# SWWC STARRS ONLINE ACADEMY



### Helping students achieve their potential through individualized educational opportunities.

**STARRS Online Academy** is an MDE-approved non-diploma program that expands educational opportunities for students. Students remain enrolled in their home district and take online courses to meet graduation requirements. Our courses are taught by Minnesota licensed teachers specializing in online teaching through the use of interactive and engaging course experiences.

Students who benefit from **STARRS Online** are:

- struggling in school due to social reasons (ie. bullying, anxiety, peer distraction, etc)
- have a complex home situation (ie. multiple homes, family commitments/responsibilities, etc)
- dealing with a health concern that requires at home rest or frequent appointments
- looking for an opportunity to work at a faster pace
- behind in credits, but still want to graduate on time
- looking for a flexible schedule due to demanding extracurricular activities or part-time jobs etc
- wanting to take a course(s) that isn't offered through the district
- needing a credit to graduate, but weren't able to get into the in-person course
- previously homeschooled or who want to start homeschooling, but want more structure, guidance, and to have the coursework provided.

#### **STARRS Online** provides the following for students:

- a flexible asynchronous learning opportunity
- courses with built in accommodations for all students (additional time, retakes, audio and visual instruction, guided notes, etc)
- credit recovery course options
- the ability to finish courses at a faster pace
- a summer school option (credit recovery only)
- Spanish and French courses (taught by a licensed and fluent speaking teacher)
- all core classes plus a multitude of elective course options
- direct access to licensed teachers for each of their courses for questions, guidance, and/or additional instruction
- 24/7 Edgenuity support via a live chat feature (responds typically within 30 seconds or less)
- regular virtual meetings with teacher for all K-5 students
- workbooks to supplement online coursework for all K-5 students



## Stephanie Strenge

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School district benefits through **STARRS Online**:

- Since you pay a per credit tuition fee, you can still include these credits in your MARRS report (our tuition is less than the aid you will receive)
- Maintain higher enrollment numbers without creating larger class sizes
- Offer elective courses that may not be an option otherwise due to hiring or budget restraints
- An opportunity to keep families who want to pull out for homeschooling enrolled in the district
- A flexible option to meet the needs of all of your students
- An opportunity to offer Credit Recovery courses without using an ALP/ALC, summer school, or night school
- Maintain/increase graduation rates by allowing students to take credit recovery courses alongside first-attempt courses in order to get back on track.



#### MTSS

Beginning 2024-25, we will be implementing an official multi-tiered system of support (MTSS). This will be
primarily executed by our STARRS Online staff, but will require some participation of the district (mentor) and
families.

#### **Required Online Orientation Mini Course**

• Beginning 2024-25, we will be requiring all students to complete a very short orientation course that will better prepare them for the STARRS Online program and set them up for success.

#### Other

- Guided Notes for courses can now be filled in online rather than needing to print them.
- More options for EL students to hear instruction in their primary language (top 7 languages).
- Students will have the ability to upload assignments directly from their Google Drive or iCloud account

For more information, visit

# www.swwc.org/STARRS

or contact Dawn Christensen, Online Learning Manager <u>dawn.christensen@swwc.org</u> 507-537-2278