OUR CAREER-THEMED ACADEMIES

All Ben Davis Ninth Grade Center students find a home in one of our career-themed academies. We recognize that eventually they may change their minds about their career and life directions. The academies engage students' current interests and cover core academic and personal skills for wherever they go in life. The key is starting students on a plan for the future.

• **Adrenaline Academy** concentrates on health and human services. It is excellent for students who might want to work in medicine, health care, education, social work, law or hospitality and tourism.

• **Edge Academy** is for students who enjoy information technology and want to work in computer science.

• **Innovation Academy** students focus on science, technology, engineering and mathematics or STEM.

• **Key Academy** uses the AVID curriculum to build skills and provide additional support for students who might be the first generation in their family to attend college.
• **University Academy** is for students headed for the small-school environment of Ben Davis University High School (BDUHS). All BDUHS students have the opportunity to earn an associate’s degree from Vincennes University while still in high school.

• **Vincennes Career Academy** is for students headed to Area 31 Career Center for one of our dual-credit associate’s degrees while in high school. These career paths can lead directly to the workforce or to college.

• **WNGC Academy** is for students who are interested in media, communications, acting, music and debate. Each academy averages about 175 students, so your ninth grade student is part of a small group where students know each other and teachers know each student.

Not sure where your student belongs? Our counselors, videos and materials will help you and your student find the right path.

**WE UNDERSTAND THAT NINTH GRADERS ARE NINTH GRADERS**

We build in safety nets and interventions. If students fall behind, we don’t let that turn into failure. They have multiple opportunities to make up for deficiencies. Arriving at grade 10 with sufficient credits opens up their elective options in high school.

Academy Period is a daily class that is a consistent “home” for students. Students connect with the academy theme and work on study skills and organization. Every student carries a binder to organize his or her class work and study materials. Studying is a must. Academy Period helps assure no student falters.
“My team (Innovation Academy) was very helpful, the teachers were very knowledgeable and a great deal of help when the curriculum got tough. It was an inviting atmosphere.”

Ben Davis High School

“Adrenaline Academy emphasized medicine and the sciences, which encouraged me to take more AP/IB science courses such as physics, chemistry and biology. By offering anatomy and physiology at the Ninth Grade Center, my academy piqued my interest in the sciences, and I hope to pursue a career in medicine.”

— Chastity Li, 2014 Ben Davis High School Valedictorian and Harvard University student

We know students will grow during ninth grade. We’re ninth grade specialists and we’re here to make that happen.
CLEAPATRA JACKSON

“The environment at Ben Davis Ninth Grade Center made students want to focus and succeed. The teachers were willing to walk me step by step with things I didn’t understand.”

Ben Davis University High School

JAYLIN COLES

“My experience at the Ninth Grade Center was certainly an amazing one. I am eternally grateful for the way Ben Davis Ninth Grade Center set a foundation for the rest of my educational path.”

Ben Davis University High School

“My experience with the career exploration at the Ninth Grade Center was outstanding.”

— Guillermo Duarte, Ben Davis University High School

“The staff of the University Academy all found the time to make sure I was striving to meet my educational potential. The strong support system of the Ninth Grade Center University Academy truly gave me that competitive edge.”

— Jaylin Coles, Ben Davis University High School

Students are going to connect with someone and something at Ben Davis Ninth Grade Center that will drive them for the next three years.
IT'S NOT TOO EARLY TO THINK ABOUT COLLEGE

Students in all academies take a field trip to a university while they are in the Ninth Grade Center.

WHAT WE CREATED HERE IS WORKING

The specialized focus on ninth grade students, the support systems and credit recovery interventions are making a difference. The district’s graduation rate has increased more than 30 points since we opened the Ben Davis Ninth Grade Center.

Our goal: all students will leave Ben Davis Ninth Grade Center on track to graduate with a GPA that opens the door to an amazing future!