

Darlington Academic Career Plan (ACP)
K-12 Plan
Approved by DCSD School Board on May 14, 2025

DEFINITION:

ACP is intended to equip students and their families with the tools necessary to make more informed choices about postsecondary education, training, careers for life after high school. It is part of DPI's overall vision for every student to graduate high school academically, socially, emotionally, and life ready.

Course Handbook: [☰ 2026-27 Course Handbook](#)

	Elementary: Career Awareness	Middle School: Career Exploration	High School: Career Planning and Preparation
Overview	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Why people work ● The kinds of conditions under which people work. ● The levels of training and education needed for work. ● Common expectations for employees in the workplace. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Understanding of the continuum of careers across work environments, duties, and responsibilities and how a pupil's personal interests and skills relate to those careers. ● May include: Career research identifying personal preferences in relation to occupations and careers pupils may pursue. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Conducting career research to identify personal preferences in relation to specific occupations. ● School-supervised, WBL opportunities. ● Instruction in career decision-making. ● Instruction that provides: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> *practical application of academic skills *applied technologies *economics, including entrepreneurship education and personal financial literacy
Plan		Xello and other tools - Career Matchmaker	Xello and other tools - Career Matchmaker

		- My Skills Assessment	- My Skills Assessment
Do	Informal discussions of careers related to various fields	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Career Guest Speakers - 6th Grade Careers Class - 7/8 Guidance classes on personality and learning styles. - Creation of career/life Vision Boards at the middle school level. - Some middle school students attend the Women in Engineering Event at UW Platteville - 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Xello (Matchmaker, Personality Style, Learning Style, and Skills Lab) - Discuss post H.S. Options - Career Fair every other year - Wisconsin Education Fair - College & Military Reps - UW Platteville STEM Day - ACT/PSAT - College Information - Junior Info Program - Senior Financial Aid Night - College Visits - Job Center - Southwest Wisconsin Integrated - Career Exploration Class - Speech class job interviews - Xello training was completed with staff during inservice - Tuesdays during RTI is dedicated time to complete Xello assignments
Study	-Gain some insight in different clusters and career options in the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Document classes needed in high school that relate to their career. - Students attend Club Scrub at Memorial Hospital of Lafayette County to learn about careers in the medical field. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Document Career Planning Activities - Document Career & Life Goals - Record Activities & Abilities
Lead to Act	- Interview adults about careers	- Career Soft Skills: Organization, Teamwork, Problem Solving, Time Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Career Research Unit, English 10- ending in research project - Create a Professional Portfolio

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Career Soft Skills: Organization, Teamwork, Problem Solving, Time Management School to Work Programs to practice what they have learned - Obtain Industry Recognized Credentials - College Credit Options
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Preparing for Future in:
 Workforce
 Registered Apprentice
 2 year Technical Colleges
 4 year Colleges/Universities

ACP Team

Mitch Austin	HS Principal
Tom Uppena	HS Counselor
Justin Doyle	Technical Education Teacher
Lori Nodorft	Elementary School Counselor
Joel Zink	Business Teacher
Troy Lobdell	Agriculture Education Teacher
Carly Lund	Special Education
Clarey Knellwolf-Schwartz	English Teacher