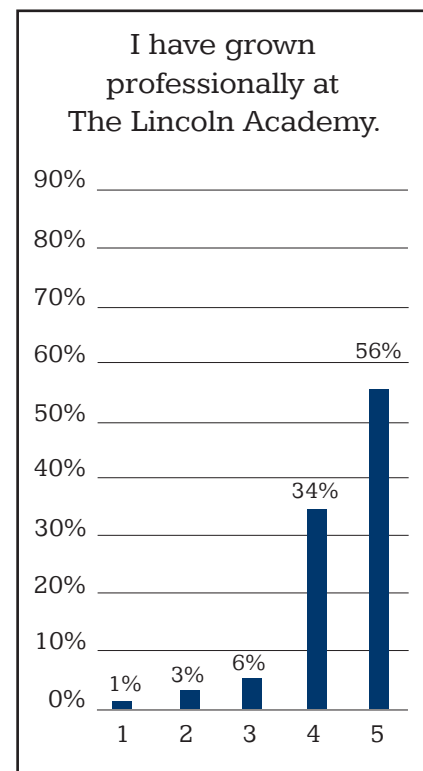
6-10th Grade Scholars



Parents / Guardians



Staff



1 = Strongly Disagree 2 = Disagree 3 = Neutral 4 = Agree 5 = Strongly Agree

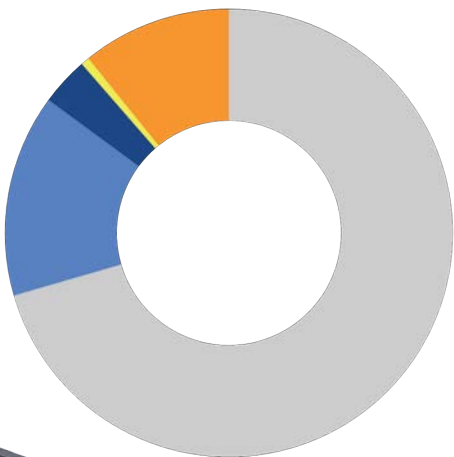
Financial Review | Revenues

TLA's anticipated total revenue for the 2025-2026 fiscal year is \$12,534,864



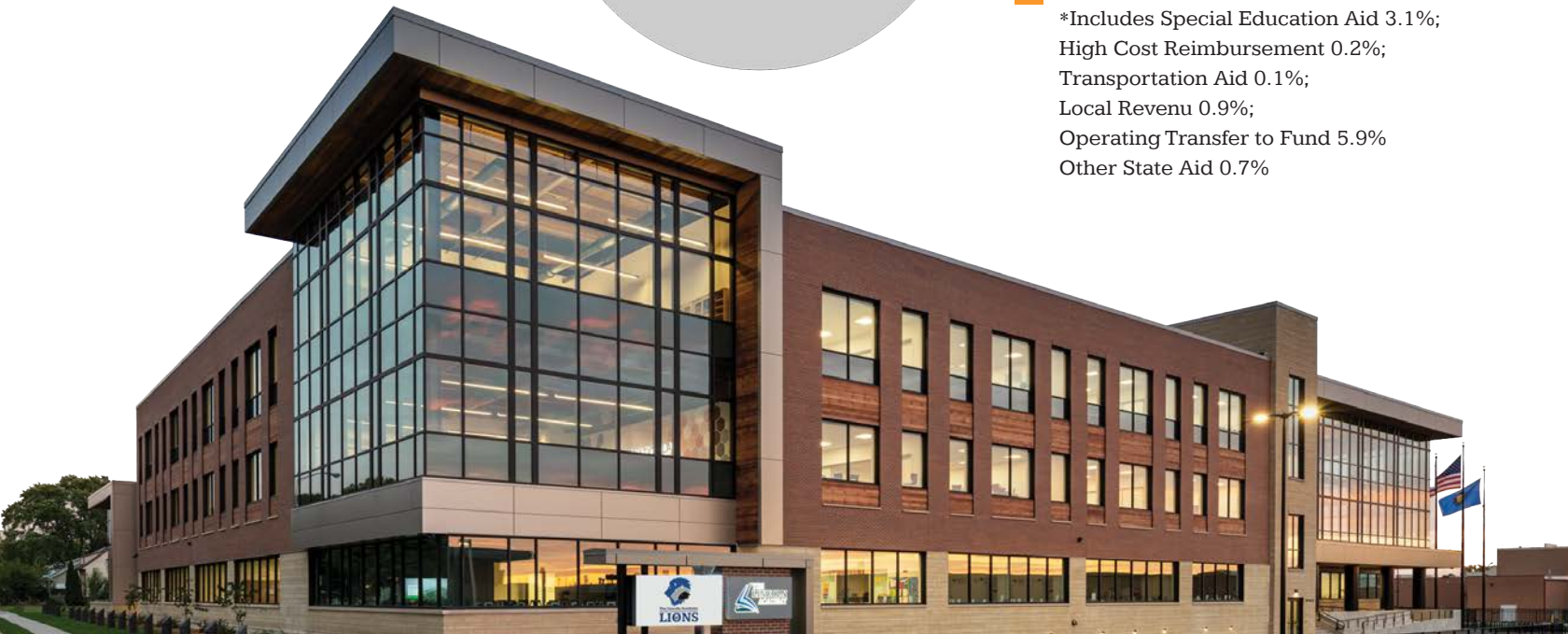
FEDERAL GRANTS

- Title Grants 48%
- Flow Thru & Preschool 42%
- Medicaid 10%



REVENUE BY CATEGORY

- State Aid 70.5%
 - Donations 14.6%
 - Federal Grants 3.5%
 - Other School Revenues .6%
 - Other State Aid 10.8%*
- *Includes Special Education Aid 3.1%;
High Cost Reimbursement 0.2%;
Transportation Aid 0.1%;
Local Revenue 0.9%;
Operating Transfer to Fund 5.9%;
Other State Aid 0.7%



