



LAKE COUNTRY SCHOOL **WILDCATS**

2020-21 Academic and Career Planning (ACP) & Education for Employment Plan & Program

Chapter PI-26

[Chapter PI-26](#) is the legislation in the State of Wisconsin that requires every school district to provide academic and career planning services to pupils enrolled in grades 6 to 12 in the school district beginning in the 2017–18 school year. This chapter establishes the requirements for education for employment programs. The purpose of education for employment programs is to do all of the following:

- (a) Prepare elementary and secondary pupils for future employment.
- (b) Ensure technological and financial literacy; to promote lifelong learning.
- (c) Promote good citizenship.
- (d) Promote cooperation among business, industry, labor, postsecondary schools, and public schools.
- (e) Establish a role for public schools in the economic development of Wisconsin.

Vision, Mission, & Core Values

Chapter PI-26 aligns nicely with the Lake Country School District's mission, vision, and core values.

Mission Statement: *To inspire all students to reach their highest potential by providing a tradition of academic excellence and innovative thinking within a supportive community.*

Recently, we are challenging our students to understand the world through Global Competencies and Relentless Optimism.

Academic and Career Plans

Academic and Career Plans (ACPs) are plans that students will develop for success in high school and postsecondary academic and career development. With support from teachers, counselors and parents, the ACP process at the middle school level helps students begin to formally explore their interests, skills, values, and careers of interest as a base for their further planning in high school. Throughout the process, students complete self-assessments, set goals and participate in career exploration activities to become more aware of individual strengths and weaknesses, and gain a better understanding of college and career options. The result is that students are better able to connect their goals to educational coursework in high school and determine a pathway best suited to their career goals. Engagement in long-term planning for life after high school graduation is at the basis of the ACP plan. Individualized support will be available as needed. If a pupil is a child with a disability, the pupil's ACP shall be made available to the pupil's IEP team. In summary, the Department of Public Instruction defines ACP: *“Academic and Career Planning, or ACP, is a student-driven, adult-supported process in which students create and cultivate their own unique and information-based visions for post secondary success, obtained through self-exploration, career exploration, and the development of career management and planning skills.”*

Labor Market Data

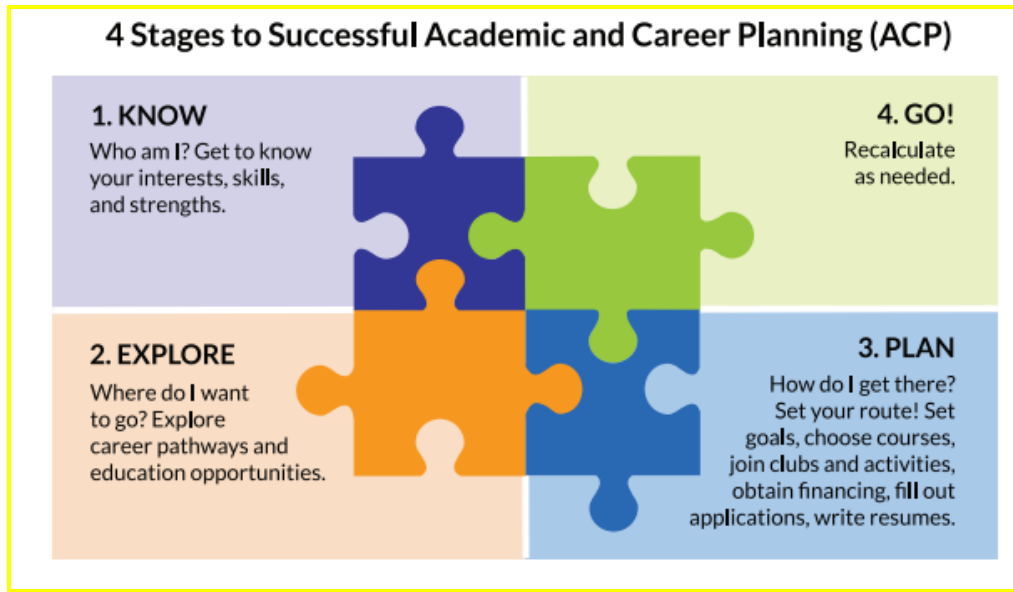
In analysis of local, regional, and state market needs, it is clear that there is a need for continued growth. According to Hart Research Associates survey, the majority of hiring managers place most value on soft skills including communication, teamwork, decision making, critical thinking, knowledge application, and problem solving. This research demonstrates that less than 38% of employers say college grads are prepared in these skill areas. It is clear that continued education in the employability and soft skill areas is important.

Parent Engagement

As in all aspects of the educational process, parents are partners in this process. Lake Country School District will inform parents of students in grades 6-8 each year as to the progress of their child's ACP. Parents will also have access to their child's plan and encouraged to participate in this important process. Career awareness and financial literacy are taught in the grade levels' and the school counseling Guidance curriculum and instruction.

Know, Explore, Plan, Go

The Department of Public Instruction has defined the four stages of Academic and Career Planning. Lake Country School is ensuring that all students have the opportunity to explore each of the stages as it relates to their individual journeys.



Community Involvement

Community partnerships are critical in the success of ACP. Lake Country School is very proud of the strong community and business support as demonstrated by numerous grant awards, gifts, and sponsorships. Lake Country School actively searches for local sponsorships to help enrich educational opportunities for its students. Businesses or individual sponsors are encouraged to provide presentations and in-kind donations to our school and student body. Business and community donations have supported the Innovation Lab, Outdoor Classroom, PLTW, and the fine arts. Lake Country's collaboration with Waukesha County Technical College (WCTC) are also strong community ties.

Assessment & Accountability

The Lake Country School staff will annually review and update the ACP plan and Education for Employment Program. A report will be prepared for the Lake Country School Board describing plan and program progress as well as identifying future goals aimed at improving pupil outcomes. Parent and community feedback will be solicited via a survey and included in the evaluation process. The stages of ACP and its

activities will also be assessed annually and modified to best meet the needs of our learners.

ACP Activities

This is an evolving document that will continue to grow as we connect activities to our ACP plan. The capstone programs include Xello and Project Lead the Way. Xello (formerly Career Cruising) is the state-sponsored software tool that Lake Country School utilizes for ACP plan development along with student exploration and planning in careers. [Financial literacy](#) is taught 3-8 in collaboration with classroom teachers and the school counselor.