



# The Counselor Chronicle

May 2026

## "Hard work beats talent if talent doesn't work hard" – Tim Notke

One career-exploration strategy that has proven helpful for many people is considering a wide range of options before deciding on an educational path and a career choice. Artificially narrowing your choices can exclude jobs that might be fulfilling before giving them a chance. Being realistic about the job market and qualifications is also helpful. Someone who is squeamish, for example, should look beyond the medical and nursing fields to a potential job they are more suited to pursue. Casting a wide net is helpful to include careers that are viable and fulfilling. Sticking to stale stereotypes and outdated ideas is not helpful in choosing a career. Working 90,000 hours at a job whose main attraction is retirement is not a good career move. Most people have more working hours than retirement hours. Take the time to give yourself a lot of job options in hopes of finding a career that will fit you well.



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## Senior Snippet

Graduation is almost here! As of the publication of this Chronicle, there are only 11 school days left for graduating seniors! Wow! Here are some last minute reminders:

- Don't leave assignments to the last minute!
- Complete Assignment 4.09 (and the Career Plan found within that assignment) asap—preferably by this Friday, May 15th. It is a requirement for graduation.
- If you have not yet applied to college for the fall, it may not be too late!
- If you have not yet applied for financial aid, it's NOT too late!
- Remember, your BlueSky counselor is available to help you with college and career goals—even AFTER you graduate. So keep their contact information on file so you can reach out as needed in the coming years.
- Remember to complete all of the Graduation Ceremony stuff if you have not yet done so. Graduation is on Saturday, June 6th!

## Summer School

The deadline for registering for Summer School is passed--but there may still be openings if you missed registering for summer classes. Check with your BlueSky counselor.

- If you already signed up for summer school, you will be emailed confirmation of your registration towards the end of May--which will require a response from you to confirm your interest. If you do not respond, you will not be enrolled in summer classes.

## Pass/No Credit Option

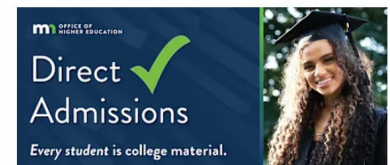
All students are allowed to request a Pass/No Credit grade for 1 class per semester. Opting to do this means it has a neutral impact on the student's GPA. If you are wondering if you would benefit from a Pass or No Credit for a final grade for a class, it would be great to discuss this option with your BlueSky counselor, and the impact it may have on your transcript and future opportunities like college admissions. If you want to take advantage of this opportunity, this form must be completed no later than the last day of the class.

[Pass/No Credit Request Form](#)

## Direct Admissions

### Attention current 11th grade students (2027 Graduates)

BlueSky 2027 graduates will benefit from the Direct Admissions Minnesota program this coming fall! Direct Admissions offers seniors a look at the many college options they have after high school by proactively notifying them of which Minnesota colleges and universities they are accepted to - before they even apply! Check out this video below to learn more!



[Direct Admissions Minnesota - You are college ready!](#)

## Alumni Spotlight

### Damian (Shar) Pfeffer

Damian (Shar) Pfeffer is a 2021 graduate of BlueSky! Right after graduating, Damian started a cleaning company. He sold his half to his business partner almost 2 years ago and has since been trying other careers. He has not gone to college (yet), but feels like he has accomplished a lot! He travelled extensively in the US and plans to expand outside of the US in the next few years. Damian recently started playing instruments again and has found great joy in that. Damian currently lives in Fargo, North Dakota and is working as an Insurance Agent for Nodak Insurance. He completed a

training program for this position. He is living the single life and spends time with his sister and her baby.

When asked about a memory about his time at Bluesky, he commented: "I mostly remember how the teachers made me feel. The support and guidance I had was honestly life changing. Prior school experience told me to not trust teachers, but Bluesky showed me I could. I've always been smart, but my struggle was with having good relationships with teachers. One of my most fond memories was getting the chance to join the National Honor Society the first year it was available at Bluesky. Thank you Bluesky for being here for the kids that need it!"



Damian's has the following advice for current BlueSky students: "Life is all **but** easy, try and remember that life is ever changing. Use this time to find who you are and where you want to go. Even just general ideas of things you like or feel passionately about. You will be okay, and you belong here! No matter what happens or where life takes you, you deserve to take up space, give and receive love, and enjoy this worldly experience. After high school, life truly does speed up, so take a second to slow down and take in your current experiences."

Damian would like to give a shout-out to Carrie (advisor) and Carla (counselor), stating "My team of people were very caring and helpful. They checked in often and knew my situation wasn't very good but never judged me for it. They encouraged me and took time to learn about me. After graduation I really missed being able to ask them questions; truly, they gave guidance and that meant the world to me."

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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](#)

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## Featured Occupation

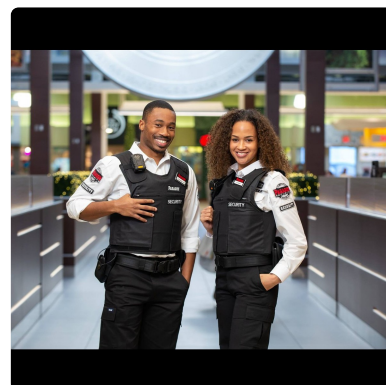
Featured Occupation: Security Guard

Education Required: High School Diploma & On The Job Training

Outlook: Little or no change

Median Wage: \$46,020 annually

Job Duties: Security guards play an important role in keeping people, property, and facilities safe. They patrol areas, monitor alarms and surveillance systems, enforce rules, and respond quickly to emergencies while staying alert for anything unusual.



Guards may control building access, conduct routine security checks, and document their observations, all while working to deter theft or criminal activity. In settings like offices, retail stores, and event spaces, they help protect employees, visitors, and valuable assets, helping create a safe and secure environment for everyone.

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## 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](#)

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

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## Meet The Counselors



[Email Carla](#) - 651-202.2025

[Email Grant](#) - 651.202.2046

[Email Jennifer](#) - 651.202.2051

[Email Alisa](#) - 651-202-2026

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**Scholarships**

**College & Career Fair Open Houses**



**BlueSky Online School**

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