

The Counselor Chronicle

April 2026

"The best preparation for tomorrow is doing your best today" — H. Jackson Brown Jr.



April is Apprenticeship Month! National Apprenticeship Week is celebrated April 26-May 2 this year, and it's a great time to learn more about the annual celebration of registered apprenticeship programs. Find more information about Minnesota's Apprenticeship Programs through the MN Dept of Labor and Industry: [Be an Apprentice](#).

In addition, BlueSky will be hosting a [Youth Apprenticeship Informational Meeting on Thursday, April 16th, at 12:00](#). All students in grades 8-12, along with their parents, are encouraged to attend. The Youth Apprenticeship program at BlueSky is a great opportunity for students to earn credit while working—but there are several prerequisites that need to be met, which require some advance planning for your schedule.

Come listen to BlueSky instructor Gabra Lokken tell you everything you need to know to plan for this opportunity during your 11th and 12th grade years at BlueSky.

[Be an Apprentice](#)

[Youth Apprenticeship Informational Meeting - Zoom Link](#)

Dakota/Scott County Teen Job Fair: For students living in or near the South Metro area, this may be a great opportunity for you if you are ready to get a job — or find a different job!



Summer School: Summer School information will be emailed out to all students and their parents/guardians in Mid-April. Keep an eye out for this information, and be sure to complete the Summer School Registration form if you are interested in taking classes this summer. It is a free opportunity for current Bluesky students.

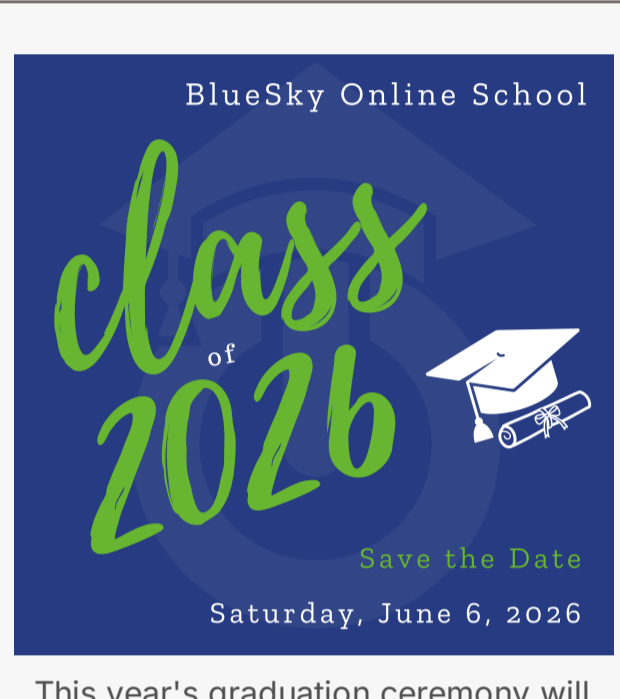
Career and College Fairs (And summer opportunities): Have you noticed that at the bottom of every Counselor Chronicle, there is a document called *"Career & College Fairs, Open Houses, and Tours"*? It is a living document that our counseling staff updates regularly. It includes special events at various colleges across Minnesota — usually those specific to a career area like nursing, construction, theater, and more.

It also includes some cool opportunities to attend programs during the summer — some are free, while others require a tuition fee. These opportunities tend to be annual and can be for students as young as 8th or 9th grade. Please check it out and remember to take a glance each month to see what new opportunities have been added.

Senior Snippet

Reminder to continue working on your assignments in RCP (Required Career Portfolio).

These assignments will build your **Career Plan**—which is a graduation requirement. The goal is to complete all assignments by May 15th. The last assignment will open up for you on Monday, May 4th, and includes directions on how to create your final Career Plan, save it to your Google Drive, and share it with your BlueSky counselor. This document will be added to your cumulative file here at BlueSky.



This year's graduation ceremony will be held on **Saturday, June 6th, 2026**, at 12:00 PM (noon) in the auditorium of [Thomas Jefferson High School](#).

Please complete the following graduation forms by the indicated due date. Please contact [Sarah Miner](#) with any additional questions.

