

CARTERVILLE SCHOOL DISTRICT #5

Postsecondary and Career Expectations (PACE)

The developmental work in the middle school framework is intended to prepare students to more fully engage with the PaCE Framework throughout the critical high school years.

By the end of 6th Grade

A student should be supported to:

- develop a growth mindset and build a positive self
- an interest survey
- begin exploration of college and career readiness

By the end of 7th Grade

A student should be supported to:

- envision a positive future and communicate future goals
- learn about essential skills
- create a values word cloud (articulating interests, skills, activities, & aspirations)
- gain exposure to careers based on subject-area interests & an interest inventory
- explore occupations through a Career Speaker Series
- continue to learn SEL content & have exposure to strategies encouraging growth mindset & a positive sense of self

By the end of 8th Grade

A student should be supported to:

- articulate future goals and plan for a positive future
- complete a Career Clusters inventory & explore careers based on results
- explore career interests
- attend a career exploration day
- complete preACT 8/9 testing
- gain understanding that future planning is ever-changing and fluid
- practice essential skills
- reflect on personal strengths in school, extra-curricular activities, & the greater community, then make plans to grow in those areas for high school & beyond
- apply SEL content & strategies encouraging a growth mindset & positive sense of self
- analyze interests & values to find common themes, as it applies to future opportunities
- create a vision board to share with high school faculty, including future goals, potential barriers, & career aspirations



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Each student should have an individualized learning plan to help make decisions about career and post-secondary (PS) education or training, to plan a course of study, and to make financial aid assessments with family members.

By the end of 9th Grade

A student should be supported to:

- complete a career interest survey
- identify 2-3 career paths for further exploration
- create a resume
- outline a plan for community service and extracurricular activities related to PS plans
- complete preACT 8/9 testing
- attend a club fair to identify activities related to PS plans

A student should know:

- the relationship between HS coursework, attendance, and grades to PS plans
- the importance of community service and extracurricular activities to PS and career plans
- CHS graduation requirements
- at least 2-3 adults who will support the student through the PS and/or career selection process

By the end of 10th Grade

A student should be supported to:

- update resume
- select a career pathway within one career cluster of interest
- job shadow or interview a professional who is working in desired field
- attend at least one career/college fair
- complete preACT testing
- complete Accuplacer testing if planning to take any early college courses
- document any community service and extracurricular activities related to PS plans
- attend a basic financial aid presentation

A student should know:

- helpful high school courses for chosen career pathway
- the benefits of and the process for enrolling in early college
- cost of education and expected salary for occupations in selected career pathway
- introductory financial literacy information

By the end of 11th Grade

A student should be supported to:

- update resume
- job shadow or interview a professional who is working in desired field
- complete ACT testing
- visit two PS institutions
- meet with college/career/military representatives
- enroll in early college courses as appropriate
- visit local colleges for intended undergraduate major exploration

A student should know:

- educational requirements, cost, expected entry level, and midpoint salary for occupations in selected career pathway
- at least three colleges that offer student's expected PS program of study and/or potential career/military options
- financial aid literacy information
- general cost ranges of various PS institutions

By the end of 12th Grade

A student should be supported to:

- update resume
- complete at least one job shadowing experience
- meet with college/career/military representatives
- enroll in early college courses as appropriate
- visit two PS institutions
- attend a FAFSA completion workshop
- complete the FAFSA
- complete the required Personal Finance class

A student should know:

- estimated cost of chosen PS options
- affordability of PS options in relation to expected entry-level salary and anticipated debt
- terms and conditions of scholarships and/or loans

College bound students should:

- complete admissions applications to PS institutions
- explore and complete scholarship applications

● Career Exploration & Development

● Financial Aid & Literacy

● Post-Secondary Education, Preparation & Selection