

# Career Pathways: What will it look like?

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- **WHICH PATHWAY?**
  - What are the economic development needs in our community? Labor Market needs?
  - What programs do we already have in place?
  - Do we know the multiple exit points on a particular career ladder?
- **THE WHAT ---CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK**
  - Blank Template: Put in secondary and postsecondary requirements; add technical classes
  - Research Industry standards: Are there national or state skill standards in our pathway? Is there a credentialing agency for this pathway?
  - Are there other school districts in our consortium that are implementing the same pathway? Should we research the standards together (avoiding duplication of work)?
  - How will our local businesses review/revise the standards for local conditions?
  - Cross-walking standards to existing courses: Are there overlaps? Gaps? Dual Credit opportunities?
  - Will we need outside assistances in researching the standards and cross-walking?
- **SECONDARY AND POSTSECONDARY CONNECTIONS**
  - How will we assure that there is smooth transition from secondary to postsecondary? Will we be developing our pathway together? What postsecondary partners need to be at the table?
  - Is there an opportunity for dual credit? (*ie, pushing ps curriculum down to the senior year where it is applicable/where it fits*)
  - Do we presently share information (*ie, placement rates of recent HS graduates at the CC?*)
- **THE HOW**
  - Teaching the way the brain learns...contextually; Are we reaching all students?
  - Academics being supported and stressed in CTE courses. Training for instructors?
  - Academics being applied to the world of work. Training for instructors?
- **FOCUSING STUDENTS**
  - Is there a career development system? K-12 +
  - What is happening at the elementary level (career awareness)? Middle school level (career exploration)? High school level?
  - Are there individual career plans at the high school level?
  - Do counselors need additional training?
- **BUSINESS/INDUSTRY ROLE**
  - Do we have a strong advisory committee in place? Do we need to join an existing advisory committee or to merge two or more advisory committees?
  - Are national or state standards available for our pathway? Perhaps industry standards from an industry credentialing organization?
  - Will our local employers review and revise the national/state standards?
  - Will businesses provide work-based learning experiences? Mentoring? Job-shadowing?
- **THE COMMUNITY AT-LARGE**
  - How will we educate the community of the changes in our schools?
  - How will we inform parents of the opportunities available through career pathways?
  - How will parents be involved in career planning?
  - Are there other roles for parents? The community?
  - What avenues *already* exist that we could disseminate career pathways information?
- **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**
  - What existing workshops or in-services are scheduled that we could “tag-on” to disseminate information on Career Pathways?
  - What additional professional development needs do we have? For counselors? Teachers? Others?
- **EVALUATION**
  - What type of data is now being collected?
  - What other data do we need to implement Career Pathways successfully?
  - How will we know it is successful? How will we know that our system is successful?