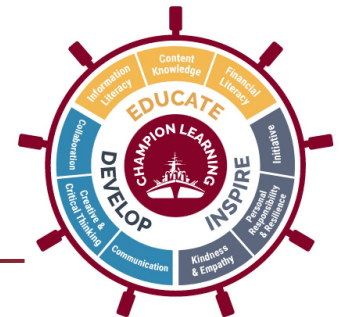


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# Career Fair Reflection

March 23, 2026



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# 9-12th Grade Career Day

The event was designed to give high school students meaningful exposure to real-world career pathways, helping them understand the skills, education, and personal qualities required across a wide range of professions. The annual career fair supports our district's commitment to preparing students for postsecondary success—whether that means college, skilled trades, military service, or direct entry into the workforce.

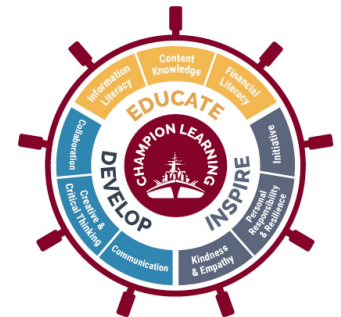


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# Core Goals

Dexter High School hosted a dynamic career fair on Monday, March 2nd, 2026. We invited a diverse array of professionals from various career fields to come speak to our students.

- *Expand Career Awareness*
- *Connect Learning to Real-World Application*
- *Build Community Partnerships*
- *Encourage Student Voice and Curiosity*



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# Overview of the Event

**Date:** March 2, 2026

**Student Attendees:** Approximately 1,000 students attended, spanning grades 9-12th

**Career Fair Speakers:** 100 different presenters at the fair

**Career Clusters Represented:** 16 out of 16

**Session Structure:** Students participated in three 35 minute presentations.

**Highlights:** *Aviation Panel, Military Panel, FBI Special Agent Bomb Tech, Sports Neurologist, Forensic Scientist, Journeyman Pipefitter, Principal Cloud Architect for MLB, and many more.*



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# Career Fair Student Selection Improvements

## Enhancements for 2026 Career Fair:

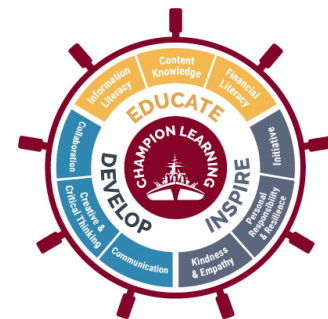
- Students will receive a [document of speaker bios](#) to review before making their session selections
- Introduction of **4 specialized panels** this year:
  - Military
  - Aviation
  - Nursing
  - Legal
- Panels allow students to explore **specialties within high-interest careers**
- Students gain exposure to **various perspectives and career journeys**



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# Coordinating Duplicate Careers

For careers with high student interest and multiple speakers in the same field (e.g., Physical Therapists, Social Workers, Physician Assistants), I reached out to those presenters to coordinate their efforts. They were asked to either present together or share presentation time within the same space.

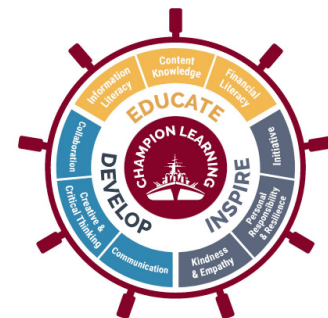


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# Student Selections Form Update

## Updates

- Improved the student selection form
- Students received automated schedules and updates
- Streamlined the scheduling process by including maximized occupancy controls:
  - a. As students selected a session, availability decreases in real time.
  - b. Once a session reached capacity, it automatically closed to further selections

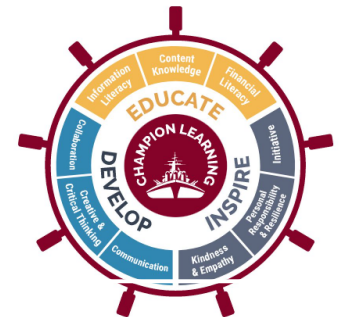


# 12th Grade Student Feedback



“ I had a presenter for what I am committed to do next year and I absolutely loved it and it confirmed that I am committed to the right choice.” - DHS senior

