

AMESBURY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

ELIZABETH MCANDREWS
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS



JOAN LIPORTO
DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND OPERATIONS

MARTHA ROBINSON
DIRECTOR OF STUDENT SERVICES

CHRISTOPHER HEATH
DIRECTOR OF TEACHING,
LEARNING & EQUITY

5 Highland Street
Amesbury, MA 01913
Tel : 978-388-0507
Fax : 978-388-7224

Amesbury Middle-High School Pathway Exploration Policy

The Amesbury Public School District is committed to ensuring that all middle school students and their families are well-informed about the wide range of educational options available to them for high school, including Career and Technical Education (CTE) and vocational programs. In compliance with Massachusetts state regulations (603 CMR 4.00) and guidance from the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), this policy outlines how our district provides students with awareness and exposure to CTE and vocational opportunities at local, regional, and agricultural public high schools.

High School Pathway Options:

- **Amesbury High School - 5 Highland Street, Amesbury, MA 01913**
 - Engineering Opportunities
 - Intro to Engineering courses, CAD, Robotics, Construction Technology, Manufacturing Technology
 - Healthcare Opportunities
 - Intro to Healthcare course, Anatomy & Physiology, Allied Health, Sports Medicine
 - Volunteer opportunities with Anna Jacques Hospital
- **Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School - 115 Amesbury Line Road, Haverhill, MA 01830**
 - Amesbury is a regional member and our students can apply for any of the Career Technical Education (CTE) Programs at Whittier.
 - **Programs:** Cosmetology, Culinary, Health Occupations, Hospitality Management, Marketing Education, Carpentry, Electrical, Masonry, Plumbing, CAD/Drafting, Business Technology, Electronics/Robotics, Engineering Technology, HVAC, Machine Technology, Metal Fabrication, Auto Body/Collision Repair, Automotive Technology, Marine Technology

Middle School Career Exploration:

Amesbury Public Schools have not yet officially adopted a middle school career exploration curriculum. For the 25-26 school year, Amesbury Middle School will implement the MEFA Pathway with the intention of combining it with MyCAP in the near future. This curriculum is designed to provide students with ongoing opportunities to plan for their academic, personal/social and career success in high school and beyond.

Amesbury Public Schools will implement this curriculum for the entire middle school, which includes students in grades 6 through 8. This will empower students to set personal, attainable goals based on individual interests and strengths. During the process of identifying individual strengths and goals, students will be exposed to the multiple college and career pathways options available in high school.

Informing Students of Available Pathways

Amesbury Public Schools will take the following steps annually to ensure students are informed about their high school options:

- **Information Sharing:** By October 15th of each school year, at the request of Whittier Vocational Technical High Schools, the Amesbury Public Schools will provide a list of student names, parent/guardian names, and addresses of currently enrolled 7th and 8th grade students (excepting those students for whom the parent/guardian has not provided a release to share the information).
- **On Campus Assemblies:** Through a mutually agreed upon date, all seventh and eighth grade students will have the opportunity to attend assemblies on the Amesbury Middle School campus hosted by Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School representatives.
- **School Tours:** Consistent with state law, the Amesbury Public Schools will collaborate with Whittier Regional Vocational High School to participate in tours during the school day as follows:
 - The Superintendent or their designee will partner with the Superintendent or their designee of Whittier Regional Vocational High School to identify a mutually agreeable date where interested 8th grade students can tour Whittier.
 - Tours will be scheduled to take place during school hours, consistent with state law, and will not exceed three hours, including travel time, to minimize the loss of instructional hours mandated by the state.
 - Consistent with School Committee Policy and administrative procedures, student participation in the tour is contingent upon receipt of a field trip permission form signed by the student's parent or legal guardian.
 - Student absences for tours will not be recorded as an unexcused absence and students will be responsible for completing any missed assignments.
 - Arrangement of and payment for transportation associated with school tours will be paid for by Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School.
 - Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School will be responsible for the provision of chaperones throughout the tour.
- **Promotion of Events:** Amesbury Public Schools will share information about Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School's Open Houses and other informational events on Amesbury Middle School's home page on the District's website and through regular communication channels including but not limited to principal newsletters and communication from the guidance office.
- **Application Interviews:** Amesbury Middle School will provide opportunities at the middle school during the school day for vocational schools to schedule in-person interviews with students who have applied.
- **Online Resources:** The Amesbury Public Schools will publish pertinent information about vocational school options, including links to admission applications, admission policies, and open house/informational event schedules on the Amesbury Middle School homepage on the District's website.
- **Providing Admissions Records to CTE Schools:** The Amesbury Public Schools will provide relevant information to Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School for students who have applied. This may include documentation of student interest, attendance records, and discipline records in accordance with the vocational school's approved admissions policy and DESE guidance.

Maintenance of Records

Amesbury Middle School will maintain a record of all on-site presentations, assemblies, and student tours to CTE schools, along with other relevant information about collaboration between the district and member CTE/vocational schools. These records will be made available to DESE upon request.