



**Buffalo
High School**

BHM SCHOOLS

Buffalo High School

**The place to
dream, believe
and achieve.**



Welcome to Buffalo High School!

Buffalo High School is one of the top high schools in the state of Minnesota, with more than 1,850 students in grades 9-12 who consistently outpace state averages in every way. BHS inspires tomorrow's leaders through challenging academics and abundant extracurricular choices in a caring atmosphere where students can dream, believe and achieve.

Our students say that BHS has prepared them well for the future.

At BHS, we understand the power of big dreams, the importance of believing in yourself and the support it takes to achieve challenging goals. Our school community really lives out our core values to "Be Nice, Be Proud, Work Hard and Model Behavior" every day in all that we do.

We Work Hard.

BHS students dedicate themselves to excellence in and out of the classroom. High expectations and supportive relationships with teachers promote achievement and success for life after high school. Through programs such as AVID, Advanced Placement and College in the Schools classes and the Minnesota Transfer Curriculum, which offers students nearly 40 tuition-free, college level classes at BHS, our students are provided a head start if they choose to pursue higher education.

We are Nice.

Students must feel safe, respected and included to learn. Not only do students feel supported by staff, but also by other students. A culture of collaboration is infused throughout the school and we encourage each other to succeed.

We are Proud.

Our school pride is on display everywhere, from our outstanding academic success to our state-of-the-art athletic facilities to our award-winning music and theater performances. Our students are proud to attend BHS!

We Model Positive Behavior.

Modeling positive behavior is an important skill for our students and staff. 89% of BHS students say they have a positive staff role model that they can go to with a problem, which creates more opportunity for support. Our students build positive relationships in many ways, including mentoring students with special needs in and outside of school. Our Freshman-first-day experience welcomes incoming students into our school community with support from students and staff.



Photo by Adam Heinecke



Photo by Trevor Barton



Photo by Lauren Mirivsky

Buffalo High School Stands Out from the Herd

Abundant Choices that Promote a Personalized Educational Experience

An amazing array of classes at BHS distinguishes us from other districts in our area and allows our students to try new things and find their passion. Here, students can be challenged in any area that interests them.

- Are you an avid reader or writer?
 - » You can choose from many literature classes, journalism, short story writing, college prep writing, playwriting and more!
- Do you view the world as a science experiment?
 - » We offer a variety of classes in biology, anatomy, wildlife, astronomy, physics, chemistry and biotechnology.
- Do you like to work with your hands?
 - » You can check out metalworking, woodworking, computer aided drafting, robotics, ceramics and numerous other hands-on classes.
- Do you want to learn a new language?
 - » BHS students can choose to study French, German and Spanish and earn college credit levels 4 or 5 through a concurrent enrollment partnership with the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities.

Experienced, Engaged and Caring Staff

Our dedicated staff build personal relationships with students and take pride in helping them achieve their educational goals and realize their dreams. For BHS teachers, the goal is to prepare every student for success, find what drives them, and encourage them on a path towards their future.

Our Mission

At BHS, we are focused on three main things that are built around our mission to B1 Bison:

- Agency
- Growth
- Connections

In partnership with our families and community, Buffalo High School prepares each student for a successful future. In an academically rigorous and supportive environment, we prioritize learning, equity and meaningful relationships. Together, we value student agency and connections.

You can see this mission statement being lived by our staff, students and community every day in how we treat each other, how we work together, and how we pursue our goals.

We live Buffalo Strong

Our city was thrust into the national spotlight in 2021 with a tragedy in our community. What came out of that event was an incredibly strong sense of community that stood as a testament to what Buffalo and the surrounding communities stand for. BHS staff and students bring the mission and vision of Buffalo Strong into all that we do and partner in events like the annual R.A.V.E (Respect And Value Everyone) week that highlights different topics of wellbeing.

Advisory and BASE Time

The success of every student is important to us at BHS. We use what we call Bison Academic Support and Enrichment (BASE) time and increased advisory services to help support our students throughout their time here in special classes that take place during the school day.

- **Advisory (Monday and Friday)**
 - » Provides a balanced look at life after high school with lessons focused on college/career readiness, academic support and planning, and social skills.
- **BASE (Tuesday-Thursday)**
 - » Students choose how they would like to spend their time with options like homework help, test make-up, enrichment opportunities and more.



