



**Buffalo  
High School**

**BHM SCHOOLS**

**Buffalo High School**

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



# Welcome to Buffalo High School!

Buffalo High School offers regionally unmatched opportunities in academics, arts and activities. More than 1,700 students in grades 9-12 consistently outpace state averages thanks to challenging courses, abundant extracurricular choices and the cultivation of a caring atmosphere where students can dream, believe and achieve.

In annual surveys, our students overwhelmingly say that BHS has prepared them well for the future.

Buffalo High School combines a small-school feel with big-school opportunities. Our school community's core values are to "Be Kind, Proud, Driven Leaders" in all that we do.

## Be Kind

Surveys consistently indicate that our students feel supported by staff, and also by fellow students. In all, 92% of our students say they have an adult at school they can go to if they have a problem (national average: 54%). In addition, 82% of students say they feel supported by other students at school (national average: 33%). Our students build positive relationships in many ways. One example is our state-leading Unified Program, which builds friendships and common experiences among students with and without disabilities.

## Be Proud

BHS students and staff can rightly take pride in their school. BHS regularly boasts outstanding academic successes, state-of-the-art athletic facilities and competitive teams, and award-winning music and theater programs. BHS is home to nationally recognized FFA and journalism programs, and perennial state-level Knowledge Bowl, Mock Trial and BPA clubs.

## Be Driven

Students have every opportunity to strive for high performance in the classroom, where there are about 40 College in the Schools and Advanced Placement courses; in the arts, where some of the state's top teachers guide well-regarded music and theater programs; and on the playing field or in the activity realm, where BHS students compete with the best in the state and nation.

## Be Leaders

A commitment to positive behavior is important to our students and staff. The B1 Leaders student group takes the lead in maintaining a fun and supportive environment that allows students to find their passions and thrive in their areas of interest. There are numerous opportunities for students to take on responsibilities and develop leadership capabilities for a lifetime.



# 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. This variety allows our students to try new things and discover the things they are passionate about. Here, students can be challenged in any area of interest.

- **Do you like to read and write?**  
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 through a concurrent enrollment partnership with the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities.



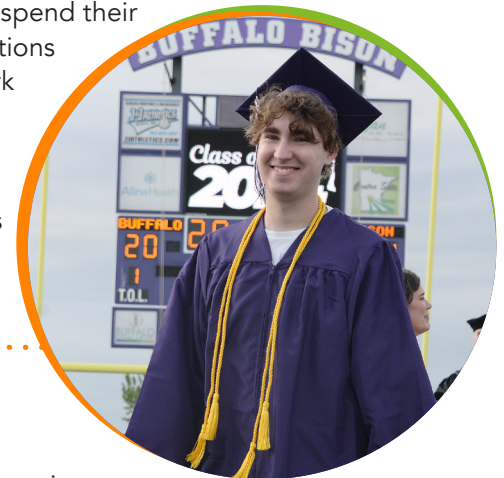
## Experienced, Engaged and Caring Staff

Our dedicated staff members build personal relationships with students and take pride in helping them achieve their educational goals. BHS teachers aim to prepare every student for success, help find what drives them, and encourage them on their future path. More than 70% of our teachers hold advanced degrees.

## 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.



## Our Mission

At BHS, three main things comprise our B1 Bison mission:

- 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 our staff and students living out this mission every day in the way we treat each other, how we work together, and how we pursue our goals.

## Unified Programming

We believe in encouraging all students to pursue their passions. Our Unified Programming brings students with and without mental and physical disabilities together 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.

**“Buffalo is leading the nation in [effective Unified Programming] because we recognize the need for inclusion.”**

— Jen Heebink,  
2022 SHAPE America National Adapted PE Teacher of the Year

## Excellence in the Arts

An award-winning arts department features more musical options than most schools in the area, including band, choir and orchestra, and has produced numerous all-state performers. In 2023-24, BHS band director Scott Rabehl was named the High School Music Educator of the Year by the Minnesota Music Educators Association. In addition, the theatre program has a tradition of excellence and offers numerous opportunities for students to build a wide variety of skills.

## A Wealth of Extracurricular Activities

Buffalo High School has outstanding athletic and activity facilities. Community members and students show their Bison pride by turning out in large numbers for sports and other school events.

BHS students compete in the Lake Conference, sharing athletic and activity schedules with Edina, Eden Prairie, Hopkins, Minnetonka, St. Michael-Albertville and Wayzata. The Lake Conference is widely considered the highest-profile, most competitive conference in the state of Minnesota. Since joining, our students have proven that they can compete at the highest levels across a wide spectrum of sports and activities. This competition challenges our students and staff to reach performance levels beyond their individual expectations.

