northernvalleycareer
EXPO

School Attendance Guide

Wednesday, October 28, 2026

Alerus Center, 1200 S 42nd St, Grand Forks, ND 58201

On behalf of the NVCE Planning Committee, thank you for taking the time out of your schedules to bring your students to this amazing event! We're looking forward to greeting you and your students at the expo.

This guide was created to help prepare you and your students for what to expect, how to navigate, and set everyone up for success to have a positive experience!



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Key Dates

10/7 **Student Schedules Sent**
For the students that registered by the priority deadline, the primary school contact should receive student schedules via email.

If you did not receive the email, please check with other school contacts to see if they received it, and/or check your junk/ spam folder.

10/21 **Final Day for Student Registrations**

10/23 **Late Registrations Emailed to School Primary Contact**

Day of Expo Timeline

Wednesday, October 28 | Morning

9:20 am **Morning Groups Start**
1/2 in sessions | 1/2 on expo floor

9:45 am **Breakout Session A-A Ends**
Expo floor continue exploring

9:50 am **Breakout Session A-B Starts**
1/2 in sessions | 1/2 on expo floor

10:15 am **Sessions & Expo Floor End**
Switch, Floor -> Sessions, Sessions -> Floor

10:25 am **2nd 1/2 of Morning Groups Start**
1/2 in sessions | 1/2 on expo floor

10:50 am **Breakout Session B-A Ends**
Expo floor continue exploring

10:55 am **Breakout Session B-B Starts**
1/2 in sessions | 1/2 on expo floor

11:20 am **Morning Sessions Conclude**
Gather students and depart

Wednesday, October 28 | Afternoon

12:15 pm **Afternoon Groups Start**
1/2 in sessions | 1/2 on expo floor

12:40 pm **Breakout Session C-A Ends**
Expo floor continue exploring

12:45 pm **Breakout Session C-B Starts**
1/2 in sessions | 1/2 on expo floor

1:10 pm **Sessions & Expo Floor End**
Switch, Floor -> Sessions, Sessions -> Floor

1:20 pm **2nd 1/2 of Afternoon Groups Start**
1/2 in sessions | 1/2 on expo floor

1:45 pm **Breakout Session D-A Ends**
Expo floor continue exploring

1:50 pm **Breakout Session D-B Starts**
1/2 in sessions | 1/2 on expo floor

2:15 pm **Afternoon Sessions Conclude**
Gather students and depart

Watch Expo Video

BEFORE THE EXPO

If you have not yet shown the expo video to your students, we would encourage you to show it to them!

The video provides a great overview of what to expect, and what the expo looks like.



NorthernValleyCareers.com

Review Student Schedule

BEFORE THE EXPO

Review schedule with students.

Print off the student schedules.

Distribute schedules on the bus or right before leaving to avoid losing.

The primary contact that registered for each school should have received an auto-generated email with a pdf document containing 1 page for each student registered with their schedule on **Wednesday, October 7, 2026** for those registered by the priority deadline and Friday, October 23, 2026 for late registration.

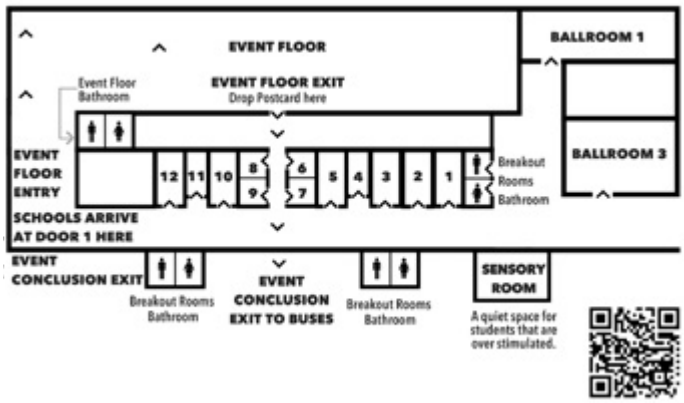
Maliskey, Mark
Badger School District

2026 MOCK SCHEDULE

Northern Valley Career Expo Schedule

Time	Session	Room
9:20 - 9:45 AM	Engineering (Mechanical/Electrical)	10
9:50 - 10:15 AM	Fisheries & Wildlife (Natural Resource Management)	12
10:25 - 11:20 AM	Floor	Floor

Alerus Center Map



WELCOME

Follow this schedule and map.

