

West High School

Address: 30 Ash Street, Madison, WI 53705
Phone: (608) 204-4100
Principal: Ed Holmes
School Web Site: www.madison.k12.wi.us/west/



The mission of West High School is to assure educational success and personal development for every student by empowering students, parents and staff to exercise responsibility for learning, to provide a secure and supportive environment, to offer a flexible, interactive, multicultural curriculum comprised of a rich selection of required and elective courses:

- ◆ to encourage student participation in a variety of extracurricular activities
- ◆ to ensure appropriate educational strategies and support services
- ◆ to secure community support
- ◆ to guarantee opportunities for individual student achievement and success

Class Size

West is a comprehensive four year high school with a current enrollment of slightly more than 2,000. Class size varies from a low of 12 in some advanced foreign language classes to a high of 40 to 50 in band, orchestra and vocal groups.

Curriculum

West High strives to offer a comprehensive curriculum for all. Every department offers some advanced or "Honors" courses, and a number of Advanced Placement (AP) courses are also available. Each year, many 11th and 12th grade students choose to take advantage of Wisconsin's Youth Options Program by enrolling in courses at the University of Wisconsin or Madison Area Technical College. West also offers excellent school-to-work initiatives through such programs as Business, Marketing, Family and Consumer Education and Technology Education. In any given year, more than 70% of the student body chooses from among five foreign languages. West offers nationally and state recognized talented and gifted opportunities in all areas, including a unique fine arts curriculum and science and math competitions. Outstanding theatre, choral and instrumental performances enhance the extensive performing arts curriculum. The Art Department offers courses in sculpture, art metals, drawing and design. Numerous physical education opportunities, including dance, are offered. Five periods each day, an English teacher staffs the English Writing Lab to work individually with students on writing assignments. The English and Social Studies Departments offer a wide choice of single semester electives, including Multicultural Literature, Honors Shakespeare, Philosophy and Social Psychology. Comprehensive programs in ESL, special education and guidance support students at all levels.

Achievement Scores

West students consistently test well above average in all areas on statewide and national measures. Approximately 66% of seniors score above 600 on the Verbal SAT and 72% score above 600 on the Math SAT. Approximately 39% score between 28 and 36 on the ACT. West produces approximately thirty National Merit Semi-Finalists annually. Approximately 79% of graduates go on to four-year schools and 16% enroll in college transfer technical schools.