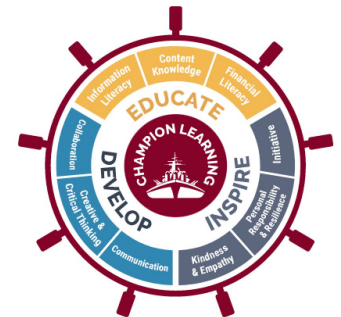
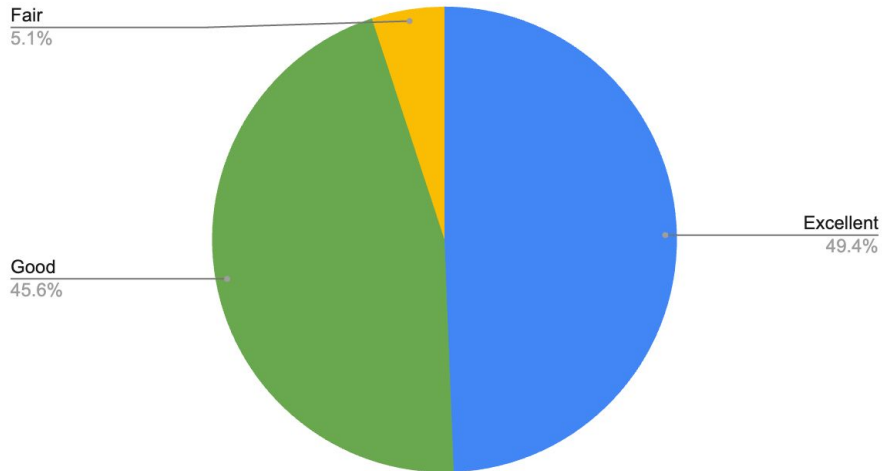
“Don’t wait around for opportunities, make your own.” - DHS senior



# 12th Grade Student Feedback

Overall, how would you rate the quality of the presentations?

12th Grade Feedback



# 11th Grade Student Feedback



“ Based on my experience with the career fair, I learned a ton about a career I have interest in, and potentially found my dream job” - DHS junior

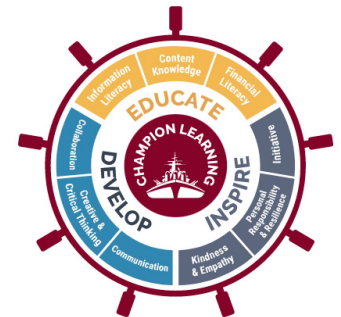
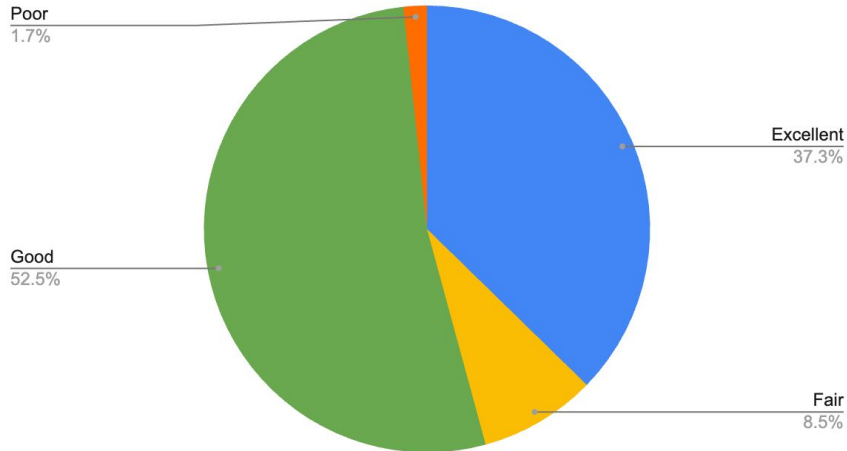
“ Not all career paths are linear and some people go through a lot of things before they find their passion.” - DHS junior



# 11th Grade Student Feedback

Overall, how would you rate the quality of the presentations?

