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School District of Wisconsin Dells
2026-27 PI.26 Education for Employment Plan

General Guidance

Administrative Code
Education for Employment (PI26) Administrative Rule Publication
PI 26 Planning Guidance
Link to DPI resources Page

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2026-27 ACP Team Members

Kim Cummings: 9-12 High School Counselor
Brian Grove: 4K-12 Director of Curriculum & Instruction
Allison Hoch: 9-12 High School Principal
Erin Michalsky: 9-12 High School FACS Teacher/CTE
Kate Nawrot: 9-12 High School Counselor
Julie Prouty: 9-12 Special Education/Transition
Bryan Schwarz: 9-12 High School Associate Principal
Brooke Scott: 5-8 Middle School Associate Principal
Terry Slack: 4K-12 District Administrator
Kaley Tibbits: 5-8 Middle School Counselor
Casey Whitehurst: 5-8 Middle School Principal

District Vision Statement

Academic and Individual Excellence for a Better Community

District Mission Statement

Connect - Inspire- Achieve - Everyone - Every Day

Labor Market Analysis

Local	Local	Regional Workforce Development Board	Regional Economic Development Organization	State
Adams County Columbia County Juneau County Marquette County Sauk County	Adams County Columbia County Juneau County Marquette County Sauk County	South Central WDA	MadREP	Wisconsin

Labor Market Summary

1. Agriculture Education, Business and Information Technology Education, Family and Consumer Sciences Education and Technology Education make up the Career and Technical Education (CTE) department at WDHS. The document shares information about each specific department while the CTE link is an overall snapshot.
2. There were 512 student participants in CTE courses during the 2024-25 school year. 217 of these students were concentrating on CTE.
3. Wisconsin Dells had 20 students participating in work-based learning during the 2024-25 school year, 301 students taking dual enrollment courses, and close to ten students gaining industry recognized credentials (our numbers between Infinite Campus and DPI will be calibrated moving forward).
4. Our local employers and industry partners are integral in the learning and success of our students participating in the CTE courses offered.
5. Additional Resources: Industry Projection Reports by Workforce Development Area, LMI Guide

Required Program Descriptions

Requirement	District Activity(ies) / Resources
Career & Technical Education options	WDHS 2026-27 Course Description Book CTE Pathways Youth Apprenticeship Youth Apprenticeship Scheduling Handout List of Dual Enrollment Courses 2026-27 Early College Credit Program (ECCP) and Start College Now (SCN) *Deadlines: Oct. 1 for spring courses, March 1 for fall courses - need to plan ahead
ACP Related PD for Staff	Introduction to ACP in the fall annually to staff - (goal 2026-27) Explanation of Xello and its place in ACP (goal for 2026-27) Xello Academy is a Professional Learning option for 6-12 Teachers
Career Counseling Services	SDWD High School Career Counseling Services 26-27 Xello: 6th Grade 7th Grade 8th Grade 6-8 Character Strong - curriculum adopted June 2025 5th Grade Career Class - Course Curriculum Guide in Development 5th Grade Character Strong - curriculum adopted June 2025
Strategy(ies) to engage businesses, postsecondary education institutions, and workforce development organizations	Advisory committees within each CTE area, Dual Credit mentors (in each CTE area) for Fox Valley Technical College, Madison College and Mid-State Technical College, Youth Apprenticeship employer/supporter connections, CTE Supporter Spotlight Night (planning for next year), guest speakers/field trips. 8th Grade Career Speakers SDWD Local Employers and Industry Partners

Grade Level Practices

See administrative code linked to each grade level for required elements.

Requirement	District Activity(ies) / Resources
Elementary School (Career Awareness)	Character Strong was adopted by the SDWD BOE June 2025 and was implemented K-8 during the 2025-26 school year. Throughout 2026-27, the SDWD Counseling Team will be working on developing Course Curriculum Guides for their scope and sequence of Character Strong, like we have in all other content areas. Kindergarten, First Grade, Second Grade, Third Grade, Fourth Grade
Middle School (Career Exploration)	5th Grade is now part of WDMS but they do not receive access to Xello through the State of Wisconsin. In turn, we have/are developing a 5th Grade Careers class that will be launched at the start of 2026-27. 5th Grade Character Strong Counseling Curriculum In 6th Grade, SDWD students will be introduced to Xello for the first time as part of their Academic & Career Plan (ACP). Xello is a state-provided software program that helps students in grades 6-12 create their very own, unique roadmap for future success. It enables them

