

<i>Policy</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Code</i>
	MIDDLE SCHOOL PATHWAY EXPLORATION	JEC

HOLLISTON

Students in the Holliston Public Schools have multiple opportunities available to them for exploring and pursuing their future careers, and it is a priority of the district to continually expand these opportunities and align them with regional workforce needs. Residents of Holliston have access to career technical pathways, including Holliston High School, Keefe Regional Technical School, and agricultural career technical education opportunities such as Norfolk County Agricultural High School, as applicable and consistent with each school's admissions policies and procedures. This policy outlines the pathway exploration process for middle school students in Holliston Public Schools as they and their families make decisions about high school.

Middle School Career Exploration

The Holliston Public Schools' implementation of college and career planning for students directly connects the exploration of CTE schools and programs to a student's broader academic and career goals. Holliston works with students to explore their interests, skills, and values starting in middle school. This self-discovery process guides students as they research high school pathways and make informed decisions about which school environment, whether Holliston High School, Keefe Regional Technical School, an agricultural CTE program, or another applicable career technical education pathway, best aligns with their emerging goals.

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Informing Students of Available Pathways

Holliston 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 the Keefe Regional Technical School, Holliston Public Schools will provide a list of student names, parent/guardian names, addresses, email addresses, and primary language spoken at home of all enrolled sixth, seventh, and eighth-grade students.
- **On-Campus Assemblies:** Each fall, all eighth-grade students will have the opportunity to attend assemblies on-campus at the middle school hosted by the Keefe Regional Technical School. These events will provide students with information about CTE programs and the application process.

- **School Tours:** Each fall, all eighth-grade students will have the opportunity to tour the Keefe Regional Technical School. Transportation expenses will be covered by the vocational school. These tours will be scheduled during the school day and will be considered an excused absence.
- **Promotion of Events:** We will share information about vocational school Open House/Career Night and informational events on the district website and through regular communication channels, such as school newsletters.
- **Application Interviews:** We will provide opportunities at the middle school during the school day for vocational schools to schedule in-person informational interviews with students who have applied.
- **Online Resources:** By October 15th each year, the district website will publish pertinent information about available CTE/vocational school options, including Keefe Regional Technical School and applicable agricultural CTE opportunities, with links to admission applications, admissions policies, and open house/informational event schedules.
- **Providing Admissions Records to CTE Schools:** Middle schools will provide relevant information to member vocational schools 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.
- **Student High School Transition:** The middle school team will work with representatives from the vocational school to support the transition of students accepted and planning to enroll, to ensure the best possible transition. This may include invitations to team meetings, connections with middle school counselors, and forwarding important information regarding course placement and specific student needs.

Maintenance of Records

The Robert Adams 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.

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Procedure Reference	