

College and Career Guidance Counseling

Counseling is available 3rd hour everyday and by appointment for students and/or parents. Mr. Peterson provides information on careers, colleges, universities, technical colleges, the armed services, financial aid, scholarship opportunities, scheduling, course information, academic planning which includes post secondary and concurrent enrollment options and testing.

A comprehensive academic plan for college and career ready curriculum is implemented in each course offered at AHS through state and local academic standards and meeting AHS graduation requirements where academic rigor and high expectations are emphasized. This information is highlighted in the AHS course catalog which identifies all courses taught at AHS and learner expectations for each course.

Grade 7

*7th grade orientation provided by the 7th grade faculty and principal give students and parents a comprehensive understanding of academic requirements and expectations at AHS beginning in grade 7 through graduation..

Grade 8

- * EXPLORE...Practice test for ACT college entrance exam. Helps match student academic strength with career possibilities. Results are shared with parents.
- * Future Choices...Minnesota Higher Education Services program that assists students in planning for high school and higher education, used with Explore test results for a week long career unit.

Grade 9

- * Freshman Orientation...four year course academic planning with students and parents.
- * Career Unit in Mr. Steenblock's Personal Finance Class...utilizes MN Careers text, Iseek, Bridges and other career planning material and web sites.

Grade 10

- * Attend Sophomore Sneak-a-Peek at Alex Tech
- * PLAN...Practice test for the ACT college admission exam. Helps match student academic strength with career possibilities.
- * Individual counseling sessions
- * Parent meeting to discuss PLAN results and schedule for Junior year and tentatively for Senior year.
- * introduced to GPS LifePlan college/career planning tool

Grade 11

- * ASVAB...Multiple-aptitude test battery that helps identify skills and competencies. Helps match student academic strength with career possibilities.
- * ACT ...college admission exams
- * Individual counseling sessions
- * College Visit Days (2 excused days to be used anytime during their junior or senior year for campus visits)
- * Visits on the AHS campus from area technical colleges, universities and the armed

Services

- *Attend the Career/College Expo at Scheels arena in Fargo
- *senior schedules sent home to parents - all schedule changes have to be approved by both parents and the principal to ensure both state and local graduation requirements are met.
- *notification from Principal about issues with graduating to discuss options to make up missed credits
- *utilize GPS LifePlan college/career planning tool

Grade 12

- * ACT and SAT...college admission exams
- * Individual counseling sessions...information is provided on admission exams, applications, orientation/registration, financial aid, scholarships, placement tests, transcripts, immunizations, housing etc.
- * College Visit Days (2 excused days to be used anytime during their junior or senior year for campus visits)
- * Visits on the AHS campus from area technical colleges, universities and the armed services
- *Attend the Career/College Expo at Scheels arena in Fargo
- *notification from principal if any issues with graduating on time to discuss options to make up missed credits
- *utilize GPS LifePlan college/career planning tool

Publications from the Minnesota Office of High Learning available from the counseling office: Paying for College, Financial Aid Basics, Choosing a College and Minnesota College Saving Plan.

Links to scholarships, financial aid, testing resources and career/college exploration sites are available under the Career/College Counseling tab on Mr. Peterson's page on the web site at www.ashby.k12.mn.us

All schedule changes have to be approved by both parents and the principal to ensure both state and local graduation requirements are met.

Academic tests administered throughout student's academic careers also include the MCA tests, NWEA test and the Accuplacer test. Each of these tests provides data on students strengths that help to identify pathways to college and career interests and success.