

College & Career Readiness Continuum

NKC Schools College & Career Pathways

- School of Business, Leadership & Entrepreneurship
- School of Design, Innovation & Technology
- School of Health & Wellness
- School of Human & Public Services

PreK

Foundations of Career Learning

Students explore career opportunities through play.

- Create play scenarios that mimic real-world job responsibilities.
- Engage students by providing an opportunity to dress up in clothes and props to role-play various jobs.

Experiences Defined By

- Career on Wheels °*
- Career Discovery Day of Play
- Career Learning Stations

K

Discovering Careers Through Curiosity

Exploring Careers through inquiry and questions.

- Ask questions about the roles of people in various jobs.
- Explore how different jobs make our community a better place.

Experiences Defined By

- Career Learning Stations °*
- College and Career Genius Hour
- Wonderscope
- College and Career Spirit Week

**1st
GRADE**

Learning About Careers Together

Exploring Careers Around "Me" (Family/ Guardians)

- Learn about the roles of family members or guardians in their jobs.
- Understand how these roles contribute to the family and community.

Experiences Defined By

- College and Career Genius Hour
- Industry-Themed Wonder Day(s)
- College and Career Spirit Week °*

**2nd
GRADE**

Discovering Local Careers

Exploring Careers Around "Me" (Community Interactions)

- Learn about the roles of community helpers like teachers, firefighters, and doctors.
- Understand how these helpers contribute to the community and interact with each other.

Experiences Defined By

- Mini-Society/ Makers Market
- College and Career Genius Hour °*
- College and Career Spirit Week

**3rd
GRADE**

Identifying Careers Within the Community

Identifying careers within the community.

- Explore the different types of jobs people have in our community.
- Understand how these jobs help our community function and thrive.

Experiences Defined By

- Mini-Society/ Makers' Market °*
- School of Economics
- College and Career Spirit Week

**4th
GRADE**

Investigating Careers and Community Impact

Investigating how careers help our community.

- Explore how different careers contribute to the community.
- Understand the needs of the community and how careers address them.

Experiences Defined By

- Mini-Society/ Makers' Market °
- Genius Hour "Passion Projects" (Focusing on UN Global Issues)
- Junior Achievement BizTown *
- College and Career Spirit Week

**5th
GRADE**

Exploring How Careers Shape Our Community

Exploring how careers shape our community.

- Understand how careers in different fields impact the community.
- Explore how individual career choices can influence the community's growth.

Experiences Defined By

- Future Ready Lab °*
- Pathway Connection Day with Feeder Pattern Ambassadors
- Portrait of a Graduate Showcase °*
- Dress for Success

**Partner
with
Pathways**



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COLLEGE & CAREER EXPOSURE

6th
GRADE

Discovering Career Competencies

Exploring post-secondary paths and career clusters, linking careers to income, interests, skills, and competencies.

- Identify personal values to understand what matters most and how these values relate to future career choices.
- Learn about different careers by researching the skills needed in various fields.

Experiences Defined By

- Game of Life (*Financial Literacy*) °*
- Career Assessment(s)
- Virtual College Tours

7th
GRADE

Exploring Your Path

Identifying strengths, interests, and values to explore necessary competencies across careers.

- Discover strengths by engaging in activities to uncover unique talents and abilities.
- Explore interests through exercises that align with potential careers, and set goals based on these strengths and interests.

Experiences Defined By

- Workplace Tour °*
- Agile Work Profiler

8th
GRADE

Exploring Personal and Career Pathways

Deepening understanding of personal strengths, interest, and values to link to career interests, college and career pathways and any prerequisites.

- Engage in one-time sessions with mentors or career counselors to develop self-awareness and explore career paths.
- Use assessments and activities to identify personal values and their influence on career choices, helping students make informed future decisions.

Experiences Defined By

- Pathway Enrollment Fair °*
- Portrait of a Graduate Showcase °*

9th
GRADE

Exploring Your Path

Build awareness of the variety of careers available and the role of post-secondary education: broaden student options.

- One-time interaction with partner(s), often for a group of students
- Designed primarily by adults to broaden student's awareness of a wide variety of careers and occupations

Experiences Defined By

- Guest Speaker *
- Off-Campus Program Fair
- Industry-Themed Project(s) (*embedded experience(s)*) °*

COLLEGE & CAREER EXPLORATION

10th
GRADE

Learning ABOUT Work

Explore career options and post-secondary requirements for purpose of motivation and to inform decision-making in high school and post-secondary.

- Student taking an active role in selecting and shaping the experience
- Building skills needed for in-depth learning

Experiences Defined By

- Resume Writing*
- Mock Interview*
- Informational Interview
- College, Career, Trade, Military, Alumni Panel
- On-Campus College Tours °
- Industry-Themed Project(s) (*embedded experience(s)*) °*

COLLEGE & CAREER PREPARATION

11th
GRADE

Learning THROUGH Work

Apply learning through practical experience that develops knowledge and skills necessary for success in careers and post-secondary education.

- Application of skills transferable to a variety of careers.
- Students participating in Real World Learning activities for success beyond the classroom

Experiences Defined By

- Mentorship *
- Job Shadow
- Client-Connected Project *
- Internship (*Career Fellowship Program*)
- NCC/NCAPS/ECA/CTEC
- College and Career Fair °

COLLEGE & CAREER TRAINING

12th
GRADE

Learning FOR Work

Train for employment and/or post-secondary education in a specific range of occupations.

- Mutual benefit to the student and the employer
- Developing mastery of occupation specific skills

Experiences Defined By °*

- Culminating Experience
- NCC/NCAPS/ECA/CTEC
- Internship (*Career Fellowship Program*)
- Apprenticeship
- On-The-Job Training
- Work Experience
- Graduate Kick-Start
- Hiring Fair
- College Connections

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Pathways**