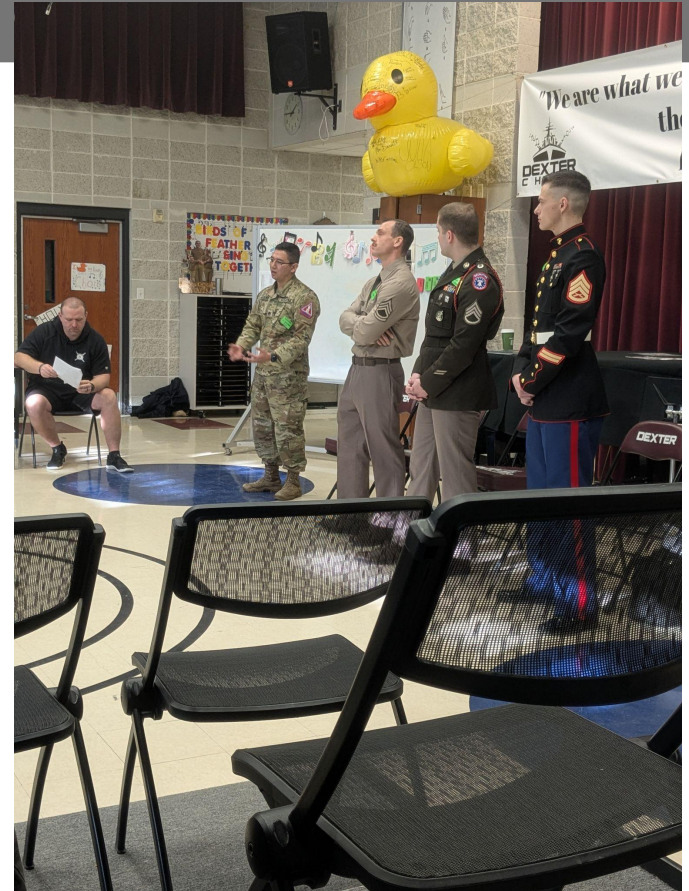
11th Grade Feedback



# 10th Grade Student Feedback

**“The nursing board was amazing and the structure was very good. - DHS sophomore**

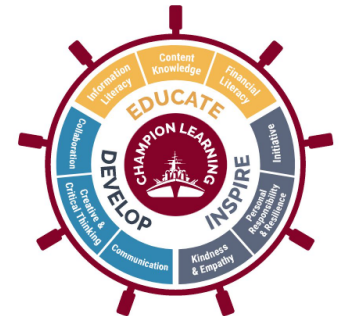
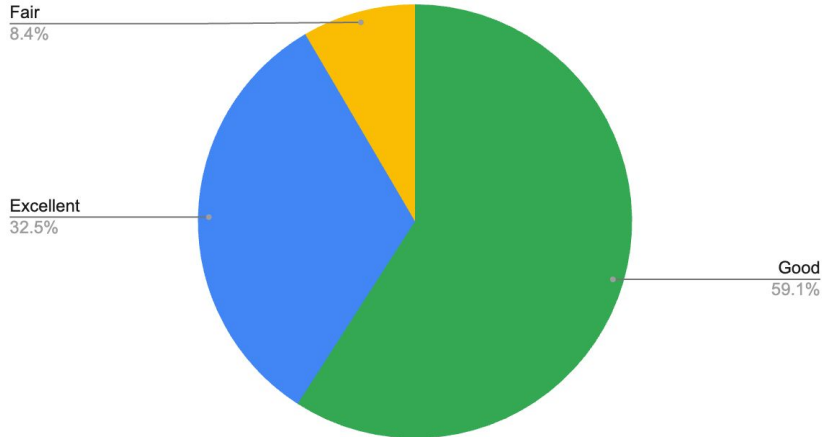
**“I learned that working in education is definitely what I want to do - DHS sophomore**



# 10th Grade Student Feedback

Overall, how would you rate the quality of the presentations?

10th Grade Student Feedback



# 9th Grade Student Feedback



DEXTER HIGH SCHOOL

“I learned all the ways to become a pilot, their salary, the sacrifices they have to make and the experiences they get. There also many possible jobs in aviation and they all pay well and they need more people to become pilots” - DHS freshman

