

Forest Park Jr/Sr High School: College & Career Readiness

Career Resource Highlight

Next Level Jobs aims to take the state's workforce to the next level with a focus on high-demand jobs driving Indiana's economy forward. Indiana's Workforce Ready Grant provides tuition free training to earn a certificate in five of the state's growing fields: Advanced Manufacturing, Building & Construction, IT & Business Services, Health & Life Sciences, and Transportation & Logistics. These jobs are expanding rapidly. For seniors, this is an opportunity to consider if planning to pursue a certificate program in one of these fields. If interested, apply online after filing the FAFSA and enrolling in a qualifying program.



All Aboard the 2022 Career Cruise!

On Thursday, April 7th, over 550 8th grade students from across the county gathered together at the Dubois County Career Cruise! Students were able to explore the many employment opportunities available to them after they finish their education.

The cruise was divided into six career clusters: Arts & Communication, Business, Manufacturing & Logistics, Health Science, Hospitality, Human Services, & Finance, Law, Government, Public Safety, & Finance, and STEM, Construction, & Agriculture. Within these six career clusters, there were almost 60 booths representing different companies and industries available right here in our local community.

Students were divided into groups to travel from port to port as they participated in interactive activities available at each booth. Students were given plenty of time to partake in the many activities and ask employers questions about their career path. Eighth graders were surprised to see the variety of careers available here in our community.

There was a little something for everyone regardless of their interest level. Some of the highlights for students were: learning how to paint through a virtual reality simulator, using a robotic arm, playing games like Career Jeopardy and Career Scavenger Hunts, learning to loom, trying out a 3D printer, trying on fire fighting gear, reporting a newscast, and even eating an edible bug!

Many students had a preconceived notion that they will have to travel outside our local community to find employment in their desired field. The Career Cruise showed that there are many up and coming career opportunities right here in our own backyard. Local industries went above and beyond showing our students the opportunities that are available to them. Kids also loved seeing Forest Park alumni who are currently employed locally and ask them about their jobs.

Overall, the first annual Dubois County Career Cruise exceeded our expectations. Thank you to all of our local industries for your participation. Your enthusiasm was contagious!

National Decision Day: May 1, 2022

Seniors have prepared for National Decision Day for many months. May 1st is the day for most seniors to announce their post-secondary plans. With only a few more weeks of high school left, this day serves as a reminder for students that their future holds great things! Historically, this day is for students to officially commit to pursuing an education past high school, whether they plan to attend a 4 year university, a 2 year college, a certificate program, the military, or even on the job training. Many seniors are ready to announce exciting plans for their future. Although life will certainly throw them curve balls and plans often change, our seniors are equipped with the skill set to tackle those road blocks in order to achieve their career goals and remain life long learners.



College & Career Student Spotlight

Senior Student: Grace Andrews

Meet Senior Student Grace Andrews!

Post Secondary Plans: Grace plans to attend Ball State University in the fall where she will study Animation. She is excited about the campus as well as finding an in-state school that had her intended major. She's looking forward to meeting the new art professors at Ball State. Grace is also planning on continuing with music while participating in Ball State's Marching Band.

Future Outlook: In 10 years, Grace sees herself as an animator for children's media (cartoons, television shows, etc.) She would like to live in a rural area and potentially move to Canada.

High School Influence: Grace mentioned that taking art classes, especially drawing, has really helped influence her career path. She appreciated the career guidance from both her art and music teachers, including Ms. Taylor, Mr. Bradley, and Mr. Obermeyer.

On the Job Experience: Throughout high school, Grace worked as a babysitter. She has enjoyed watching children's shows with the kids she is caring for. She has especially enjoyed the art style of children's shows such as Gravity Falls and Steven University.

Advice for Younger Students: Grace suggests that younger high school students take advantage of different types of elective classes. She has found it helpful to take many different types of classes so she could get a feel for things before committing to one specific career path.

Seniors Looking for Employment after High School

On Friday, May 6th, senior students who are looking for either part time or full time employment are invited to attend a county wide career fair at Southridge High School. With over 30 different companies from various industries represented, students will be able to explore their career options at one location. This is a great opportunity for students still on the job market or for students who plan to attend college locally or through an online format. Many of our local industries are looking for employees. Interested seniors are encouraged to attend the group of Forest Park students that plan to participate in the career fair.