

DARTMOUTH SCHOOL COMMITTEE POLICIES

File: JFABZ

MIDDLE SCHOOL PATHWAY EXPLORATION

When considering their options for high school, Dartmouth Middle School students have the choice to continue on to Dartmouth High School or to apply to Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical High School and/or Bristol County Agricultural High School.

Students wishing to continue their education or earn an industry certification in various trades or industries are encouraged to explore specific offerings at each school. Dartmouth Middle School provides students with opportunities to participate in a number of secondary and post-secondary academic and career planning activities which carry potential connections to career and technical educational programs offered at each of the schools listed above. Students may identify and reflect on such connection through participation in career interest explorations, participation in Career Day, and through individual conferencing with the School Counselor.

Dartmouth Middle School students are provided access to School Counselors who connect with them throughout their three years as middle school students, engaging them in various college and career activities aimed at supporting them to plan a college and/or career pathway aligned to their individual goals and aspirations. As part of this process, students are afforded the opportunity, if interested to tour one or more of these high school options during the school day.

School Counselors provide individualized support to students when completing applications to high schools and in navigating the admissions process for each school to which they are applying. Support also includes parental outreach as necessary.

Dartmouth Middle School will collaborate with Greater New Bedford Vocational Technical High School and Bristol County Agricultural High School to identify critical information to be shared with all Dartmouth Middle School students to build awareness of the high school options available to them, including the opportunity to tour each school if they are interested. Dartmouth Middle School will collaborate with each school to ensure transportation is provided if necessary for students interested in touring any of the CTE schools available to them. The cost of transportation will be covered by the host school. Students who tour a high school during a scheduled school day will be recorded as an excused absence for the day in the Student Information System (SIS).

Dartmouth Middle School will make all Grade 7 and Grade 8 parents, families, and guardians aware that their child's contact information will be shared with Greater New Bedford Regional Vocational Technical High School and Bristol County Agricultural High School. Dartmouth Middle School will provide at least a two-week window of time for families to opt out of having their child's contact information shared with each of the schools.

Additionally, any other information required as part of the admission process will be shared by Dartmouth Middle School with the appropriate CTE school.

SOURCE: DESE Middle School Pathway Exploration Policy Guidance

LEGAL REFS.: Massachusetts State Regulations 603CMR 4.00

Adopted: October 27, 2025