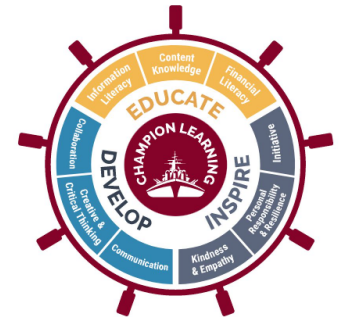
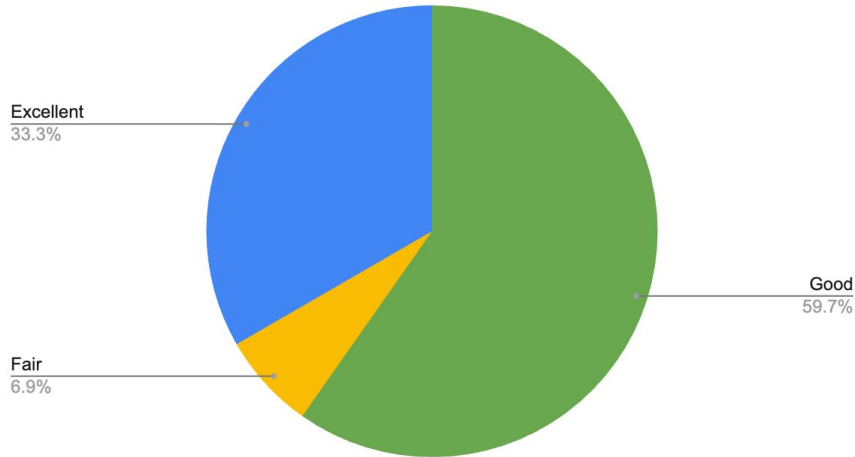
“I learned that the military is a job with many benefits and has many misconceptions - DHS freshman



# 9th Grade Student Feedback

Overall, how would you rate the quality of the presentations?

9th Grade Student Feedback



# Overall Student Quotes

**“Talk to people! Create a network! These could land you a great job.” - DHS freshman**

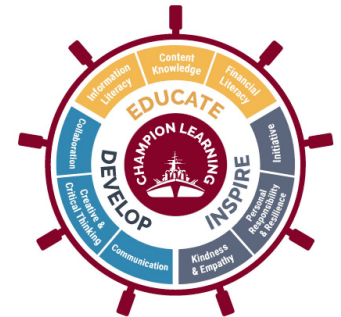
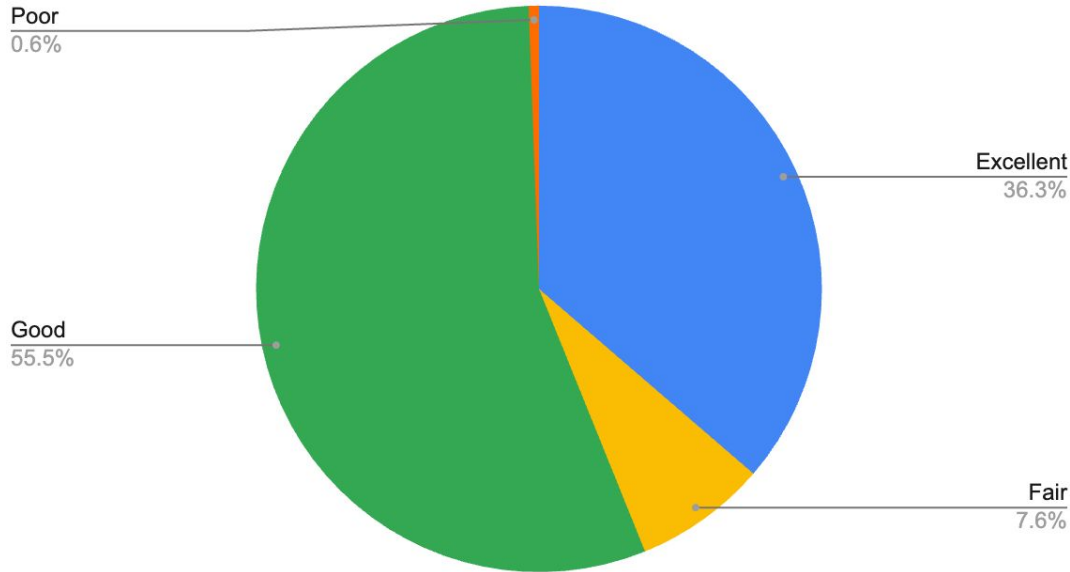
**“It’s okay to fail and make mistakes and to not be so hard on yourself.” - DHS junior**

**“Graphic arts is definitely in my future and I'm inspired to start creating.” - DHS junior**



# Overall Student Feedback

## Overall Student Feedback



# Speaker Feedback

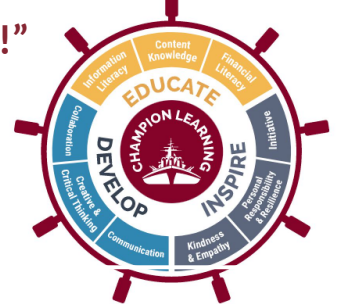


**“Love the timed sessions- was perfect! Also check in much easier this year!!! - Guest Speaker**

**“I was extremely impressed by how organized and well run this event was. Looking forward to participating in future years.” -Guest Speaker**

