



Expect
More.

Stillwater Area High School

Academic Programming Update for Fall 2026

Presented to the School Board
April 21, 2026



Online Programming



Why Offer Online Courses

The number of students choosing online courses is increasing:

	Stillwater Online Courses	External Online Courses
2024-25	302	265
2025-26	347 (Semester 1)	236 (Semester 1)
2026-27	900	TBD

Reasons Why Students Take Online Courses:

- Asynchronous
- Self-paced and flexible
- “Easier”
- Extracurricular activities/ Want last hour off
- Want a different teacher
- Mental health and social anxiety

**According to student and family survey spring 2026*



Profile Of Online Academy Student

Of 900 students who signed up for online classes next year:

409 signed up for 1 course

13 are taking PSEO this year

Average GPA = 3.28

260 signed up for 2 courses

7% are students receiving special education services

48 took at least one online course last year

86 took at least one online course this year



Pony Online Academy Courses

Math	Online Algebra 2
	Online Algebra 3
	Online Pre-Calc
English	Online English 10
	Online English 11
	Online English 12

4

Social Studies	Online US History
	Online Government
	Online Economics
Science	Online Chemistry
Health/PE	Online Personal and Community Health
	Online Wellness Through Movement

3

2

1

 Indicates most popular classes



Online Trends

Total Online Course Registrations

	SAHS Enrolled Students	
	1 or more external courses	1 or more SAHS courses
2024-25	602 courses	379 courses
2025-26	982 courses	513 courses
2026-27	<i>TBD</i>	1,732 courses

Online Students Attending Elsewhere Full Time

2024-25	95 students
2025-26	86 students
2026-27	<i>TBD</i>





Features Of Our Online Academy

- A flexible schedule
- Emphasis on personalized learning
- Engaging, high-quality courses designed and taught by Stillwater teachers
- A support system and resources
 - Students have access to teachers, technology support, counseling, and academic help throughout the program
 - These supports are designed to ensure every learner stays on track and feels connected to their school community



Concurrent Enrollment



CE Program Expansion

- 40-credit Minnesota Transfer Curriculum with Mankato State University:
 - **1 full cohort 40+ students**
- 60-credit Associates of Arts Degree with Inver Hills Community College:
 - **1 full cohort 30+ students**

COLLEGE ACCELERATION: Your Free Track to a Degree

Imagine starting your university career as a junior - That's the power of our College Acceleration program.

Why Choose



- **Save Big Money:** Earn up to two years of college for free, saving families \$24,000+ in tuition and fees.
- **Save Big Time:** You can start college with all of your general education requirements completed and begin your major and minor classes sooner.
- **Guaranteed Transferability:** Your credits are transferable to all public state colleges and universities and the University of Minnesota.
- **Build Confidence:** Experience college-level learning with the built-in support of your Stillwater teachers and counselors.

Your Two College Acceleration Goals

The SAHS program allows you to pursue two distinct options for college acceleration, with the Minnesota Transfer Credit (MnTC) Certification serving as the necessary foundation for the Associate of Arts Degree.

We partner with

- Bethel University
- Century College
- Inver Hills Community College
- Minnesota State University, Mankato (MSU)
- University of Minnesota

What You Earn	 MnTC Certification	 Associate of Arts (AA) Degree
Total Credits Required	40 credits (minimum) required to receive the "MnTC Completion" on your transcript.	60 credits (minimum)
Core Requirement	Completion of all 10 MnTC Goal Areas.	Completion of the Full MnTC plus 20 additional credits.
The Transfer Guarantee	Guaranteed to fulfill all lower-division general education requirements at every public college and university in Minnesota (including the University of Minnesota system).	The AA degree transfers seamlessly to Minnesota state colleges and universities and is accepted at most four-year schools across the country.
Your Status at University	You enter college with your general credits satisfied. You will still need to complete specific pre-major or elective courses that were not covered.	You enter college with your general education courses done and ready to focus entirely on credits required for your major.

Elective Options (Must Take 18 Credits for AA Degree)

SAHS Course	College & Credits	Notes / Pathway
CE Introduction to Teaching Profession	Century College, 3 credits	Human Services Pathway
CE Creating Culturally Responsive Classrooms	Century College, 3 credits	Human Services Pathway
CIS Communications in Pop Culture A & B	Bethel, 4 credits	Art / Film / Comm
CIS Intro to Healthcare	Bethel, 2 credits	Healthcare / CNA Endorsement
CIS Intro to Healthcare Communications	Bethel, 4 credits	Healthcare / CNA Endorsement
CIS Intro to Healthcare Ethics	Bethel, 2 credits	Healthcare / CNA Endorsement
CNA & CIS Internship A & B	Bethel, 2 credits	CNA Certification / Healthcare Endorsement
ASL III	MSU, 3 credits	World Language
ASL IV	MSU, 3 credits	World Language
CE Introduction to Computer Programming with Python	Century College, 3 credits	Digital Technologies Pathway



Benefits For All Students

- Increases access to rigorous opportunities for more students
- Reduces college costs for families by helping students earn credits before graduation
- Builds college confidence while students still have high school support
- Makes high school more relevant and purposeful
- Supports both college readiness and career readiness
- Helps students transfer into college with momentum
- Strengthens the school's academic offerings and value to families

Students saved
this year:

\$1.4m

\$25,000 value

**Agriculture, Food, &
Natural Resources**



**Arts, Film, &
Communications**



**Business, Finance,
& Marketing**



**Digital
Technologies**



**Health Sciences &
Human Services**



**Trades &
Industry**



EXPLORE YOUR PATH



Healthcare Program

Endorsement: Bethel University (14 credits)

CNA: Certification

Internship and work experience

- **More than 240 students enrolled year 1**
- Grants: \$15,000 to date
- Community Partnerships have donated over \$27,000 of materials and supplies so far

Coursework:

- Introduction to Healthcare
- Introduction to Healthcare Communication
- Introduction to Ethics
- Human Anatomy, Physiology, Tech, & Med Devices
- CNA & Internship



New Elective Opportunities

New grant-funded courses
coming soon—2027:

- Child Psychology and Development
- Pre-School Lab

New electives 2026-27:

- CE Introduction to Computer Science with Python
- Intro to Guitar
- Data Science
- Cybersecurity
- Eastern Philosophy



Questions