



Sterling High School

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www.sterlingpublicschools.org/shs

Jason Austin, Principal
Tad Everett, Superintendent

Sterling High School is the largest high school in the Sauk Valley Area, serving approximately 1050 students. Its picturesque campus is located at 1608 4th Avenue and serves its students with nationally recognized academics, a state renowned fine arts program, and championship level athletics.

Sterling High School is a place “Where Kids Achieve”. For the last five years Sterling High School has been recognized nationally **SEVEN** times by *U.S. News and World Reports* and *The Washington Post*. These honors rank Sterling High School’s academic achievement second to none in the Sauk Valley Area and in the top 9% of all high schools nationally. In 2016 Sterling High School was also recognized as an Apple Distinguished School, for our work infusing technology, curriculum, and creative learning spaces to increase student engagement and better prepare the students of Sterling High School for college and career.

Sterling High School’s ability to provide the most rigorous classes for each of its students has helped it obtain these prestigious honors. In the fall of 2014, Sterling High School raised the bar with the implementation of a one-to-one MacBook Air Initiative. Sterling High School has used this initiative to extend the learning environment and better prepare SHS graduates for college and career and to further integrate the 21st Century Tech Skills into each course. Its ability to offer the most Advanced Placement courses (16) of any school in the area assures an environment where college and career readiness is the focus. It is now becoming tradition at Sterling High School not just to graduate from high school ready to begin college courses, but to graduate high school already having completed college courses to help ensure each student’s success in college and career. To this end Sterling High School has been accepted into a national partnership with Equal Opportunity Schools to increase the number of students taking and passing Advanced Placement Tests. This partnership is made possible through Harvard Education Labs and the Google Global Impact Grant.

Academics

- In 2013-2016 Sterling High School received the highest recognition possible by the Illinois State Board of Education for Advanced Placement Participation and the second highest recognition possible for Advanced Placement Achievement.
- In 2016, Sterling High School students completed 700 college-level courses through College Board’s Advanced Placement and Sauk Valley Community College.
- Sterling High School’s access to rigorous Advanced Placement courses and dual enrolled courses helped the graduating class of 2016 earn over \$2.3 million in scholarships and grants.

Fine Arts

- Sterling High School boasts two choirs, a marching band, symphonic band, and pep band, as well as a full orchestra.
- In 2013, Sterling High School’s band director and drama director were recognized by the Illinois Alliance for the Arts in Education for their advocacy for the arts in school.
- Each year Sterling High School presents both an award winning play and musical in the state-of-the-art Sterling High School Centennial Auditorium.

Athletics

- In 2014, Sterling High School’s softball team was crowned conference, regional, sectional, and super-sectional champions on their way to a 3rd place finish in the Illinois High School Association 3A tournament.
- The Sterling High School football team has made the IHSA playoffs a school record 11 out of the last 12 years.
- Over the last 3 years, Sterling High School has won 19 Northern Illinois Big 12 Conference Championships, 12 IHSA Regional Championships, advanced 50 students-athletes, and 4 teams to state in its 15 IHSA sports.