

# Memo

**To:** Board of Education

**From:** Dr. Mary Whitrock, Superintendent, Jonah Adams, Business Manager

**Date:** January 10, 2025

**Re:** Open Enrollment Seats for 2025-2026

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## **Background:**

Before the 2021-2022 school year, the District addressed declining student enrollment by accepting open enrollment applications across all grade levels. Available seats were calculated based on remaining capacity, with at least four seats open per grade level.

During the 2021-2022 and 2022-2023 school years in the midst of the COVID-19 pandemic, the District more strictly limited open enrollment to decrease class sizes where possible, maximize interventions to the greatest extent possible, and allow teachers to review and modify course content for students.

## **Current Situation:**

As with the current school year, the District administration recommends opening enrollment seats across all grade levels for the 2025-2026 school year. Our schools have sufficient capacity to accommodate additional students. Each full-time general education open enrolled student will bring in at least \$8,962 in annual tuition revenue, providing a significant source of the District's operating revenue.

The Ripon Area School District remains one of the region's highest-achieving districts, making it an attractive choice for nonresident families. Maintaining open enrollment opportunities aligns with the District's mission to provide educational opportunities while ensuring financial sustainability.

## **Recommendation:**

The District administration recommends that the Board approve the proposed open enrollment seats for the 2025-2026 school year. We welcome the opportunity to discuss this recommendation further at your convenience.