

# OUTSTANDING MIDDLE/SECONDARY AGED PROGRAM



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EDEN VALLEY-WATKINS**

## OVERVIEW

Eden Valley-Watkins has 442 students at the secondary level in grades 7-12. In 2022 Eden Valley-Watkins was able to add a third agriculture instructor to their program to help reach students in 7th and 8th grade. All 7th-9th grade students take an exploratory agriculture class, once in 9th grade, students are able to take other elective agriculture offered. With this structure, every student that graduates has taken at least 3-5 agriculture courses by graduation. There are 30 program courses that are offered. Students can earn college credit through the U of M and Ridgewater college, as well as articulated college credit through the Minnesota State system.

Eden Valley-Watkins program mission is to provide engaging learning opportunities for students that are relevant, rigorous and relationship-centered. Their program provides hands-on experiences that offer relevance to real world situations and help build career skills. Cross-curricular standards of science, math, social and English are also incorporated throughout courses helping to expand upon students' prior knowledge while showcasing the relevancy and opportunities within the agricultural field. EVW strives to tie in current situations going on in our local community, state, nation and world and tie it to what we are teaching in the classroom.

*Its commitment to academic rigor, hands-on learning, and community engagement sets a standard of excellence that is truly unmatched. I am confident that all students that participate in this program emerge not only as knowledgeable and skilled individuals but also students who have a better understanding and admiration for the agricultural industry.*

*~Dave Schneider, EVW Secondary Principal*

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