

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

<http://public.rcas.org/administration/SA/gifted/Pages/default.aspx>

The Secondary Gifted Education Services coordinator is state certified in Gifted Education. The classroom curriculum is the basis from which gifted education services will be developed to challenge gifted, advanced and high potential students. Services are dependent upon demonstrated skill and knowledge. Gifted education services could include assisting gifted, advanced, high ability and high potential students with advance course planning, competitive college planning, and the college application/ scholarship application process. Additionally, services could extend to areas of career development, affective support, and other special program 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

This department is for students in need of special assistance. Students entering this program will need to be certified as needing special assistance by an appropriate evaluation. An IEP (Individual Educational Plan) or 504 Plan will be developed by a placement committee consisting of both general and special educators, parents/guardians, the student, administrators, and other involved persons as appropriate on the basis of information gathered from multiple sources. These programs must portray a comprehensive and accurate view of the student and his or her learning needs and abilities.

LIFEWAYS

Lifeways, Inc. is a community non-profit agency working within the Rapid City School District to strengthen alcohol, tobacco, and drug prevention through education, intervention, and support. Lifeways alcohol and drug prevention staff provide: classroom education on alcohol, tobacco, drug use, abuse and dependence; an awareness of the connection between substance abuse and violence; evidenced-based prevention curriculum; support groups; individual assistance regarding alcohol and drug-related issues; education for individuals, groups and family members; assistance in peer-led drug free activities; and referrals to other community resources. Lifeways helps students deal with the pressures they may feel and is a resource for students. Our mission is to promote a healthy way of life for youth.