



High School Planning Guide

Poudre School District



Map your road to graduation – and beyond!

In PSD, we want each student to graduate with options, whether that means attending college, completing a fifth year of high school for college credits, serving in the military or entering the workforce. As early as middle school, students start setting goals and creating a timeline. Using [Xello](#), an online application,

these milestones are managed through the Individual Career and Academic Planning (ICAP) process. With the support of our educators this multi-year process guides students to develop awareness, knowledge, attitudes and skills to create their own meaningful pathways – and be future ready!



IN PSD, YOU CAN:

- Prepare for a range of in-demand, high-skill and high-wage careers.
- Earn college credits – including an associate’s degree – and save money down the road.
- Explore jobs in agriculture, cybersecurity, health science, business and marketing and more.
- Learn to work as a team, meet deadlines and solve real-world problems through courses, apprenticeships and internships.
- Form lasting relationships with business mentors and future employers.
- Gain academic knowledge, technical skills and industry certifications to set you apart.

In the 2020-21 school year

Students earned
27,619
college credits

High schoolers earned
198
industry certifications

4,503
Middle schoolers participated in
Career and Technical Education
programs



CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT

Through partnerships with Front Range Community College, Aims Community College and the University of Northern Colorado, PSD students can explore college-level academics and career pathways before earning their high school diplomas.

- Take Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate courses at PSD high schools.
- Take accredited college-level courses at your high school through High School Select.
- Take college-level courses at FRCC, Aims, UNC.

ASCENT

Apply for the ASCENT Program

(Accelerating Students through Concurrent Enrollment)

This one-year program allows students to remain in high school for a fifth year and take classes at Front Range Community College or AIMS Community College, paid for by PSD. To apply for funding, students must have completed at least 12 college credits prior to the end of their senior year in addition to meeting PSD's graduation requirements.



WORK-BASED LEARNING (WBL)

This is fast becoming the needed link that connects education and industry. WBL experiences include job shadows, internships, volunteerism, paid work, and apprenticeships. High school students can access local work-based learning opportunities through [Xello](#) or by contacting their school's work-based learning coordinator.



FuturesLAB

Futures Lab offers a hands-on experience that complements the learning at a student's home high school campus. Courses at the Lab support college and career readiness by allowing students the opportunity to deepen their learning, develop in-demand career skills, and earn industry-recognized credentials so they can graduate prepared to succeed in a changing world.

- Open to all PSD high school students
- Transportation provided
- Relocates to the new [Timnath Middle-High School](#) campus for 2022-23 school year
- Take classes like Coding (MobileMakers); ProStart; Multimedia and Graphic Design; Aviation 1 (drones); Design Thinking; and more

fut.psdschools.org >>



Xello complements a student's ICAP by helping to:

- Build resumes and set goals
- Explore occupations that match skills, interests
- Research colleges, careers, and scholarships

- Build relationships with business leaders and future employers
- Find job shadow opportunities, internships, and apprenticeships
- Learn about industry

speakers, career fairs, and workplace tours

Xello has a new parent portal! Learn more at:

xello.psdschools.org >>

PSD FUTURE READY PATHWAYS

PSD has 16 Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs available beginning in middle school:

- Agriculture
- Architecture and Construction
- Automotive Technology and Service
- Aviation
- Business and Marketing
- Computer Science
- Culinary and Hospitality

- Design and Multimedia Arts
- Digital Media and Communications
- Education and Training
- Engineering/STEM
- Health Science
- Interior and Fashion Design
- Manufacturing
- Networking and Cybersecurity
- Welding and Metal Fabrication

Note: Many pathway courses are available to all PSD high school students through the PSD Futures Lab. Some pathways/courses are only available at certain PSD middle and high schools. Please check with your school about its specific offerings.

www.psd.school.org/cte >>



INTEGRATED SERVICES - TRANSITION PROGRAMS

PSD has programs to support students with special needs, as they grow and succeed throughout their high school journey and beyond.

- Community Connections assists PSD students with significant learning needs with transitioning from high school to adult living and/or the post-secondary

education world.

- Cooper Home is a collaborative effort between students, parents, and the community to assist students in moving toward natural supports within the community and the work site while fostering independence.

www.psd.schools.org/programs-services/integrated-services/transition-resources >>

- Alternative Cooperative Education (ACE) is available at all PSD high schools. ACE provides work experience, related classroom instruction, and vocational transition planning for high school students with special needs.
- Project Search is a business-led collaboration that enables

young adults with special needs to gain and maintain employment through career exploration and training at Columbine Health Systems.