Unified Programming

We believe in encouraging all students to chase their passions. Our Unified Programming brings students with mental and physical disabilities together with other students in a variety of activities, from music to athletics. Our annual Unified Week is held to raise funds for the MN Special Olympics, and to celebrate all students in the building.

New Schedule Coming 2023-24

BHS will be adopting a new schedule beginning in the fall of 2023 that will provide a number of benefits for students. The Five Block/Three Trimester schedule will allow teachers to spend more time giving one-on-one support with smaller class sizes. Students will continue to have a variety of electives and choices throughout their high school career.

A Wealth of Extracurricular Activities

Buffalo High School has outstanding athletic and activity facilities. Our community and student body is very proud of our schools and shows outstanding support through attendance at events and continued commitment to our programs.

In the Fall of 2019, BHS gained membership in the Lake Conference sharing athletic and activity schedules with Edina, Eden Prairie, Hopkins, Minnetonka, St. Michael-Albertville and Wayzata. The conference is likely the highest profiled and most competitive conference in the state of Minnesota. Our students and staff are excited about the opportunities and challenges ahead. We will continue to challenge our kids to reach performance levels beyond their individual expectations.

Students and staff at BHS believe that a well-rounded education requires opportunities out of the classroom. We work under the philosophy, "using the activities experience as the vehicle to grow successful young men and women." BHS is an active participant in the Minnesota State High School League's "Why We Play" initiatives. It is a priority of our activities department and staff to develop students with high moral character and to instill an understanding that their participation in activities represents something bigger than themselves. We are proud to have gotten to cheer on our Bison in a variety of competitions around the state.

Photo by Matthew Scherber



Photo by Ella Neutgens



Photo by Matthew Scherber



Photo by Autumn Roskowiak



Photo by Matthew Scherber



Photo by Amelia Butler

Extracurricular Clubs & Activities

BHS Singers
Bowling
Business Professionals of America
Chamber Strings
Class Cabinets (9-12)
Clay Target (Trapshooting)
Competitive Cheerleading
Culinary Team
Drumline
Educators Rising
FFA
International Club
Jazz Band
Knowledge Bowl
Mock Trial
Music Listening Team
National Honor Society
Robotics
Sideline Cheerleading
Student Council
The HERD Marching Band
Tatanka Yearbook
Theater
– One-Act Play
– Multi-Act Play
– Musical
Weightlifting

Athletics Options

Adapted Athletics
Baseball
Basketball - Boys & Girls
Cross Country - Boys & Girls
Dance Team
Football
Golf - Boys & Girls
Gymnastics
Hockey - Boys & Girls
Lacrosse - Boys & Girls
Soccer - Boys & Girls
Softball
Swimming/Diving - Boys & Girls
Tennis - Boys & Girls
Track & Field - Boys & Girls
Volleyball
Wrestling



Photo by Dave Casey

Giving Students a Head Start in Career and College Readiness

BHS is one of the leading high schools in the state when it comes to offering all students a wide variety of college and career options. We outline a path for our students early in their high school career and help them plan for their future through a unique set of concurrent enrollment classes that align with the **Minnesota Transfer Curriculum (MnTC)**. This organized approach helps families make wise choices from the moment their student starts high school.

By partnering with both four-year colleges and two-year community and technical colleges, we have greatly expanded the number and variety of classes that align with the MnTC. Currently, more than 75% of BHS students qualify to choose from nearly 40 college-level, tuition-free classes, including career-focused subjects such as agriculture, business and technical education. Without leaving the building, students earn both traditional and technical college credits to help them graduate from BHS both college- and career-ready.

