

Supporting Graduation Pathways in Middle School

Grade Six – Grade Eight

This chart serves as a resource guide to support middle school students as they prepare to successfully complete Graduation Pathways in high school. There are three different “Subjects” (Column 1) or overarching themes:

<i>Career Exploration</i>	<i>Career and Academic Planning</i>	<i>Employability Skills</i>
<p>Career Exploration skills consists of learning how to identify and analyze various career options in terms of what education, training, experience, and competencies are required for success. Exploration includes learning in workplace environments or directly in workplaces to discover and experience what it may be like to work in different occupations. It also involves learning how to evaluate how well a career matches or fits one’s own interests, skills, strengths, and work values.</p>	<p>Career and Academic Planning equips students and their families with the tools necessary to make more informed choices about secondary and postsecondary education and training as it leads to careers. Students develop a Graduation Plan as both a learning process and a planning document for academic, career & technical education, dual credit coursework, workplace learning and activities aligned to career goals.</p>	<p>Indiana’s Employability Skills standards allow for students to be prepared for the ever-changing needs of today’s workforce. The expectation is for students to work through the standards in multi-subject areas. The standards are based on the National Employability Skill Standards from the Office of Career, Technical, and Adult Education (OCTAE), the Indiana Department of Workforce Development’s Employability Skill Benchmarks, and the Governor’s Work Ethic Certificate.</p>

The “Action Area” (Column 2) provides a specific step that can be taken to support student success. Column 3 contains specific “sample” resources aligned to the “Action Area”.

Subjects	Action Area	Resource / Additional Information
<p style="background-color: #FFD700; padding: 2px;"><i>Career Exploration</i></p> <p style="font-size: 1.5em; margin: 10px 0;">AND</p> <p style="background-color: #00FF00; padding: 2px;"><i>Career and Academic Planning</i></p>	<p>Schools use an online career development tool such as Indiana Career Explorer or an approved alternative</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> IDOE Workforce & STEM Alliances College and Career Exploration Indiana Career Explorer Indiana Career Explorer Lesson Plans Naviance Indiana Career Information System

Career Exploration	Students participate in Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSOs)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Career and Technical Student Organizations
Career Exploration	School integrates career exploration in every course	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Computer Science • IDOE Computer Science • Project Based Learning (PBL) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Defining High Quality (PBL) ○ Resources and Sample Projects (PBL) ○ Student Handouts (PBL) • Financial Literacy • Bureau of Labor Statistics Posters • Project Lead the Way - Gateway • Nextech Computer Science Professional Development
Career Exploration	Students take <i>Exploring College and Careers</i> or <i>Preparing for College and Careers</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exploring College and Careers • Preparing for College and Careers
Career Exploration	Students take Middle School Career and Technical Education (CTE) course(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Exploring Agriculture Science and Business ED • Business and Information Technology • Digital Citizenship • Engineering and Technology • Family and Consumer Sciences • Computer Science - Coming Soon
Career Exploration	Students take career exploration assessments (interest inventory, values, aptitude, skills, etc.)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CareerOneStop Assessments • Holland Code Career Test • Personality Style • Myers-Briggs • Career Clusters Assessment • Education Planner Self-Assessments • Princeton Review Career Quiz • Indiana Career Explorer Interest Inventory • Indiana Career Explorer Skills Confidence Assessment • Indiana Career Explorer Work Values Assessment • SchCounselor.com
Career Exploration	Students are given time and specific activities allowing them to research careers they might be interested in	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bureau of Labor Statistics Career Exploration • Indiana Career Explorer • Indiana Career Ready

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● My Next Move ● Naviance ● Indiana Career Information System
Career Exploration	<p>Students participate in one or more experiences with local community and employer partners each year in different career sectors</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Job shadowing ● Jobsite/Workplace tour ● Career Exploration Fair ● Volunteer at a community organization (career-based service learning) ● Visit a college, university, or apprenticeship program ● Career-Specific guest speakers ● Career Research Projects ● Career Mentoring ● Workplace Challenge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Job Shadowing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Job Shadowing PTECH (pgs. 23-30) ○ Setting up a Job Shadowing Program ○ Learn More Indiana (DEFINITION) ○ Greater Clark (DEFINITION) ○ Indiana Department of Corrections (DEFINITION) ○ Registration (SAMPLE FORM) ○ Training Agreement (SAMPLE FORM) ○ Questions to Ask (SAMPLE FORM) ○ Observation Sheet (SAMPLE FORM) ○ Presentation Evaluation Form (SAMPLE FORM) ● Jobsite/Workplace Tour <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ How to Guide for Workplace Tours ○ Workplace Tour PTECH (pgs. 17-21) ● Career Exploration Fair <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ JAJobSpark ● Career-Specific Guest Speakers <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Nepris - virtual guest speakers and job shadowing ● Career Mentoring <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Career Mentoring PTECH (pgs. 53-60) ● Workplace Challenge <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Workplace Challenge PTECH (pgs. 43-50)
Career Exploration	<p>Students participate in afterschool career exploration</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Indiana Afterschool Network - Program Search ● Exploring ● Vex Robotics <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Competitions ○ TechPoint Foundation For Youth Robotics Grant ● Girls Who Code

<i>Career and Academic Planning</i>	Students learn about which CTE courses are available at their local high school or career center	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What's different about high school lesson plan PT 1 • What's different about high school lesson plan PT 2 • CTE Introduction • CTE Hands On
<i>Career and Academic Planning</i>	School aligns CTE Middle School course offerings to local area career center CTE pathways or area High School CTE pathways	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Career Center Directors by Region
<i>Career and Academic Planning</i>	<p>Students create a personalized academic and career plan (Graduation Plan) including, but not limited to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4-year high school course plan • Top three career choices • Career exploration assessment results (interest inventory, aptitude, values, etc.) • Career Goals • List of potential high school experiences aligned to career goals and Graduation Pathway Requirements 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forming your Graduation Plan • Class of 2019-2022 • Class of 2023 and beyond • Lesson Plan
<i>Career and Academic Planning</i>	School clarifies path to graduation (Graduation Pathways) to students and parents/guardians.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Graduation Pathways
<i>Career and Academic Planning</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students register for the 21st Century Scholar program 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is ScholarTrack? • ScholarTrack Account • 21st Century Scholars Lesson Plan
<i>Employability Skills</i>	Students demonstrate employability skills standards each year	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Coming Soon</i>