- School to Work Alliance Program (SWAP) is a transition program that helps youth, with mild to moderate special needs, find and keep a job.



ADVANCEMENT VIA INDIVIDUAL DETERMINATION (AVID)

Through one-on-one support and classes, students in AVID programs chart a course to be college- and career-ready. They are often the first in their family to go to college and learn about organization, study skills, communication, self-advocacy and more. Through AVID programs, students

tour college campuses, learn about the application process and get support to navigate the higher education process. PSD schools with AVID programs in the 2021-22 school year:

- Lincoln Middle School
- Wellington Middle School
- Fort Collins High School

INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE

Poudre High School's IB program aims to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring young people with adaptable skills to tackle society's complex challenges and who will help make it a better, more peaceful world. IB students will participate in community service, complete a personal project and follow a pre-diploma pathway of their choosing.

CREDIT AND COURSE PLANNING WORKSHEET

Required Category	Credits	*8th Grade/ Summer School	9th Grade		10th Grade		11th Grade		12th Grade		Examples of Courses
			1st semester	2nd semester	1st semester	2nd semester	1st semester	2nd semester	1st semester	2nd semester	
Language Arts 4 years	40										Any English class
Mathematics & Computer Science 3 years	30										Any Math class (Algebra I and higher)
Science 3 years	30										Any Science class starting with Biology
Social Studies 1 year	10										World Geography, AP Human Geography, Government, U.S. History, World History
Government 1 semester class	5										
U.S. History 1 year	10										
World Language/ Culture 1 year	10										Spanish, French, German or World History
Fine & Applied Arts 1 year	10										Visual Art, Performing Art, Tech Ed, Culinary, and Computer Design
Economics 1 semester class	5										Economics, AP Economics, Introduction to Economics
Personal Finance 1 semester class	5										Personal Financial, Life Management
Humanities 1 semester class	5										Classical, Contemporary, or other Humanities
Wellness 3 classes	15										Health, PE. or other classes
Electives (minimum of 13 semester classes)	65										Music, Arts, Career, Technical courses (i.e. Foods, Business & Marketing, Engineering)
College Credit at my high school (Core class or elective)											High School Select from FRCC/Aims, CU Succeed, AP/IB Courses
College Credit on a college campus (Core class or elective)											Campus Select at FRCC, Aims, CSU Ready
Total Credits	240+										See more Graduation guidelines information >>

1 semester class = 5 credits (depending on whether a school is in a semester or quarter system)

*Parents have the option of declining high school graduation credit for approved courses taught at middle school. See your student's counselor for details.

HIGHER EDUCATION ADMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS

Academic Area	Recommended Units
English	4 years
Mathematics (incl. Alg 2)	4 Years
Science (2 lab-based classes)	3 Years
Social Studies	3 Years
World Language	1 Year
Academic Electives	2 Years

Students planning to attend a four-year college or university in Colorado should complete the following classes in order to fulfill the Higher Education Admission Recommendations (HEAR). HEAR is one factor of many that public four-year institutions consider in the admission decision process. Visit the [CDHE Admission webpage](#) to learn about all admission review factors. See your academic counselor for more information. [Graduation guidelines information >>](#)



Try the interactive course planner in [Xello](#) to build your future in PSD!



EXPLORE OUR SCHOOLS



Centennial High School
330 E. Laurel St.
970-488-4940
chs.psdschools.org



Fort Collins High School
3400 Lambkin Way
970-488-8021
fch.psdschools.org



Fossil Ridge High School
5400 Ziegler Road
970-488-6260
frh.psdschools.org



Futures Lab
1630 Stover St.
970-488-4400
fut.psdschools.org



Polaris Expeditionary Learning School
1905 Orchard Place
970-488-8260
pol.psdschools.org



Poudre Community Academy
2540 LaPorte Ave.
970-490-3295
pca.psdschools.org



Poudre High School
201 Impala Drive
970-488-6000
phs.psdschools.org



Poudre School District Global Academy
703 E. Prospect Road
970-490-3086
pga.psdschools.org



Rocky Mountain High School
1300 W. Swallow Road
970-488-7023
rmh.psdschools.org



Timnath Middle-High School
4700 E. Prospect Road
970-419-3400
tmh.psdschools.org
Opens Fall 2022



Wellington Middle-High School
4001 Wilson Ave., Wellington
970-488-6600
wel.psdschools.org
Opens Fall 2022

Questions?

- Contact your school counselor or Work-based Learning Coordinator.
- Contact Career and Innovation Assistant Director Tanya Alcaraz talcaraz@psdschools.org
- Need help with translations? Families and students may contact their family liaison.



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www.psdschools.org