Open expo bag & find:

- POSTCARD GAME
  - Ask good questions = get a star
  - Fill stars = turn in for prize drawing
  - Turn in when exiting floor
  - Prize = $100 gift card
- STUDENT HANDOUT
  - Suggested questions to ask for stickers
  - Companies attending the expo
  - Expo overview & what to expect

Complete survey after expo = Enter Drawing for $100 Gift Card
Scan code or www.NorthernValleyCareers.com

Need Assistance?

Look for people wearing shirts with this logo:

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Way-finding Signage

BEFORE THE EXPO



LOOK UP FOR SIGNS

When looking for their assigned sessions in the breakout rooms, encourage students to LOOK UP to find the room names!

SIGNS OUTSIDE ROOMS

Posted outside of each room will be a sign with the title of the session corresponding to each session. If students are unsure if they're in the right place, have them look there.



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Student Handout

BEFORE THE EXPO

AVAILABLE IN EXPO BAG

When students enter the expo floor, they will receive an expo bag. That bag will contain a handout and an interactive game. The bags are also the indicator for if students have been on the expo floor yet.

WIN $100 AT TODAY'S EXPO!

HERE'S HOW:

1. ASK QUESTIONS AT BOOTHS

Get out there and learn today! Come up with your own questions to ask about your future career path. If you're stuck, try some of these:

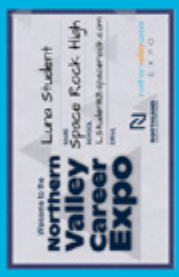
- I want to be a _____. Do you have a career for me at your company?
- What kind of training or education do I need?
- What should I do now as a student to prepare myself for this career?
- Do you offer tours or job shadowing?
- Tell me about what it is like working for your company.
- What is a typical day like in your career field?
- What is your company's average salary? What other perks do your employees have?
- What's the best thing about living in this region?



FRONT



BACK





2. EARN STARS

Every exhibitor has markers to give you a star. If they think you're doing a good job of asking relevant questions, you may earn stars on your postcard.

3. DROP YOUR CARD IN THE SPACESHIP WINDOW ON YOUR WAY OUT

As you leave the expo floor, you'll find a spaceship. Be sure to write your name and info on your postcard and drop it into the window before you leave. Four winners will be chosen to win a $100 gift card after the event.



4. TAKE THE SURVEY FOR AN EXTRA CHANCE

We want to know what you think! On your way home, go to **northernvalleycareers.com** or scan the QR code below to take the student survey, giving you an extra chance at $100.

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Student Handout

BEFORE THE EXPO

AVAILABLE IN EXPO BAG

When students enter the expo floor, they will receive an expo bag. That bag will contain a handout, postcard game, and candy.

MARQUEE

Northland Community & Technical College

PLATINUM

Altru Health System
Lake Region State College
Mayville State University
Minnesota State Community & Technical College
North Dakota State College of Science
RDO Equipment Co.
Red River Regional Education Cooperative
Sanford Health
Titan Machinery
University of North Dakota
United States Postal Service

GOLD

Acme Tools
American Crystal Sugar
Butler Machinery Company
Carpenters Training Institute
Minnkota Power Cooperative
National Center for Autonomous Technologies
University of Minnesota Crookston
UND School of Medicine & Health Sciences
Xcel Energy Foundation

SILVER

Bismarck State College
Energy & Environmental Research Center
Forks Lath & Plaster, Inc.
Leading Edge Equipment
Marvin
Northern Plains Rail Services
Rydell Auto Center
US Border Patrol

