

Did You Know?

District 51 prepares students for both college and careers

Each D51 high school offers a variety of courses geared toward preparing students to enter specific career fields after high school or college. Learn more about a few District 51 programs below.

NEW! CareerWise Apprenticeships

District 51 is one of the first school districts in the state set to introduce CareerWise apprenticeships this fall. The youth apprenticeships will allow students to work in local businesses for three years while earning high school (and possibly college) credit.



Career Center

More than 300 students from local high schools spend part of their school day at District 51's Career Center at 2935 North Ave. The Career Center helps students explore their career options through hands-on opportunities and gain the skills necessary to work in construction, early childhood care, small animal care, floriculture, landscaping, healthcare, sport vehicle repair, culinary arts, or computer technology.

STEM programs

Central High School has a pathway specifically for students interested in pursuing careers in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math, or STEM. A slate of courses designed to help these students explore STEM topics allows them to dive deeper into STEM by taking math- and science-centric courses, learning technical skills, and preparing for college majors related to STEM.

Concurrent Enrollment

District 51 students can reach their careers sooner after high school by taking advantage of tuition-free concurrent enrollment. Concurrent enrollment allows students to take Colorado Mesa University courses right at their high school or on the Colorado Mesa University campus. The Technical Scholars program also allows juniors and seniors to take technical classes at Western Colorado Community College and earn credit toward an associate's or certificate.

International Baccalaureate, Advanced Placement

District 51 has seen a steady increase in students taking Advanced Placement courses, which prepare students for college-level work and can help them earn college credit through exams. Students in Palisade's International Baccalaureate program can also earn college credit through IB exams. In addition to rigorous IB coursework that helps students get into top colleges and earn massive scholarships, each IB student also prepares a lengthy final essay and service learning project.

High School of Business

Grand Junction High School is one of just two dozen Colorado schools that offer this nationwide curriculum, which prepares students for business careers and majors through three years of intense study of various aspects of business. Each semester focuses on a different topic, such as business administration, economics, or marketing.

