

# The Counselor Chronicle September 2025

*"The only way to do great work is to love what you do" — Steve Jobs*

Welcome Back to the 25-26 School Year!



**The Required Career Portfolio:** The Required Career Portfolio (RCP) "class" you see listed with your other classes. Although it is not actually a class and you are not graded on the activities, **completing the assigned grade-level activities is a requirement of attending BlueSky.**

A new activity will appear on your To-Do list about **every 3-4 weeks**. When it's there, please complete it by the end of the week. Don't be alarmed if nothing appears on your To-Do list; this will be common.

Be sure to read the directions carefully about how to access **your level career plan in MCIS**. Note that there may be **more than one activity in your Career Plan** to complete for each RCP assignment.

All graduating seniors are required to have a career plan on file to meet graduation requirements. Completing these monthly activities each year will create this career plan for you.

The goal of these assignments is for you to begin planning and exploring life after high school and to develop a plan for after graduation.

These assignments are not designed to interfere with your other classes or assignments but to enhance your education.

There are **nine assignments** to complete for the entire school year, and each assignment should take 15-20 minutes to complete.

## Senior Snippet

It's your Senior year! You made it! While it can be exciting, it can also be a scary time as well. Your counseling team has created a nifty checklist to help you through your senior year to make sure you are taking care of business in a timely manner.

Not all things will apply to all students, but it's a good general guideline for what to think about. Make a copy and keep it close by this year; check things off as you complete them, delete items that don't apply to your life goals, and use it to plan ahead for the next several months until that magical graduation date in June 2026!!

[Senior Checklist](#)

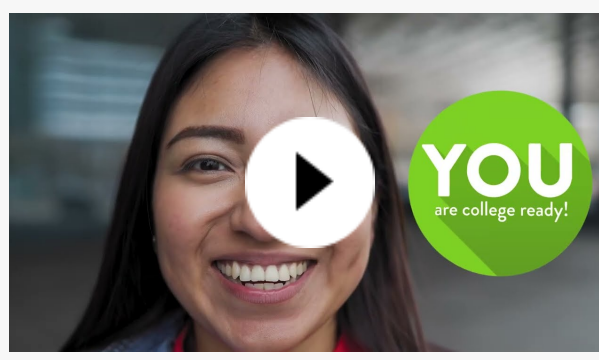
You've worked hard to get here, but the fun's not quite done yet!



**Direct Admissions:** Are you a 12th-grade student graduating this year?

BlueSky is participating in Direct Admissions, a state program that simplifies the college application process for Minnesota seniors. Direct Admissions reverses the traditional college admissions process by proactively notifying seniors of the multiple participating Minnesota colleges and universities offering them admission.

Check out the video below for more information!



## Alumni Spotlight



Micki Behnke is a 2020 BlueSky graduate and now a member of our BlueSky staff. She joined the BlueSky team as an Educational Assistant this year, and we are happy to have her.

Micki transferred to BlueSky during her junior year to focus on her mental and physical health. She was able to take our social work support classes, which helped her succeed not only in high school but also later in college. Micki's sister was also a BlueSky student. She now lives in Mankato with her boyfriend Conrad and her puppy Keeko.

After graduating from BlueSky, Micki started at Bemidji State before transferring to Minnesota State University Mankato. She began in Elementary Education, changed her major three times, and after five years earned her bachelor's degree in Communication Sciences and Disorders with an emphasis in Speech Pathology. She plans to return to graduate school next year to pursue a degree in Speech-Language Pathology.

Micki advises current BlueSky students to "take ALL the resources offered!" One of her favorite memories was attending a knitting day on campus. Even though she still cannot knit, she and her sister enjoyed a fun day getting to know some of our staff.

Welcome back to BlueSky, Micki!

If you know anyone who has graduated from BlueSky and would like to be featured in the Alumni Spotlight section of our newsletter, please have them fill out the [Alumni Spotlight Interest form](#).

[Alumni Spotlight Interest Form](#)

## Featured Occupation

- **Occupation:** Registered Nurse
- **Education Required:** A bachelor's degree, but some students start with hands-on training programs and work towards their RN degree.
- **Outlook:** 5.3% Growth
- **Median Wages:** \$100,870 annually

**Job Duties:** Registered Nurses assess patient health, develop and implement care plans, administer medications and treatments, and track vital signs and progress. They also educate patients and families, keep accurate medical records, and work closely with doctors and other healthcare professionals. In addition, RNs supervise nursing staff, assist with medical procedures, and offer emotional and psychological support to patients.



## ACT Testing



If you are an 11th grader planning to attend a 4-year university, now is a good time to take the ACT for the first time—if you have not yet taken it. If you are unsure about whether or not you should take the ACT, please schedule an appointment with your BlueSky counselor.

Students should have received information about taking the ACT at the BlueSky campus in Bloomington. However, if the BlueSky campus is too far, there is an option that is likely closer to your home. Please check the [ACT locator below](#).

High School Code: BlueSky Charter School 242228

[ACT Test Locator](#)

[ACT Registration Information](#)

### 2025-2026 NATIONAL TEST DATES SCHEDULE

TEST DATE	REGULAR REGISTRATION DEADLINE	LATE REGISTRATION DEADLINE	PHOTO UPLOAD & STAMP DEADLINE
October 10, 2025	September 12	September 30	October 10
December 13, 2025	November 7	November 24	December 5
February 14, 2026	January 9	January 23	February 6
April 11, 2026	March 8	March 24	April 3
June 13, 2026	May 8	May 29	June 5
July 11, 2026*	June 5	June 24	July 3

If you have any questions, please email us at [testing@blueskyschool.org](mailto:testing@blueskyschool.org)



[Email Carla](#)

651-202-2025

[Email Grant](#)

651-202-2046

[Email Jennifer](#)

651-202-2051

[Email Alisa](#)

651-202-2026

[Scholarships](#)

[College & Career Fair Open Houses](#)