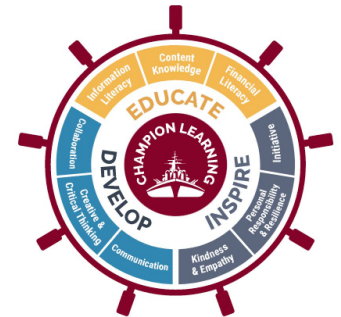
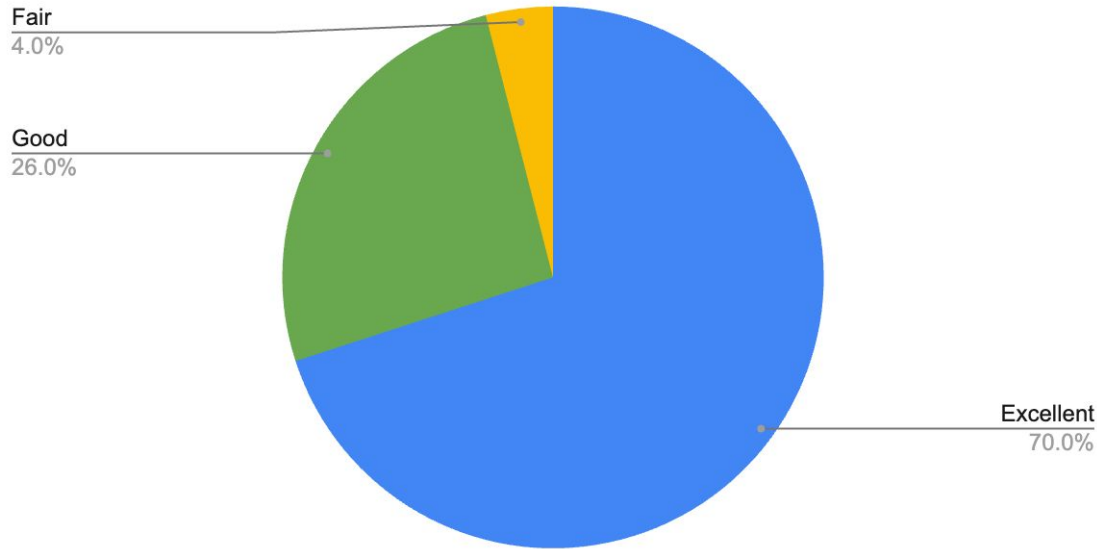
**“Keep encouraging participation and engagement from the students. We had some great discussions in my sessions!”**

**-Guest Speaker**



# Speaker Feedback

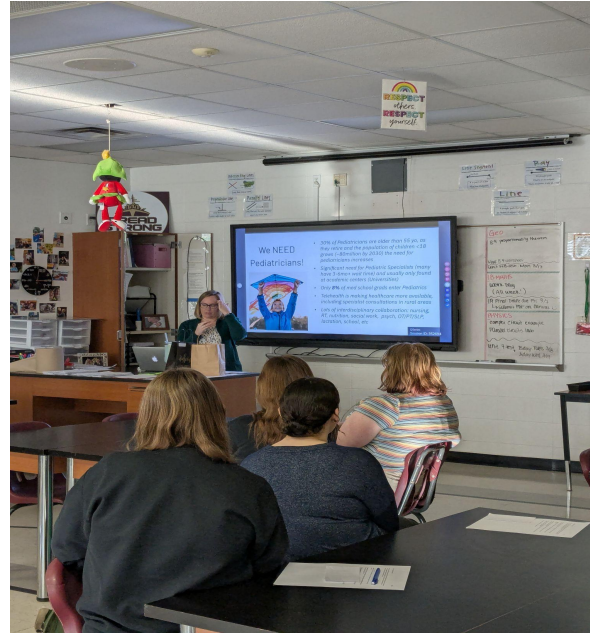
Count of How would you rate your overall experience at the career fair?



# Outcomes

- Career Exploration
- Educational Pathways
- Networking Opportunities
- Community Engagement
- Skills Development and Learner Profile Connection

Board Goal: The district will implement a robust post graduation planning process engaging all high school students and parents by the end of the 2024-2025 and expanded to engage middle and elementary school students and parents in 2025-2026.



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# Considerations for Next Year

- Brief participant meeting month prior to the event
- Quick activities tied to each presentation to encourage natural engagement
- Benchmarks within feedback surveys
- Student led panel

