Career Exploration: Finding the Right Fit

You have options! Lots of options. That’s a good problem to have overall. Our economy is strong and most sectors of employment are looking for hard working people. Instead of being overwhelmed by your options, follow these tips as you try to decide what is the right career field for you.

- Complete the assigned tools in **MCIS**. They do work!
- Talk to your family and friends about career options.
- Continue to learn more about fields of interest (thoughtfully register for Career Exploration Day, research occupations using MCIS, job shadow, etc.)
- Consider your 12th grade class options. Make a plan.
- Feel proud about discovering what you don’t want to do. It’s important to the process of discovering what is right.

Ranger Connect:

You have Ranger Connect at the beginning of every quarter. All students will be taking a deep dive into our MN Career Information System (MCIS). You will have the opportunity to:

- work on assessments that help point to your areas of career interest
- learn more about occupations of interest
- discover the programs of study that support those occupations

These tools also help populate your **Personal Learning Plans (PLPs), which are a MN state graduation requirement**. This week, you will be registering for our first Career Exploration Day of the year (on 11/27). Discuss areas of interest with your parents and family members. Find session descriptions [here](#).

Testing: ACT vs. SAT?

ACT is commonly taken by midwestern students who plan to stay in the midwest for college. Some schools on the coasts prefer SAT scores. Where does that leave you? Try both on November 17 and 18 during Kaplan’s Free National Practice Test Weekend. To learn more, click [here](#).
Apprenticeship Week: November 12-16

How can you build a career through apprenticeship?
As our economy continues to demand highly skilled workers in manufacturing, employers are increasingly using apprenticeships to meet that demand. Many MN employers are training employees both on the job and through college programs to prepare employees for the rigor of highly skilled work. Click here for a great article on apprenticeships.

Watch for information on an upcoming tour to Madsen Millwork & Fixture on Thursday, 11/29.

Action Steps: Are you on track?

- Doing well in my classes.
- Starting to think about the classes I should take next year.
- Using MCIS to help identify careers of interest.
- Understand most jobs require some sort of additional credential (not necessarily degree).
- Understand differences between: 4 year school, community college, tech school, apprenticeship, military.
- Starting to research post-secondary school choices (MCIS &/or College Board’s Big Future).
- ACT Test Prep if you plan to take the ACT in April or before.

Reminders/Tips:

Study abroad this summer and earn college credit?: Learn more at CIEE.
Remind Texts: Be sure to sign up for CCC Remind texts by texting @fljuniors to 81010.
Calendar/Other Information: Visit the CCC webpage.
First Junior to stop by my office after reading this newsletter: Receives a reward.
Need a Tutor?: Help is available for the subject you need at the time you need. Request a tutor HERE.
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