

Last year, David Swartzfager decided on a whim to try out some dual enrollment classes at Montcalm Community College.

After completing three college classes in one semester while a junior at Lakeview High School, Swartzfager began to look more seriously at dual enrollment.

"Miss (Emily) Dimet came to our high school and talked about it, and it sounded like it would help with college, so I decided to try it," Swartzfager said. "After that first semester, I had three college classes completed. The high school pays for it, and I realized it would not only be a great way to help keep college costs down, but it would also help me get a head start on my college."

Dual enrollment at MCC allows students in the ninth- through twelfth-grades to take college-level courses while still in high school and receive both high school and college credit. Through dual enrollment, students can take up to 10 college classes, and their high school helps pay tuition and fees up to an approved dollar amount.

Swartzfager takes high school classes in the morning, then his college courses in the afternoon.

"The nice thing is my high school is really good about helping