	to discover their own personalized pathway through self-knowledge, exploration, and planning. 6th Graders will complete 11 Xello lessons throughout the course of the year. 6th Grade Character Strong Counseling Curriculum. Students in 6th Grade meet one on one with their homeroom teacher throughout the year to discuss goal setting, test scores, and ACP. In 7th Grade, SDWD students will enter their second year of using Xello as part of their Academic & Career Plan (ACP) and build on the foundation they created during their 6th grade lessons. Xello is a state-provided software program that helps students in grades 6-12 create their very own, unique roadmap for future success. It enables them to discover their own personalized pathway through self-knowledge, exploration, and planning. 7th Graders will complete 13 Xello. 7th Grade Character Strong Counseling Curriculum. Students in 7th Grade meet one on one with their homeroom teacher throughout the year to discuss goal setting, test scores, and ACP. In 8th Grade, SDWD students will enter their third year of using Xello as part of their Academic & Career Plan (ACP) and build on the foundation they created during their 6th and 7th grade lessons. Xello is a state-provided software program that helps students in grades 6-12 create their very own, unique roadmap for future success. It enables them to discover their own personalized pathway through self-knowledge, exploration, and planning. 8th Graders will complete 10 Xello lessons throughout the course of the year, which are outlined below. They also have a series of featured guest speakers related to careers throughout the year. Representatives from WDHS visit with 8th graders to introduce them to course planning in high school. 8th grade students participate in Pre-ACT testing as an entry into the ACT assessment sequence which further assists with individual Academic and Career Planning and build a career resume as part of their required curriculum. Individual conferences between counselor and student to discuss high school and post secondary ambitions. 8th Grade Character Strong Counseling Curriculum. Students in 8th Grade meet one on one with their homeroom teacher throughout the year to discuss goal setting, test scores, and ACP.
High School (Career Planning and Preparation)	Freshman Extension Class Individual Conferences w/counselor and student Homeroom activities w/4 year teacher mentor Use of Xello in Freshmen Extension and Home Room Courses Money Path in Jr/Sr Personal Finance SAE (Supervised Ag Experiences) in all Ag courses SDWD High School Career Counseling Services 26-27 Students in grades 9-12 meet one on one with their counselor teacher throughout the year to discuss goal setting, test scores, and ACP.

Individualized Support

Requirement	District Activity(ies) / Resources
Support from staff to assist with completing and annually updating each student's ACP	Academic & Career Planning in SDWD
If a pupil is a child with a disability, the pupil's ACP shall be made available to the pupil's IEP team. The pupil's IEP team may, if appropriate, take the pupil's ACP into account when developing the pupil's transition services.	ACPs for students with disabilities are provided to the appropriate IEP teams: Yes Process: The student's ACP plan is shared with the IEP team to ensure smooth transition planning. No
Access to an ACP software tool	Xello Other:

Parent Engagement

Requirement	District Activity(ies) / Resources
1. Annual ACP information provided to parents	Parents will be notified about ACP in the August C/I Newsletter and periodically throughout the year as part of Sunday bulletins or monthly newsletters. Use district messaging tools, notify parents about ACP related Homeroom activities at WDHS (topics, etc.) Part of weekly team grade level agendas that are sent home to parents.
2. Multiple parent opportunities to participate in ACP	Parent Open House Night (all buildings) High School Parent Night High School Transition nights Pre-ACT / ACT letter and score report sent home Resources shared in weekly high school family update 5th Grade Parent Night - MS Student Led Conferences - MS Celebration of Learning in May- MS Career Days - 8th Grade 6th Grade - Goal Setting (SOAR Program) Family Math and Reading Nights - Elementary Career & Technical Education Night - 2026-27 Weekly Messages/Bulletins Are Shared With Parents

3. Annual parent updates on their child's ACP	Part of Student-Led Conferences at WDMS in Fall 2026. 4-Year Plan Created in Freshman Extension - created, communicated to parents, and housed in either Google, Xellos, or Next Path 2026-27. Pre-ACT and ACT Results and Reflection Letter sent home. Junior Meetings With Counselors. Individual Senior Meetings - Students get a packet of information and then a letter sent home with the student summary for parents.

SDWD ACP/E4E Goals
2026-27

1. Increase Postsecondary Preparation as reported on the SDWD Report Card (2024-25 data below):
    - 395 (71.8%) were enrolled in at least one Postsecondary Prep Course
    - 3.8% SDWD enrolled in work-based learning (Youth Apprenticeship) compared to 8.0% of State
    - 49.1% of SDWD received Dual Enrollment Credit compared to 26.6% of State
    - 22.7% of SDWD received AP Credit compared to 20.3% of State
    - 0.0% of SDWD received Industry Recognized Credential compared to 5.5% of State (we did have a small number of students who received IRC that were not reported)

2. Update and maintain ACP Course Curriculum Guides in grades 5-8 and create ACP Course Curriculum Guides for grades 9-12 prior to 2026-27. Guides to be posted with all other SDWD courses on the SDWD Academic Standards & Course Curriculum Guides site.

3. Improve communication to families regarding ACP in SDWD (newsletters, parent bulletins, etc.). This will begin with an ACP overview in the C/I Newsletter in August 2026. Continue to complete the individual 4-Year Plan as part of Freshman Extension course at WDHS. Individual student plans will be communicated to parents (goal for 2026-27). Include pieces of Xello (perhaps the matchmaker or SDWD Passion Survey) as part of Student-led conferences at WDMS. 8th grade students will complete a resume as part of the economics strand in Social Studies. Resume uploaded into Xello. Improved communication is really the heart of this goal.

4. Provide at least one guest speaker from specific careers for each CTE course per semester. These should be documented as part of the regular curriculum on each CTE Course Curriculum Guide. Each subject-area PLT should identify a monthly career within their field. These careers should be commonly discussed across the entire content (could be a common classroom opener, etc.). Over time, these careers are attached to the Course Curriculum Guides.

5. All 5-12 teachers are engaged in the ACP process and expectations of the Objectives embedded in the SDWD Strategic Plan. Teachers can use this document as a guide for careers in their subject area.

6. Continue the use of our WDHS Pre-ACT Self-Reporting document to include the *Ideas for Progress* as identified by ACT.

7. Seek ways and increase the frequency of in-school “work-based” opportunities. Examples include farm chores, Common Grounds, student teaching assistants, manufacturing, catering, etc.

This 2026-27 PI.26 ACP/E4E Plan Was Approved by the SDWD Board of Education on July 13, 2026