

# School District of Turtle Lake Academic and Career Planning

Board Approved 5/13/2026



Academic and Career Planning, or ACP, is a student-driven, adult-supported process in which students create and cultivate their own unique and information-based visions for post-secondary success, obtained through self-exploration, career exploration, and the development of career management and planning skills." The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction (<http://dpi.wi.gov/acp>) in the PI-26 legislation requires public school districts to provide academic and career planning services to students in grades 6 through 12 beginning in the 2017-18 school year. These new academic and career planning requirements connect school districts' education for employment plans and programs to the new academic and career planning requirements. ACP is a four-part process of KNOW, EXPLORE, PLAN, and GO which students develop throughout Middle and High School. PI-26 is the legislative action that requires all public schools in the State of Wisconsin to provide evidence of their implementation of ACP.

# **School District of Turtle Lake's Implementation of Chapter PI-26**

## **What is PI-26?**

The School Board of the School District of Turtle Lake “Shall provide access to an education for employment program approved by the state superintendent. The purpose of education for employment programs is to prepare elementary and secondary pupils for employment, to promote cooperation between business and industry and public schools, and to establish a role for public schools in the economic development of Wisconsin. This chapter defines education for employment programs, describes the process for approval of education for employment plans, and establishes approval criteria for education for employment programs.”

<http://dpi.wi.gov/sites/default/files/imce/acp/pdf/pi26memo0108.pdf>

<https://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/code/register/1996/483b/insert/pi26.pdf>

## **What is Xello?**

Xello is an online program that helps students connect interests to future occupations. The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction provides all schools with access to the Xello program as a part of the Academic and Career Planning process. Xello connects the real world to the classroom with the latest career and labor market information, salaries, and educational pathways. Students learn essential 21<sup>st</sup> century skills like financial literacy and goal setting. All students in grades 8-12 will use Xello to help build their academic and career portfolios.

<https://xello.world/en/>

## **The Job Market in our Area**

<https://www.jobcenterofwisconsin.com/wisconomy/>

[https://www.jobcenterofwisconsin.com/wisconomy/wits\\_info/downloads/CP/barron\\_profile.pdf](https://www.jobcenterofwisconsin.com/wisconomy/wits_info/downloads/CP/barron_profile.pdf)

[https://www.jobcenterofwisconsin.com/wisconomy/wits\\_info/downloads/CP/polk\\_profile.pdf](https://www.jobcenterofwisconsin.com/wisconomy/wits_info/downloads/CP/polk_profile.pdf)

## **The Current Job Market's Impact on Student Preparation**

Labor market information suggests that careers in Manufacturing, Trade and Transportation, Education and Health, and professional and business services are the fastest-growing careers

in both Barron and Polk Counties. The School District of Turtle Lake provides students with the opportunity to participate in Youth Apprenticeships, Work Study, and Dual Credit options in these fields.

Students in the School District of Turtle Lake are provided with information and guidance to make informed decisions regarding their educational and career paths. Through the utilization of Xello, career exploration events, self-assessment, and dual credit coursework, the School District of Turtle Lake provides all students with the tools necessary to excel in all aspects of life.

### **Communication with Parents Regarding Academic and Career Planning**

Each student in the School District of Turtle Lake has an individual adult mentor. These mentors meet with the students and parents throughout the school year to discuss Academic and Career Planning. All 9<sup>th</sup> grade students participate in a Careers class which helps students with self-assessment of skills and interests. Those students also take a variety of interest inventories to help with finding a pathway for their future. Parents have access to their child's Xello information which is also discussed at the end of each school year during our scheduling and planning conferences. Parents will receive access to their child's Xello account when their child is enrolled in their careers course.

### **Engaging Community and Stakeholders in Academic and Career Planning**

The School District of Turtle Lake partners with many businesses and community members in our area for career day, youth apprenticeships, work experience, and job fairs. Our Career and Technical Education staff have developed positive relationships with a variety of businesses to help fund grants, and school projects, and provide opportunities for our students to learn on-the-job skills. These community members have also helped our staff with mock interviews and class demonstrations. Our Career and Technical Education staff have teamed up with local CESA 11 staff to host job, career, and youth apprenticeship fairs in our building.

### **Meeting the Needs of Individual Students in their Completion and Review of Academic and Career Plan Documents/ Connecting Students with Staff as they participate in Academic and Career Planning**

Each student in the Turtle Lake Middle and High School is assigned a teacher mentor. Mentors and students will review their academic and career plans. Each mentor will meet with their students and their parents in the spring to schedule courses for the following year. The mentors will review the students' Xello information and will advise the students to consider courses that align with their career cluster. All 9<sup>th</sup>-grade students are required by policy to take and pass a semester-long Careers course. All 12<sup>th</sup>-grade students are required by policy to take and pass a

semester-long Personal Finance course. Every staff member will have access to their student's Xello accounts. Staff who use Xello in their classes will have administrator access to view and report on all student activity in Xello. Students in 8<sup>th</sup> grade English will complete the matchmaker and learning styles inventories. Students in 9<sup>th</sup>-grade Careers will complete all remaining interest and learning inventories. Students will also complete the sections on activities and abilities. Students in 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> grade will have opportunities to explore a variety of information on their career match and pathway to their career. The students will use the education comparison feature in Xello and additional tools to research their careers. Students will write a career research paper, resume, and cover letter, and will practice filling out job applications.

### **Preparing Staff to Deliver ACP Services and Support in Their Planning**

The Turtle Lake Middle and High School formed an ACP Committee which consists of stakeholders and staff who are involved with career exploration and curriculum. This committee will oversee our school-wide ACP program. They will develop plans and tools for all students and review the plan on a quarterly basis. This committee will also train our staff who will be involved with academic and career activities. The staff will participate in professional development regarding ACP and school-wide activities.

### **Students with Disabilities Participation in the ACP Process and the Transition Planning Process**

Academic and Career Planning is for all students enrolled in the School District of Turtle Lake. All students will participate in ACP programs, courses, and activities. Xello and the district's ACP plan will assist our students with a disability in their transition planning and IEP goal setting. Additional services are provided when appropriate through the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR).

### **Course Offerings and Dual Credit Options**

All students will have the option to take specific courses aligned with their career cluster identified in the Xello program. All high school courses are listed and aligned with the career clusters. All students and parents will meet with their mentors in the spring to schedule for

the upcoming year. Students and parents will review the student's career cluster and review the courses offered that are aligned with that specific cluster.

Advanced Placement (AP) Courses:

AP Biology

AP English and Literature

AP Literature

AP Psychology

AP Physics

AP Chemistry

AP Calculus

\*\* The School District of Turtle Lake offers 21 Online AP courses for all students

Dual Credit Courses through Northwood Tech

Welding for Mechanics

Personal Finance

IT Essentials

Marketing Principles

Computer Applications:

MS Word A

MS Excel A

Livestock Management

Youth Apprenticeship

11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>-grade students who meet certain GPA and credit requirements will be eligible for Youth Apprenticeship opportunities. Students who have a job and a willing employer can earn credit for working a specific amount of hours each semester. Students enrolled in a youth apprenticeship program will also earn credit for working in a specific field related to their career of interest. Students enrolled in the Youth Apprenticeship Program may be employed by the company after graduation.

*The School District of Turtle Lake does not discriminate on the basis of sex, race, color, age, national origin, ancestry, creed, religion, pregnancy, marital or parental status, sexual orientation, or physical, mental, emotional or learning disability.*