

**School District of River Falls
Educational Program Committee**

Monday, January 12, 2026 - 6:00 PM

District Office

852 E Division Street

River Falls, Wisconsin 54022

Educational Program Committee members: Alan Tuchtenhagen (Chair), Lindsey Curtis, & Monica LaVold

A quorum of the Board may be present for information-gathering purposes only.

Agendas can be viewed at <https://www.rfsd.k12.wi.us/district/school-board.cfm> or at
<https://meetings.boardbook.org/Public/Organization/1447>

1. CALL TO ORDER - 6:00 PM

2. MANNER OF PUBLIC NOTIFICATION OF MEETING

3. HEARING OF VISITORS OR DELEGATIONS

4. APPROVE THE MEMO TO ESTABLISH SEATS FOR OPEN ENROLLMENT

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Description: Amy Wise and MaryBeth Elliott, Co-Directors of Academic Services, will present the district memo to officially establish available student seats for Open Enrollment in the 2026-27 school year.

Recommended Action: Approve the memo to establish seats for Open Enrollment.

5. APPROVE THE DISTRICT'S NOTICE OF EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS

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Description: Amy Wise and MaryBeth Elliot, Co-Directors of Academic Services, will present the District's Notice of Educational Options for approval pursuant to Wisconsin State Statute 115.28(54m). Educational options must be approved and posted on an annual basis prior to the Open Enrollment window being opened.

Recommended Action: Approve RFSD Educational Options for 2026.

6. PROPOSED/SUGGESTED ITEMS FOR THE NEXT REGULAR AND FUTURE EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM MEETING AGENDA(S)

Description: As always, committee members will be given the opportunity to suggest items for future committee and/or Board meeting agendas.

Recommended Action: As needed.

7. SCHEDULE NEXT EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM COMMITTEE MEETING

Description: Upcoming committee meeting dates, times, and locations will be reviewed.

Recommended Action: Set the meeting schedule as follows:

Educational Program Committee meeting: Monday, February 9, 2026, 6:00 p.m.

The meeting will be held at the District Office Conference Room, 852 E. Division Street.

8. ADJOURN



High School (Grades 9-12+)

Cross Categorical Program: Behavioral Focus	Zero (0) Seats
Cross Categorical Program: Academic Focus	Zero (0) Seats
Cross Categorical Program: Center-Based	Zero (0) Seats
Speech/Language Services	Zero (0) Seats
Project Search Program	Zero (0) Seats

District Services (EC-12+)

Vision Impaired Services	Zero (0) Seats
Deaf/Hard of Hearing Services	Zero (0) Seats
Adaptive Physical Education Services	Zero (0) Seats



School District of River Falls

Educational Options

Pursuant to Wisconsin State Statute 115.28 (54m), notice must be provided regarding the educational options available to all students who are at least three years old, but not yet 18 years old. Each of the [following areas](#) represent educational options for Wisconsin students.

The School District of River Falls “Exceeded Expectations” on the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction’s District Report Card for the 2024-25 school year. Specific district and school report cards can be located at [Wisconsin DPI School and District Report Card Portal](#). Report card data can also be found on each of our School District of River Falls website, under Academic Services.

The School District of River Falls offers students a variety of educational options to children who reside within the boundaries of the School District of River Falls. The District’s primary educational pathway and instructional program for students begin with our 4-year-old kindergarten program through 12th grade. The District’s educational options and recent school performance category (if applicable) are listed below:

Enrollment Options:

- Attendance at resident public schools
- Attendance at private schools participating in the Wisconsin Private School Choice
- Program attendance at local district charter schools
- Attendance at virtual schools
- Full-time open enrollment
- Early College Credit Program and Start College Now Program
- Partial enrollment options for pupils enrolled in a home-based private educational program
- Parents of children with disabilities are also advised that there is a special needs voucher program

School District of River Falls Specific Options:

River Falls 4 Children (4C) Community Sites:

Abundant Life - (Subject to certified staffing)
Jacob’s Ladder
Little Adventures 1
Little Adventures 2
The University Preschool
UW-River Falls CHILd Center
River Falls Public Montessori Elementary
Rocky Branch Elementary

Elementary Schools:

Greenwood Elementary School - Exceeds Expectations
River Falls Public Montessori Elementary(Charter School) - Exceeds Expectations
Rocky Branch Elementary School - Meets Expectations
Westside Elementary School - Exceeds Expectations

Middle School:

Meyer Middle School - Exceeds Expectations

High Schools:

Renaissance Charter Academy (Charter School) - Alternate Accountability Ranking (Satisfactory Progress)
River Falls High School - Exceeds Expectations

River Falls Private School Options:

St. Bridget's Catholic Community

Additional Educational programs offered to eligible students who are enrolled in and attending school in the School District of River Falls include:

- Early childhood special education (for students who are at least 3 years old, prior to school-age)
- Special education for students with disabilities
- English learner services
- Career and Technical Education (CTE) Academies and local programs
- Gifted and Talented programming
- Alternative educational program(s)
- Summer school programming
- Character education initiatives
- Academic and Career Planning Initiatives
- College and Career Fairs

Charter School Programs Offered in the River Falls School District:**River Falls Public Montessori Elementary**

River Falls Public Montessori Elementary (4K-6) is a collaborative community that supports the development of intrinsically motivated, inquisitive, critical thinking citizens who realize their full potential to serve and positively impact the world. By following the Montessori Method, we promote individualized learning through the exploration and inquiry in multi-aged communities to develop the whole child. For more information, please visit our webpage at [School District of River Falls | WI, 54022](#).