At BHS, we believe that a well-rounded education requires opportunities outside of the classroom. Our philosophy is to use the activities experience as the vehicle to grow successful young men and women. 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.



## 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
- 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



# Giving Students a Head Start in Career and College Readiness

BHS offers nearly 40 tuition-free College in the Schools (CIS) courses, more than double any other school in Wright County or the Lake Conference. Simply put, our students are well prepared for college and career because they have regionally unmatched opportunities to engage with advanced courses in a wide variety of fields, from technical and agricultural topics to mathematics, science and more.

More than 83% of the Class of 2024 left BHS with credits on a college transcript, having learned from trained and credentialed BHS teachers who can offer a supportive environment with college-level rigor.

Without sacrificing the high school experience, BHS 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. See [mntransfer.org](http://mntransfer.org).

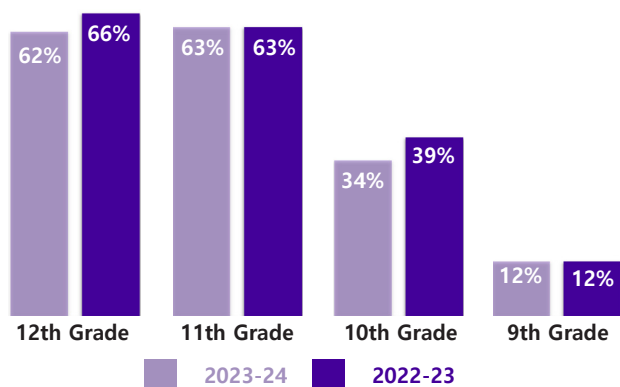
## Our College Partners and Courses

- **Anoka-Ramsey Community College**  
*(Intro to Statistics)*
- **Central Lakes College**  
*(Concert Band, Concert Choir, Music Theory & History)*
- **Hennepin Technical College**  
*(Auto Service & Maintenance, Competitive Engineering, Entrepreneurship, Landscaping, Mechanical Drawing)*
- **North Hennepin Community College**  
*(College Academic Prep, Intro to Sociology, US History, World History)*
- **Southwest Minnesota State University**  
*(Chemistry A/B, Chemistry C, Intro to Psychology 101)*
- **St. Cloud State University**  
*(Business, College Algebra, College & Career Prep, Exercise Physiology, Human Anatomy, Intro to Education, Wood Technology 3)*
- **University of Minnesota Twin Cities**  
*(Animal Science, Creative Problem-Solving, French 4&5, German 4&5, Intro to Literature, Intro to Public Speaking, Physics, Spanish 4&5, Writing & Critical Thinking)*

## Advanced Placement

In addition to CIS courses, BHS also offers Advanced Placement (AP) classes in Calculus, Biology and Computer Science. AP classes help students sharpen college-level skills and study habits, and provide an opportunity to test for college credit. The test score and accepting college determine the number of credits a student will earn.

## Number of Students Taking CIS Courses



More than 83% of 2024 graduates earned college credit during high school.

\*Colleges rarely allow 9th-graders to take their classes.



In 2023-24, students earned 5,454 college credits, saving families more than \$1.8 MILLION!

“The opportunity to take CIS courses is one of my favorite aspects about Buffalo High School and I’m very grateful for it. ... While I’m in high school I’m also getting ahead in college – that’s amazing!”

— Abigail U. 2024 BHS graduate

“It makes college much more manageable. I am graduating a year early because of CIS classes in high school.”

— Arianna F. 2023 BHS graduate, University of Wisconsin-La Crosse

“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

# An Alternative High School Option



## Phoenix Learning Center

Phoenix Learning Center, located within Buffalo High School, serves students who thrive in an alternative high school setting. Recognizing that there are many pathways for a student to succeed, staff offer personalized learning options in a family-like setting. Small class sizes support that individual focus, and students develop the skills to be responsible for their own learning plan while still enjoying the ability to participate in electives, arts and other BHS activities. Phoenix Learning Center instills confidence and emphasizes gratitude and joy in daily life while providing strong support and more opportunities than are typically available 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



Learn more at  
[bhmschools.org/  
phoenix](http://bhmschools.org/phoenix)

## 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 that BHS has to offer than coming for a visit. For more information about BHS, to arrange a tour or to 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](http://bhmschools.org/student-services).



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### Buffalo High School

877 Bison Boulevard  
Buffalo, MN 55313  
763.682.8100

[bhmschools.org/bhs](http://bhmschools.org/bhs)  
Principal: Mark Mischke

### School Start & Dismissal Times

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

