



WAUSAU SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Longfellow Administration Center

415 Seymour Street • P.O. Box 359 • Wausau, Wisconsin 54402-0359 • 715-261-0500 • [www.wausauschools.org](http://www.wausauschools.org)  
Dr. Keith W. Hills, Superintendent of Schools

August 2022

**Welcome to High School!**

Welcome to high school! We are excited for you to join Wausau East or Wausau West this year, and we want to share some key information to help set you up for success. Here's what you need to know about high school:

- You will begin earning credits toward graduation this year and continue earning credits each year of high school. Here are the specific requirements you need to complete in order to graduate and earn your diploma:

| <u>COURSES</u>     | <u>CREDITS</u> |
|--------------------|----------------|
| English            | 4.0            |
| Social Studies     | 3.5            |
| Math               | 3.0            |
| Science            | 3.0            |
| Physical Education | 1.5            |
| Health             | 0.5            |
| Financial Literacy | 0.5            |
| <u>Electives</u>   | <u>7.0</u>     |
| TOTAL              | 23.0           |

- High schools have unique schedules, policies, and procedures designed for high school students. Please use our website or call your school to learn more about how your high school works :
  - Wausau East High School <https://east.wausauschools.org/>
  - Wausau West High School <https://west.wausauschools.org/>
- High school students have unique opportunities, within and beyond the classroom. Classes, activities, teams, and more can help you connect and succeed now and in your future. We'll even help you develop your own Academic and Career Plan (*see included ACP process*).
- Successful high school students attend regularly, work hard, get involved, and ask for help. See Wisconsin's Redefining Ready information included with this letter for more details, and know that we're here to help you succeed.

It is the mission of the Wausau School District to advance student learning, achievement, and success.

The Wausau School District does not discriminate on the basis of race, age, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, creed, pregnancy, marital status, parental status, sexual orientation, sex (including transgender status, change of sex or gender identity), or physical, mental, emotional, or learning disability ("Protected Classes").



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- Students and families need each other just as much (maybe even more) in high school as they did in elementary and middle school. Keep talking, keep sharing, and keep taking good care of each other. It really is a little like *High School Musical*--We're all in this together!

Over the next few weeks, we'll continue sharing information with you about the upcoming school year. If you have questions or simply want to learn more at any point, please contact your principals, your school counselors, or me. We're glad you're here, and we're happy to help!

Go Warriors, Go Lumberjacks, and Go Wausau!

Dr. Jennifer Rauscher  
Director of Secondary Education

Enc: Redefining Ready, ACP Process

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## Redefining Ready ~ What can You do during High School to become College, Career, and Life Ready?

- **Show Up:** Set a goal to achieve a **90% or better attendance rate**. Especially during freshman year, attendance makes a difference - it's even more important than your 8th grade test scores.
- **Work Hard:** Set a goal to earn at least a **2.8 Grade Point Average**. Research suggests that students who keep their grades up are better prepared for life after high school.
- **Get Involved:** Set a goal to participate in at least two **Co-Curricular Activities** during high school. Students who participate in clubs, teams, and other groups develop career and life skills and have a lot of fun.
- **Challenge Yourself:** Set a goal to take at least one **Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate, or Dual Credit** course before you graduate. Challenging yourself in high school helps you to keep learning after high school.
- **Explore & Plan:** Set a goal to participate in **Work-Based Learning** opportunities like job shadows, coops, Youth Apprenticeship, and entrepreneurship before you graduate. Activities like these help you determine a career path and prepare for your future.

**Want to Learn More?** Google "**Wisconsin Redefining Ready**" or go to this website: <https://sites.google.com/cesa7.org/wisconsin-redefining-ready/home>.



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# WAUSAU WEST ACP PROCESS

Academic and Career Planning (ACP) is a student-driven, adult-supported process in which students create and cultivate their own unique, information-based visions for post-secondary success, obtained through self-exploration, career exploration, and the development of career management and planning skills ([dpi.wi.gov/acp](http://dpi.wi.gov/acp)). Each grade level will practice goal setting and planning through assessments and written activities with the guidance of counselors, homeroom advisors, and parents. Student goals and plans are expected to change annually based on their own personal experiences. The components of the ACP will be saved in Xello, an online career platform.

## Yearly, ALL students will:

- ❖ Complete **Xello Lessons**
- ❖ Record or update **Career and Life Goals**
- ❖ Record or update **Activities, Awards, Volunteer & Work Experience**
- ❖ Participate in **Quarterly Academic and Attendance Checks** with Homeroom Advisor
- ❖ Participate at an end of the year ACP Portfolio Review with Homeroom Advisor

## In addition, each individual grade will complete the following specific ACP Portfolio Tasks:

### 9TH GRADE

Freshman year is a very important year for developing self-identity and students will assess their strengths, needs, and interests in addition to establishing ownership of their academic progress.

- Complete the **Learning Styles Inventory and MatchMaker Assessment**
- Create **4yr Plan**
- Reflect on **Strengths and Needs**

### 10TH GRADE

Sophomore year is the time for students to continue to develop an awareness of their individual interests and strengths and start to explore careers and educational opportunities.

- Complete: **MatchMaker Assessment, Career Selector Inventory, and My Skills Assessment** in Xello
- Attend **Sophomore Parent/Student Conference**
- Reflect on **Yearly Progress Toward Goals**

### 11TH GRADE

Junior year is the time for students to start to identify more specific career and academic interests and research the appropriate steps to reach their future goals.

- Complete **School Selector Inventory** and save 2 schools of interest, careers, or Military interest
- Participate in the **ACT Prep and ACT Exam**
- Review/edit **Post-Secondary Plan**
- Attend **Course Registration Presentation**
- Review the **MatchMaker, Career Selector Inventory,**
- Reflect on **Yearly Progress Toward Goals**

### 12TH GRADE

Senior year is the time for students to work on their post-secondary transition to work, military or higher education.

- Attend a **Senior Conference**
- Review/edit **Post Secondary Plan**
- Reflect on **Yearly Progress Toward Goals**