



Central High School

550 Warrior Way | Grand Junction, CO 81504 | (970) 254-6200 |

<https://chs.d51schools.org> | School Code: 060690

2026-2027 School Profile

Mission

CHS Learners master the STEM Problem Solving Process through challenging academic and extracurricular experiences relevant to future success in life.

Principal
Zeb Hayward

Assistant Principals
Meg McGroarty
Amanda Talley
Britny Walker

Dean of Students
Brian Kearns

Athletic Director
Phil Johnston

Counselors
Erin Nutt
Steven Martinez
Rebekah Giles
Becca Edwards

Innovation for Excellence

Our School

At Central High School, our goal is to provide every student with meaningful opportunities to explore their interests, develop real-world skills, and prepare for college, career, military service, and life beyond high school.

STEM and Enrichment Opportunities

Designed to provide relevance, challenge, and opportunity for all students, Central High School is the first nationally certified STEM high school in Colorado. Our STEM Program offers students a variety of pathways to prepare for their future, including four-year college preparatory pathways, career and technical education pathways, military pathways, and PTECH (Pathways in Technology Early College High School) opportunities. Approximately 25% of our faculty have earned STEM certification through the National Institute of STEM Education, and Central High School is continuing to expand its vision from a STEM program to a STEM-focused experience for all students. Concurrent enrollment opportunities through Colorado Mesa University and Colorado Mesa University Tech are available to all students. Courses offered on our campus include ENG 111, ENG 112, MATH 113, HIST 131, HIST 132, General Psychology 150, ENG 125, and ENG 140, all taught by approved instructors. Students in grades 9–12 can also take advantage of Career Center courses that provide hands-on exploration of a variety of career fields, including automotive, horticulture, culinary arts, medical careers, and small animal care. CareerWise internships are available to students in grades 10–12, providing opportunities to gain valuable workplace experience. In addition, JROTC is available to all students in grades 9–12.

Advanced Placement

Advanced Placement (AP) courses are open to all students in grades 9–12 and provide opportunities for students to pursue rigorous, college-level coursework while still in high school. AP courses are offered in English Language and Composition, Statistics, Precalculus, Calculus, Seminar, Human Geography, U.S. Government and Politics, Research, Chemistry, Physics, and Biology. Honors courses are also available to students in grades 9 and 10 in Composition/Literature, Chemistry, and Biology, providing additional opportunities for students to challenge themselves academically and build a strong foundation for advanced coursework.

Our District

Mesa County Valley School District 51

(data as of 2025-26 school year)

- Largest school district on the Western Slope of Colorado
- The 16th largest school district in the state.
- 19,280 students
 - 22 elementary schools, 7 middle schools, 4 comprehensive high schools, 3 charter schools, 2 alternative high schools, 1 K-12 schools, 1 vocational school program

Our Community

Mesa County

- Population of approximately 164,290
- Includes the five incorporated cities of Grand Junction, Fruita, Palisade, Collbran, and DeBeque
- Largest city in between Denver and Salt Lake City on I-70, located on the Western Slope of the Colorado Rockies, about 250 miles west of Denver
- The largest industries in the county include Health Care, Retail Trades, Education, Agriculture, and Oil and Gas.

**Home of
the Warriors**





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Vision

- All CHS Learners will be in one of three STEM Experiences: STEM College Bound, STEM Career/PTECH, STEM for ALL instruction.
- All CHS Learners will take at least two college credit bearing classes through AP coursework CMU concurrent enrollment on campus or at CMU, or CMU Tech coursework.
- All CHS Learners will participate in ICAP activities including applying to post-secondary colleges, writing resumes, applying for internships, participating in a job shadow, or participating in part-time work experience.



280 Graduates

39 % matriculated to a four-year college

10 % to a two-year or Technical college

12 students enlisted in the Military

33 % chose to enter the workforce or gap year

Graduation Requirements

- A minimum of 25 credits is required for graduation in the following core areas:
 - **Computer Science** - 0.5 credit
 - **9th Literature/Language** - 1.0 credit
 - **10th Themes/Composition** - 1.0 credit
 - **11th Literature/Composition** - 1.0 credit
 - **12th Literature/Composition** - 0.5 credit
 - **English Elective** - 0.5 credit
 - **Fine Arts** - 0.5 credit
 - **Math** - 3.0 credit
 - **Physical Education** - 0.5 credit
 - **Personal Fitness/Wellness** - 0.5 credit
 - **Science-Life** - 1.0 credit
 - **Science-Physical** - 1.0 credit
 - **Science-Chemistry** - 1.0 credit
 - **US History** - 1.0 credit
 - **World Studies** - 1.0 credit
 - **Economics** - 0.5 credit
 - **American Government** - 0.5 credit
 - **Electives** - 10.0 credits
- #Financial Literacy
- At least 2.0 GPA
- Proficiency in Math/Reading as determined by Colorado Guidelines

Grading and Class Standing

Grading Scale	Percentage	Weight	*AP
A – Excellent	100 – 90	4.0	5.0
B – Above	89 – 80	3.0	4.0
C – Average	79 – 70	2.0	3.0
D – Below Average	69 – 60	1.0	2.0
F – Failure	59 or below	0.0	0.0

Central High School does not rank students.

Latin Honors are used to recognize and distinguish high academic performance.

- **Summa Cum Laude** with highest honors: 4.0 or higher
- **Magna Cum Laude** with great honors: 3.7 or higher
- **Cum Laude** with honors: 3.5 or higher

Our Numbers:

- Study Body Population: 1232 Students
 - Class of 2027 – 267
 - Class of 2028 – 279
 - Class of 2029 – 294
 - Class of 2030 - 392
 - <1% American Indian/Alaskan Native
 - <1% Asian
 - <1% Black/African American
 - <1% Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
 - 38% Hispanic
 - 56% White
 - 4% Multiple
 - 46% Free/Reduced Lunch
 - 14% Special Education