

Community Example: Elm Middle School

Career Exploration

Elm Middle School offers career studies (CSI) courses as part of their College & Career Pathways Program. The following resource offers student and teacher perspectives on the pathways program as well as information about career studies elective courses.



I-WIN

Illinois Work-Based Learning
Innovation Network

Videos



Students and Teachers Share: College & Career Pathways at Elm Middle School

Attachments

1. Career study elective course
2. Course selection form

Career Exploration: Career Study Course

OVERVIEW		
Title of Event	Elm Middle School - College and Career Pathway Initiative	
Type of Activity <i>(job shadow, guest speaker, career fair, site visit, etc.)</i>	1-credit Career Elective Course	
Model for Delivery <i>(virtual, hybrid, in-person)</i>	Hybrid with in-person classes	
Industry Partner(s)	Examples include: Sports Psychologist, Published Author, Vet Therapist, Sociologist	
Endorsement Area(s)	Applicable across all Endorsement Areas	
Occupations Represented	Career Study course offerings include: Psychology, Entrepreneurship, Game Design, Hospitality & Tourism, Sociology, Creative Writing, Business, Health Science, and Architecture.	
Brief Event Description <i>(include any links to resources and materials as you are able)</i>	Elm Middle school teachers developed and improved curriculum for a series of nine trimester courses on careers that include employer engagement on student projects, three of which to run each year in grades 6, 7, and 8. Students will take one career course during each trimester that are pass/fail and receive 1-credit. Each course has a team of three teachers, of which two will focus on curriculum development and one will focus on employer participation. Teacher lessons will include information on the related career clusters and a structured schedule of business-partner speakers coming to the classrooms to engage in project activity mentoring with students.	
Preparation Activities before the Event <i>(include any links to resources and materials as you are able)</i>	For Participants	For Partners
	Students complete interest surveys to determine courses to offer. Curriculum continuously supports students to learn about and evaluate their options across a variety of career opportunities which they will capture in electronic portfolios.	Courses are designed from 5 th grade career interest surveys. Teacher members focusing on employer participation from each career course team will solicit local employers and develop long-term relationships for building projects and interacting with students.

<p>Reflection/Follow-up Activities after the Event <i>(include any links to resources and materials as you are able)</i></p>	<p>Students add to electronic student portfolio that includes a project from each of the 9 courses and will be completed by 8th grade to support their transition to high school.</p>	<p>Continued development of a group of local employers with at least one for each course.</p> <p>8th graders work with the middle school College and Career Counselor to secure work permits and work at the Park District in the summer.</p>
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This resource was created by [Education Systems Center at Northern Illinois University](#).

The Illinois Work-Based Learning Innovation Network (I-WIN) is designed to help employers, educators, and students leverage innovative models for scaling high-quality work-based learning opportunities in school districts and community colleges across the State. This network explores ways to create equitable opportunities for students through both in-person and virtual learning. For more information on I-WIN and additional work-based learning resources, visit edsystemsniu.org/i-win/.

EMS Course Selection Form 6th-8th Grade 2022-2023

***** COURSE REQUEST CHANGES WILL NOT BE HONORED AFTER FEBRUARY 19TH*****

SUBJECT SPECIFIC COURSES

Circle or highlight your preferred classes for the 2021-2022 school year.

COURSE OPTIONS	LANGUAGE ARTS <small>Choose 1 Course</small>	MATHEMATICS <small>Choose 1 Course</small>	SCIENCE <small>Choose 1 Course</small>	SOCIAL STUDIES <small>Choose 1 Course</small>
GRADE LEVEL COURSES	6th Grade ELA	6th Grade Math	6th Grade Science	6th Grade Social Studies
	7th Grade ELA	7th Grade Math	7th Grade Science	7th Grade Social Studies
	8th Grade ELA	8th Grade Math	8th Grade Science	8th Grade Civics*
ACCELERATED <small>Course placement will be approved before registration is finalized.</small>	6th Grade Accelerated ELA	6th Grade Accelerated Math	Biology I Honors*	N/A
	7th Grade Accelerated ELA	7th Grade Accelerated Math		
	English 1 Honors*	Core Plus Mathematics I*		

* These courses are only available to 8th grade students and are worth 1.0 high school credit hour.

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ELECTIVE COURSES

All Elm students have the opportunity to take **two (2) electives per trimester.**
After choosing your preferred electives, there should be 6 trimesters worth of courses.

Course Guide & Descriptions

COURSES	Length	Grade Levels	T1	T2	T3
Art	1 Trimester	6, 7, 8			
Band	3 Trimesters	6, 7, 8			
Business	1 Trimester	8			
Choir	3 Trimesters	6, 7, 8			
Engineering	1 Trimester	7, 8			
Health	1 Trimester	6, 8			
Music	1 Trimester	6, 7			
Physical Education	1 Trimester	6, 7, 8			
Spanish	1 Trimester	6, 7			
Spanish I	3 Trimesters	8			
Technology	1 Trimester	6, 7, 8			

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CAREER STUDY COURSES					
All Elm students have the opportunity to take one (1) career study course per trimester. After choosing your preferred electives, there should be 3 trimesters worth of courses.					
<u>Course Guide & Descriptions</u>					
COURSES	Length	Grade Levels	T1	T2	T3
Business	1 Trimester	6, 7, 8			
Creative Writing	1 Trimesters	6, 7, 8			
Entrepreneurship	1 Trimester	6,7,8			
Game Design	1 Trimesters	6, 7, 8			
Hospitality & Tourism	1 Trimester	6,7, 8			
Psychology	1 Trimester	6, 7, 8			
Architecture	1 Trimester	6,7,8			
Health Science	1 Trimester	6,7,8			
Sociology	1 Trimester	6, 7, 8			
Life Skills*	3 Trimesters	6, 7, 8			

* These classes may only be selected by students enrolled in our CORE program.