Financial Review | Expenses

Department	Fiscal Year-to-Date Spend	Percentage
Instructional	\$6,394,121	50.8%
General Administration	\$1,785,280	14.2%
Support Services	\$1,869,496	14.9%
Facility Services	\$1,652,841	13.1%
School Level Administration	\$758,574	6.0%
Insurance	\$119,907	1.0%
Total Operating Expenses	\$12,580,219	100.0%

Total Revenues: **\$12,534,864**

Total Operating Expenses:

\$12,580,219

Net Difference: **(\$45,355)**

TLA's depreciation expense has not been factored into these expenditures. All revenue and expenditure numbers are preliminary. A complete financial audit for the 2025-2026 school year will be conducted in September 2026.

Charter School State Funding

Operating under the Wisconsin charter school framework, which balances greater autonomy with strict accountability, The Lincoln Academy is uniquely positioned to tailor its approach to the Beloit community. The Wisconsin charter school program allows this educational innovation by demanding rigorous compliance, strong academic achievement, clear scholar growth goals and sound fiscal practices.

Under the approved 2025-27 state biennial budget, per-pupil funding for independent charter schools was established at \$12,369 for the 2025-26 fiscal year. Additionally, while the state budget originally projected a special education reimbursement rate of 42% of prior year eligible costs, the final prorated reimbursement rate for this fiscal year concluded at 38.39%. Since independent charter schools do not have the authority to levy local taxes for additional funds like traditional public schools, this budget does not close the funding gap. However, these state resources offer vital support toward delivering the high-quality education that our scholars deserve.

As TLA looks toward the 2026-27 fiscal year and beyond, the school remains deeply committed to investing in the high-quality education of Beloit children. To support this vision, TLA successfully secured two major grants. First, DPI approved TLA's grant application and received an \$800,000 expansion grant to fund our physical and operational growth over the next three years. Second, TLA is excited to partner with the Charter School Growth Fund, a nationally known organization that supports high quality charter schools. They approved TLA's grant application for \$330,000 annually for the next three years. These funds will be used to expand high quality education and provide more options for children in the community.

Donors

ABC Supply Co., Inc.
Matthew Albers & Joanna Waxler
Steve Althaus & Sovan Srey
American Heart Association
Associated Bank
Brad Austin & Teresa Adleman
Brian & Mandy Blood
Beloit Floral
Beloit Health System Auxiliary, Inc.
Beloit Senior Living
Andy & Laura Benisch
Blackhawk Technical College
Ray & Melody Bragg
Steven & Amanda Bragg
Pat & Kristi Cole
Corporate Contractors, Inc.
Culver's of Beloit
Travis & Kristen Dahl
Fairbanks Morse Defense
Stenson & Priscilla El-Amin
Jesus & Sara Escobedo
Matthew & Flor Finley
First Community Credit Union
Ryan & Jessica Flanagan
Craig & Lisa Furseth

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Hendricks Family Foundation, Inc.
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Matt & Konya Schuh
James & Rebecca Shellenberger
Sinnissippi Aviation, LLC
South Central Wisconsin Area Health Education Center, Inc.
Stateline Community Foundation
Stateline Family YMCA
Madilyn Stoll
The Morse Group
Jim & Jen Tropp
Quint & Rishy Studer
WHA Foundation, Inc.
Eric Xanthopoulos & Dorine Hoeksema
Scott & Pamela Young

Community Support

The Lincoln Academy is truly grateful for the support we have received this past year from individuals, families, businesses, and organizations throughout the different corners of our community.

These valuable contributions of time and/or materials have made it possible for scholars to explore and enrich their learning, development, aspirations, and outcomes. Community support included activities such as:

- Reading in the classrooms
- Career Spotlight Speakers
- Community Helper Week
- Engaging in career-focused, hands-on learning activities
- Chaperoning field trips
- Donating materials or equipment for labs
- Participating in business panels and mock interviews
- Providing job shadow opportunities
- Volunteering at school activities
- Attending the College and Career Fair
- Supplying items to support scholar incentives

**200+
Community
Partners!**

Governance Board

Governance members are selected to ensure the Board has the collective skills and diverse perspectives to effectively oversee The Lincoln Academy.

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO OUR BOARD FOR A SUCCESSFUL 2025-2026 SCHOOL YEAR!



Front Row: Lisa Furseth, Chair; Dr. Eric Xanthopoulos, Vice Chair; Maria Elena White; Elizabeth Munnelly, Treasurer

Middle Row: Darian Snow; Diane Hendricks, Secretary; Dr. Roger Kapoor

Back Row: Joe Stadelman; Barbara Hickman



THANK YOU!

The Lincoln Academy is continually grateful for the incredible support we receive from our local Beloit community and beyond.

We recognize the individuals, companies, and foundations that have supported TLA during the 2025-2026 school year. We couldn't do this without you.



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