

High School Reinvent at Fort Wayne Community Schools

Fort Wayne Community Schools is at the forefront of implementing changes that need to be made in high school to ensure students have the skills and knowledge needed for successful futures. We are reinventing our high schools with the introduction of our strengthened Core educational foundation and specialized Programs of Study. Now more than ever, Fort Wayne Community Schools are YOUR schools!

The High School Core Foundation

Today's students need to be challenged in new ways, so we have redefined our approach to the core learning experience. The educational foundation, or Core, addresses individual student needs and ensures that all students have access to Advanced Placement and college courses. Students can acquire the 21st Century skills of digital-age literacy, inventive and critical thinking, effective communication and high productivity.

With the academic Core improved, our graduation and attendance rates will increase and most students will graduate with Core 40, Honors or International Baccalaureate diplomas. We also will see an increase in dual credits and mentor/internship opportunities and decreased failure rates.

Students will benefit not only from our more rigorous Core but also have the opportunity to combine this foundation with a specialized Program of Study, teaching specialized skills that can be used in the workplace.

Programs of Study

Each high school offers a specialized Program of Study.

North Side High School – Global Studies/World Languages

Through technology and communication, our world is getting smaller. Today's students recognize the need to understand the world's many cultures and multiple languages and, with one in five jobs in the United States tied to global trade, this trend is becoming the norm.

The Global Studies/World Languages program drives global knowledge into courses designed to enable students to work, live and communicate in a global society. The program emphasizes how the world's people and institutions are interconnected and how critical global economic, political, technological, environmental and social systems operate interdependently around the globe.

Through the program, students and teachers have the skills to analyze and evaluate global issues from multiple perspectives and are prepared to participate in exchange programs with other countries. Graduates are given multiple options for post-secondary education, work or service in the global system and emerge ready to prove themselves as leaders in tomorrow's world.

Northrop High School – Project Lead the Way Engineering

Project Lead the Way (PLTW) is a nationally-known program that adds rigor to traditional technical programs and relevance to traditional academics. Northrop offers the PLTW engineering program, which provides real world learning and hands-on experience to students interested in engineering, biomechanics, aeronautics and other applied math and science areas. PLTW courses challenge students through project and problem-based learning, creating an environment for applying engineering concepts to real life problems. This approach helps students understand how the skills they are learning in the classroom can be applied in everyday life.

PLTW uses the innovative Pathway to Engineering program, which offers students a chance to find out if engineering is the career for them and offers courses that directly prepare them to study engineering in college. Students learn to work in teams, gain public speaking experience, discover the potential impact their ideas and products can have on society and prepare for future educational opportunities where what they learned at Northrop will put them above and beyond the competition.

Snider High School – Project Lead the Way Biomedical Sciences

The national Project Lead the Way (PLTW) biomedical program at Snider uses hands-on, real world problems to engage and challenge students. It is an innovative, student-centered program that develops research, critical thinking and self-directed learning skills. Serious coursework with participation in internships in various medical, therapeutic and diagnostic fields combine to give students an excellent foundation in the broad field of biomedical science.

We connect the core classes with possibilities in a medical career, making courses more relevant for students. Students hit the ground running with 36 weeks of health-related course work in the freshman year. By the time they graduate, students will be well prepared for rigorous college science. They also can pursue their Emergency Medical Technician or Certified Nursing Assistant Certification at Anthis Career Center during their junior and senior years.

This program is perfect for students looking to combine the challenges of the classroom with their passion for health, fitness and medicine.

South Side High School – International Baccalaureate Diploma Program

Some students are ready for a challenge before they graduate. They are ready to examine possibilities, make changes and reach beyond what is expected. For these students there is the International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma program.

Designed as a rigorous pre-university course of study, this program can result in a diploma that is recognized by many universities internationally in their admission process. Students can receive college credit, improve their class standing and become eligible for scholarships.

The IB Diploma program seeks to develop inquiring, knowledgeable and caring youth who want to create a better and more peaceful world through intercultural understanding and respect. Students are encouraged to appreciate different perspectives to understand and respect other people and to celebrate their differences.

Students considering the IB Diploma program are expected to take honors classes in their freshman and sophomore years with IB courses following in their junior and senior years.

Wayne High School – Business Program

The Business Program of Study allows students to explore how business operates nationally and internationally and what skills are needed to be a successful entrepreneur.

Students can choose from classes in business management, accounting or marketing. All include an entrepreneurship component, and internship and mentoring opportunities are available through partnerships with businesses in northeast Indiana. The Business program uses project-based learning, which makes assignments relevant to real world experiences.

This program is designed for students to easily transition from high school to college through our close working relationship with area universities. Students in the Business program are ready to leave FWCS with the preparation needed for further training after high school.

New Tech at Wayne High School

Students can pave the way for today's fast-paced and highly technological world by attending New Tech at Wayne High School.

With our New Tech program, students realize the opportunity to learn real life content through project-based instruction. They are engaged and challenged daily using computers and new technologies. Working both independently and in groups, students work through real world assignments and projects building a knowledge base that better prepares them for college.

Using an innovative and professional environment, students learn how to use technology as a tool to foster ideas, innovation and advancement. New Tech encourages students to learn through a collaboration of project-based challenges and through connections with family, business and the community.

Through advanced teaching, technology and team building skills, our students are developing the resilience necessary to succeed in a rapidly changing world and meet the high standards of universities and ultimately the work place.