

SPECIAL PROGRAMS

COUNSELING SERVICES

The high school counseling program consists of state certified school counselors, who provide services in the areas of personal/social concerns, academic advisement, post-secondary services, career counseling, conflict resolution, crisis intervention, and mediation with parents, teachers and other students. Students are encouraged to see their school counselors by appointment or walk in.

ACADEMIC RESOURCE CENTER (ARC)

The Academic Resource Center is a service available to all students who want to improve their study skills and academic performance. Certified teachers and tutors are available throughout the day. Students may come in during their open hours. Parents/guardians and staff may refer students through the school counselor for attending on an assigned basis.

GIFTED EDUCATION SERVICES

The Secondary Accelerated Learner Services Coordinator is state certified in Gifted Education and collaborates with staff to provide opportunities to meet the academic needs of identified gifted and high ability students. Services include academic advising and support, resources, and alternative programming options. Services are dependent upon demonstrated skill and knowledge. The Coordinator provides course planning, competitive college/university admission and scholarship application support, in addition to affective development, enrichment and advancement opportunities.

ADVANCED PLACEMENT (AP)

<https://apstudent.collegeboard.org/home>

The Advanced Placement Program® (AP®) is a collaborative effort among motivated students, dedicated teachers, and committed high schools, colleges, and universities. Our AP Program® allows students to take college-level courses and exams while still in high school with the potential to earn college credit.

District AP courses are listed within their subject section. Online AP courses are also available. Students should be self-disciplined, self-motivated, and eager for diverse opportunities when considering online classes. An online course application is required for taking online courses. For an online AP course list, visit the South Dakota Virtual School website: www.sdvs.k12.sd.us. Students are encouraged to work with their school counselor on an appropriate AP schedule.

Many colleges and universities in the United States and Canada have an AP policy granting incoming students credit, placement, or both on the basis of their AP Exam scores. Each AP course has a corresponding exam that participating schools worldwide administer in May-

Grades are weighted for AP courses as follows:

A – 5.00

B – 4.00

C – 3.00

D – 1.00

Students should be aware that there is a fee to take AP exams. Contact Secondary Gifted Education Services for more information.

SPECIAL SERVICES

The Department of Special Services provides services to students in need of special assistance enrolled in Rapid City Area Schools. Students eligible for services in this program must be verified as needing special assistance through an appropriate evaluation and a subsequent eligibility determination. An Individual Family Service Plan (IFSP), Individual Educational Plan (IEP), or Section 504 Plan will be developed by a team of multidisciplinary professionals consisting of general/special educators, parents/guardians, the student, administrators, and other individuals that have special expertise or knowledge of the student if the student is determined eligible. Program services must portray a comprehensive and accurate view of the student and his or her learning needs and abilities.