BHS Partners:

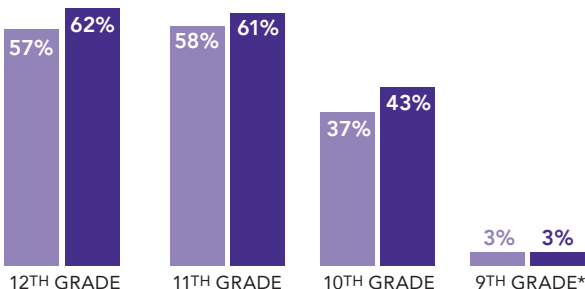
- Anoka Ramsey Community College
- Hennepin Technical College
- North Hennepin Community College
- Southwest Minnesota State University
- St. Cloud State University
- University of Minnesota Twin Cities

The MnTC is a planning tool used to assist students in organizing their general education college credits. The concurrent enrollment options aligned with the MnTC both reduce college debt and promote a college-going climate for all students. BHS teachers are trained and credentialed to teach these college courses, offering our students a supportive environment while they experience the rigor of college. Students can earn from 1 to 5 college credits per course that will transfer to any Minnesota State college or university, and to many other schools in and out of the state. **For more information visit mntransfer.org.**

Advanced Placement

BHS offers Advanced Placement (AP) classes in Calculus A/B, Calculus B/C, Music Theory and Computer Science A. AP classes help students gain the skills and study habits they need to be successful in college. Students can earn college credit, which is nationally recognized and accepted by taking a standardized AP test in the subject area. The test score and the accepting college institution determine the number of credits a student can earn.

Number of Students Taking CIS Courses



*Colleges rarely allow 9th grade students in their classes.

**Class offerings were down overall during the COVID-19 pandemic.

■ 2019-20 ■ 2020-21**

View a full list of our course offerings at bhmschools.org/student-services. You'll be amazed and inspired by the opportunities you can pursue!

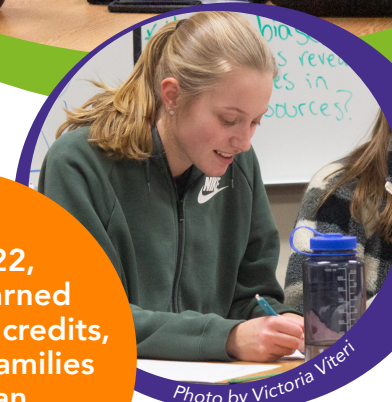


Photo by Victoria Viteri

In 2021-22, students earned 4,439 college credits, saving BHS families more than **\$1.2 MILLION!**

"I would absolutely keep this program around for as long as possible. I was very fortunate to have had this kind of curriculum, and it is a major advantage to my educational path."

— David N. 2021 BHS graduate, University of Minnesota-Twin Cities, Political Science

"The financial benefit is amazing. I'll save a lot of money by only having to complete 2.5-3 years of college, with estimated savings of \$20,000."

— Connor L. 2021 BHS graduate, North Dakota State University

"I loved being able to get the education of a college student while receiving the help of my high school teachers."

— Alexandra K. 2021 BHS graduate, University of St. Thomas

An Alternative High School Experience



Phoenix Learning Center

Phoenix Learning Center serves students who thrive in an alternative high school setting and is housed in an area within BHS. Recognizing there are many pathways for a student to succeed, staff offer personalized learning options in a family-like setting. Small class sizes support that individualized focus, where students develop the skills to be responsible for their own learning plan while still being able to participate in electives, arts, and other activities within BHS. Phoenix Learning Center instills confidence and reinforces gratitude and joy in daily life as students work to earn their diploma with strong support and more opportunities than are provided at other alternative schools in the state.

"The teachers at Phoenix really personalized my education and showed me the steps that worked just for me. The staff and students are very supportive. The school really brought me out of my shell. Phoenix made my life less stressful, and I was really glad to be there."

— Dakota S., PLC graduate



We're Here to Make High School an Excellent Experience!

Student Services

We offer a wide variety of services for students including academic support, exploration and planning for college and careers, and assistance during personal and social challenges. We aim to provide every one of our students with a well-rounded education that will prepare them for a successful future in a changing world. Our BHS counselors help students navigate their educational path and prepare them for life beyond high school. **Connect with one of our counselors by contacting our Student Services Office at 763.682.8067.**

Visit Us and Enroll

There's no better way to understand all BHS has to offer than coming for a visit. For more information about BHS or to arrange a tour or obtain enrollment information, contact our Student Services Office at 763.682.8067. You can find our full listing of course offerings, college and career planning tools and enrollment information online at bhmschools.org/student-services.



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Buffalo, MN 55313
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bhmschools.org/bhs

Principal: Mark Mischke

School Start & Dismissal Times

8:50 a.m. to 3:25 p.m.