- [Cap & Gown Form - Due April 17th](#)
- [Graduate Slideshow - Due May 13th](#)
- [Guest Seat RSVP - Due May 22nd](#)

Please upload your senior portrait to our [Senior/Graduate Gallery](#). Photos are to be of the senior/graduate only. Please allow a few days for newly submitted photos to be added to the gallery.

[Senior/Graduate Gallery](#)

Want to take the mic at graduation and give the class of 2026 a moment they'll never forget? If you're feeling inspired, brave, or just really love a spotlight, toss your name into the hat using the [Google form](#) below.

Filling it out doesn't guarantee a speaking spot, but it does let us know you're interested and ready to be considered!

[Student Speaker Interest Form](#)

Alumni Spotlight

Alumni Spotlight

JULIA MORROW

Julia (Morrow) Tabor is a 2021 graduate of Bluesky Online School. She attended BlueSky for 11th and 12th grade and participated in the PSEO program, earning college credits while still in high school. After high school graduation, Julia attended college to earn her Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education, with an emphasis on Christian Education. She recently completed her student teaching at North Iowa Christian School and was then hired as a part-time 6th-grade teacher and a teacher's aide for part of the day.

After high school, Julia had many jobs, all of them involving work with children. She also enjoys hand crocheting, going to church, and reading her Bible. Julia also enjoys reading in general. She continues to live in Albert Lea, her hometown, along with her new husband. They enjoy being homebodies but also taking small trips and hanging out with their family and friends.



Julia's advice for current BlueSky students is to keep working hard even when you may not want to or just feel defeated. Take your time with your coursework, but also remember to give yourself grace because no one is perfect. In this busy world, make sure to find rest so you can put your all into the things you love.

The thing Julia likes most about BlueSky is the flexibility and the fact that she can work and go to school at the same time.

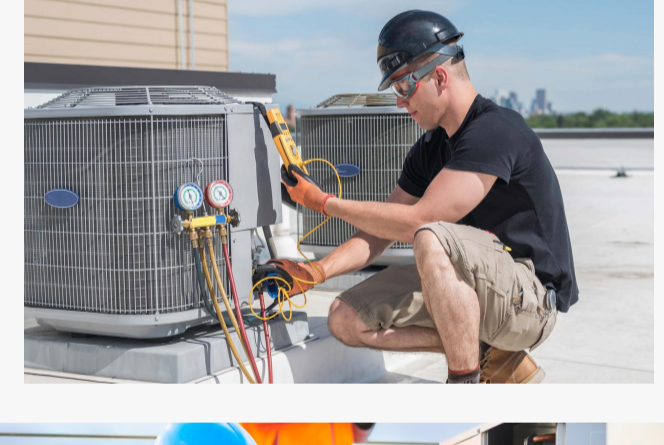
If you know anyone who has graduated from BlueSky and would like to be featured in the Alumni Spotlight section of our newsletter, please have them fill out the [Alumni Spotlight Interest form](#).

[Alumni Spotlight Interest Form](#)

Featured Occupation

- Occupation:** Heating & Cooling Systems Mechanic
- Education Required:** 2-3 years
- Outlook:** 8% Growth
- Median Wages:** \$79,390 annually

Job Duties: Heating and cooling system mechanics, often called HVAC technicians, install and repair systems that control temperature and air quality in homes and businesses. They use electrical testing tools, read blueprints and manufacturer instructions, and work with customers to identify issues and recommend solutions. Their work includes routine maintenance like cleaning parts and changing filters, as well as repairing or replacing faulty equipment and wiring. They also install systems that heat, cool, filter, and purify air, while keeping detailed records of any problems and repairs.



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](#)

TEST DATE	REGULAR REGISTRATION DEADLINE	LATE REGISTRATION DEADLINE	PHOTO UPLOAD STANDBY DEADLINE
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

MEET THE COUNSELORS

Carla

[Email Carla](#)

651-202-2025

Grant

[Email Grant](#)

651-202-2046

Jennifer

[Email Jennifer](#)

651-202-2051

Alisa

[Email Alisa](#)

651-202-2026

[Scholarships](#)

[College & Career Fair Open Houses](#)