

## *Community Collaborative*

In order for wRight Choice to be successful, a community collaborative has been established between Wright County Court Services and the following participating school districts:

- Buffalo-Hanover-Montrose
- Maple Lake
- Monticello
- St. Michael-Albertville
- Big Lake (*Sherburne County*)

Other wRight Choice partners include:

- Wright County Commissioners
- Wright County Human Services
- Wright County Public Health
- Buffalo Police Department
- Wright County Sheriff Department
- Central Minnesota Mental Health Services

## *wRight Choice Contacts*

[www.bhmschools.org/wright-choice](http://www.bhmschools.org/wright-choice)

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**Buffalo High School**  
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**Wright County Court Services**  
Juvenile Division  
763-682-7308

**Wright County Truancy Officer**  
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**Wright County Justice Center**  
3700 Braddock Ave. NE, Buffalo, MN 55313  
[www.co.wright.mn.us](http://www.co.wright.mn.us)

# *wRight Choice*

An alternative to suspension for students in grades 6-12 throughout Wright County.

Sponsored by:





*wRight Choice* is an alternative to out-of-school suspension for Wright County students in grades 6-12. The pilot program began in 2011 as a collaborative between Buffalo-Hanover-Montrorse Schools and Wright County Court Services. *wRight Choice* has expanded to include five area school districts and provides academic and behavioral support for students who display inappropriate behavior at school.

The *wRight Choice* program is located at the Wright County Justice Center. The program is staffed with a licensed teacher and auxiliary services from the county. The program services a maximum of 10 students per day to ensure proper academic support. Typically, a school administrator refers a student to *wRight Choice* for a period of one to five days. However, depending on the offense, students may be placed in *wRight Choice* for a term up to 45 days when agreed upon between school and county officials.

Students who attend *wRight Choice* will focus on academic work, restorative measures, intervention and reinstatement back to school.

*wRight Choice* provides students immediate consequences for their actions while creating opportunities to learn alternative ways to conduct themselves when presented with other difficult situations.

### *wRight Choice Goals*

- Prevent students from falling behind academically.
- Teach students the skills needed to be successful, such as decision-making, anger management, conflict resolution and problem solving.
- Provide restorative justice opportunities through community service, mediations, community conferences and other strategies.
- Maintain a safe learning environment at school.
- Connect students and their families with community resources.
- Minimize repeat offenses.
- Provide valuable information through small groups on topics such as chemical health, bullying and harassment prevention and emotional self-control.

### *Restorative Practices*

Restorative practices are those actions taken to restore, whenever possible, the conditions that were in place prior to an incident occurring. As part of the student's day at *wRight Choice*, they will meet with the instructional leader to discuss how their behavior affected not only the student and the victim, but also others as well. Students may realize the impact their behavior has on the school, their family, and the community; an opportunity for guided reflection optimizes individual growth.

The student may be involved in a restorative justice conference or mediation with the other party, providing both an opportunity to describe the impact of the student's actions. The process can often repair and restore the relationships that have been affected by the incident.

### *A Day at wRight Choice*

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8:05 a.m. - Noon	Academic Support/ Restorative Conferences
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Noon	Lunch (Bring your own)
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12:30 - 3 p.m.	Academic Support/ Connected for Life Speaker
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