Renaissance Charter Academy (RCA)

The Renaissance Charter Academy (9-12) is an innovative, charter school that offers programs to meet the needs of a wide range of learners. Our specialty lies in the area of individualized learning with social and emotional support. The Renaissance Academy partners with the River Falls High School to offer students a larger variety of courses, electives, sports, activities, and clubs. We also offer dual credit courses in cooperation with local technical colleges. We ensure that all students have a firm grasp of core academics and skills necessary to achieve post-secondary life goals. Students at the Renaissance Academy are expected to demonstrate independent learning skills and embrace the concept of lifelong learning. For more information, please visit our webpage at [School District of River Falls | WI, 54022](#).

High School Program Highlights:

Students at River Falls High School (RFHS) have a wide variety of educational opportunities throughout their time enrolled. These opportunities are provided to meet the needs of our students with variation in coursework as well as to personalize their learning experience to best meet their individual needs. Additionally, we strive to ensure we are providing quality opportunities aligned with our district and community expectations. Below are opportunities provided for current students enrolled at RFHS:

Face-to-Face Classroom Instruction:

Students at River Falls High School have the opportunity to enroll in a wide variety of coursework in core academic classes, visual arts, performing arts, career and technical education, family consumer science, and other elective opportunities. These courses offered by RFHS staff are offered through face-to-face instruction or hybrid online courses taught using our learning management system; Schoology. Students participating in these educational opportunities are held accountable to the grading for learning guidelines identified by RFHS and included in our student handbook. These expectations are further communicated in teacher syllabi and/or course expectation guidelines.

Work-Based Learning

Students are offered an opportunity to “earn while they learn”. Students explore real work career opportunities through one of these three school-to-work programs:

Work Experience

- Students earn .5 credits per term for working 90+ hours with a maximum of 1 credit during their high school career.
- Students learn to use employability skills valued by employers while helping students explore career interests.
- Students who successfully complete this program will earn a Employability Skills Certificate issued through the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction.
- A student's job does not need to fall within any specific CTE program area.

Cooperative Skills (Co-Op)

- The Co-Op program offers juniors and seniors a course of study that integrates academic work, worksite learning, and paid work experience.
- This program is administered through the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction where upon successful completion, awards students with a state issued certificate.
- There are several specific program areas from which the student’s job must qualify (Agriculture/Agribusiness, Business, Childcare, Assistant Child Care Teaching, (ACCT)/Infant-Toddler, Food Service, IT, Marketing, Employability Skills Certificate and Youth Leadership Certificate).
- Requires 480 hours of work experience and concurrent related CTE classes.

Youth Apprenticeship (YA)

- Rigorous one or two year state certification program combining academic and technical instruction with mentored, paid, on-the-job training.
- Upon successful completion of their apprenticeship, students earn a certificate issued by the State of Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development that will become a permanent record on their high school transcript.
- Students must take related high school or college classes that help to enhance their worksite experience.
- Students must complete a minimum of 450 hours at their YA worksite each year.
- Open to juniors and seniors.

Students may earn a maximum of six high school credits for YA. Total credits earned for YA will be based on a combination of specific job and hours worked.

Additional Course Opportunities

Online Courses (WVS) Hybrid Courses

Advanced Placement (AP)

Start College Now (SCN)

Dual Academic Credit Program (DACP)

Transcribed Credits (TC)

Advanced Standing (AS)

Independent Study (IS)

Wisconsin Virtual School (WVS) Courses:

Students at RFHS are provided with the opportunity to participate in coursework offered through WVS. These courses are offered online through a partnership with CESA 9. RFHS students who enroll in WVS coursework have access to additional course opportunities not always offered at RFHS. RFHS has an identified Local Education Guide (LEG) who facilitates all student enrollment in WVS coursework. Our LEG conducts an introduction meeting with students, sends out regular student progress reports, and is available as a liaison if students have any difficulty in the online learning environment.

Why do we use WVS?

- WVS allows us the opportunity to offer courses that we are not able to offer at RFHS.
- WVS allows students to enroll in courses for students who want to participate in other priority courses that conflict with scheduled offerings.
- WVS allows students to personalize their schedule, course selection, and best meet their learning style.
- WVS strives to offer quality courses through their program, has established criteria and standards in which they select their providers, and regularly review and update their course offerings.

Early College Credit Program:

Early College Credit Program (ECCP) is a collaborative program between RFHS, UWRF, CVTC, and WITC. Students may enroll in college level courses that earn high school and college or technical school credit. Admission is based on school records and/or special interest courses, approval by the School Board, and available space. If approved, tuition and fees are paid by the school district. Application deadlines are March 1 for fall semester and October 1 for spring semester. Students may not enroll in more than 18 credits during their junior and senior years. Upon enrollment in an ECCP course, it is the student's responsibility to notify the college or technical school if the student decides not to take the course. This must be accomplished prior to the first class session in order to avoid enrollment charges. Students/families will be required to reimburse the school district for tuition costs in the event of failed or incomplete ECCP classes.

Part-time Open Enrollment:

Part-time Open Enrollment provides a means for Wisconsin students to take courses offered by other Wisconsin school districts and also includes the opportunity for students to enroll in courses offered by charter schools, various institutions of higher education, and approved nonprofit organizations at no cost to the student. Specifically, Part-time Open Enrollment allows students enrolled in a public school district to take up to two courses at any time from an educational institution. Part-time Open Enrollment applications must be submitted and received 6 weeks prior to the start of any course.

For more information, please contact the Director of Academic Services office at (715) 425-1800.

Updated: January, 2026