BRONZE

Area Special Education Coop.
Cavalier Ambulance Service
Grand Forks Region EDC
Integrated Steel, Inc.
Lunseth Plumbing and Heating Co.
Northrop Grumman
Wallwork Truck Center

EXHIBITOR

Advanced Drainage Systems, Inc.
AE2S
Alerus Financial
Associated Builders & Contractors
Bergstrom Electric
Black Gold Farms
Bolton & Menk, Inc.
Center for Business Engagement & Development
Central Boiler Companies
Central Lakes College Heavy Equipment
Cirrus Aircraft
City of Grand Forks
Construction Engineers, Inc.
Custom Aire, Inc.
Dakota College at Bottineau
Development Homes
DigiKey
East Grand Forks Water & Light
Fastenal
First Care Health Center
Gate City Bank
GE Vernova
General Atomics
Grove Mechanical
HireQuest Direct
ICS Grand Forks
Ironhide Equipment
Job Service North Dakota
KAZE Drones
Kittson Healthcare
Machinewell, Inc.
Minnesota State Patrol

EXHIBITOR

Modern Technology Solutions, Inc.
ND Dept. of Health & Human Services
ND Dept. of Transportation
ND CPA Society
ND Highway Patrol
ND Mill & Elevator Association
NDSU School of Pharmacy
Northern Plains UAS Test Site
Opp Construction
R.J. Zavoral & Sons, Inc.
RealTruck
Steffes
Unity Medical Center
Valley Senior Living
Vigen Construction, Inc.
Winland Foods
Wright Tree Service

Interactive Activity

BEFORE THE EXPO

AVAILABLE IN EXPO BAG

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COLLECT STICKERS

The student with the most stamps filled in can turn in their postcard at the end of their expo floor time for a chance to **win a $100 Visa gift card!**

ASK QUESTIONS

Company representatives/exhibitors on the expo floor have markers that they can star a student's postcard with if they ask good questions/ positively participate!

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Where To Go & Check In

WHEN YOU ARRIVE & LEAVE

ENTER THROUGH DOOR 1

- Please enter the Alerus Center through door 1, located at the far south east side of the building.

CHECK-IN & PROVIDE STUDENT #

- Check in with the expo volunteers and provide them with the total number of students you brought with you to the expo.

WAIT TO CHECK IN 15 MINS PRIOR

- If you **arrive more than 15 minutes early** to the expo, please wait on the bus to allow event staff adequate amount of time to set up or eat lunch.

NO OUTSIDE FOOD OR DRINKS

- Thank you for leaving outside food and drinks on the bus, as they're not allowed in the Alerus Center.



MAKE A MEET UP PLAN FOR EXIT
Communicate to your students where to meet at the completion of the expo.

STUDENTS EXIT DOORS 6, 7, 8
At the end of the expo, students will exit the building at doors 6, 7, and 8.

REQUESTED BUS PARKING LOCATION
Outlined in red on the map above is where buses are requested to park and for students and transportation after the conclusion of the expo.

There are a LARGE number of buses, please be sure your bus clearly indicates your school.

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Complete The Survey

AFTER THE EXPO

Once your school has attended the expo and you're on the way back to the school, it is a perfect time to complete the student and school contact survey!

The survey links will also be put on the main page of NorthernValleyCareers.com during the expo.

QUESTIONS?



MN School Contact
Mark Maliskey
markm@grandforks.org
701-738-0238



ND School Contact
Dustin Hillebrand
duhillebrand@nd.gov
701-795-3703

STUDENT SURVEY

WIN $100 VISA GIFT CARD

Students who participate in the survey are entered into a drawing for a $100 Visa gift card!

surveymonkey.com/r/nvce

SCHOOL CONTACT SURVEY

Survey data is utilized to:

- Make event improvements for future events
- Communicate effectiveness of the event to area businesses, leaders, and stakeholders

surveymonkey.com/r/nvce-schools