



# Career Pathways

Career Pathways fosters growth and success for every student by supporting their journey from early learning through high school completion and beyond, and enhances public education through communication, engagement and partnerships.

Students develop a curiosity about the world around them, and grow skills and competencies through rigorous and relevant projects, activities and experiences connected to curricular outcomes.

From Kindergarten through Grade 12 and beyond, the **three stages of Career Pathways** engage students in meaningful learning opportunities and authentic experiences that help them find dignity and fulfillment in life.



## AWARENESS

*Kindergarten to Grade 4*

Students discover themselves by understanding their likes and dislikes, and favour the process of exploration over a final destination.

## UNDERSTANDING

*Grades 5 to 9*

Students learn about the opportunities available to them, and how to connect those to the interests they defined in the Awareness stage.

## READINESS

*Grades 10 to 12 and beyond*

Students continue to set goals and further develop the skills, knowledge and attitudes that will increase their readiness to successfully transition beyond high school.

### The five career pathways

- **Arts, Design and Communication**
- **Business and Information Technology**
- **Construction, Manufacturing and Transportation**
- **Health, Education and Human Services**
- **Natural Resources and Environmental Sciences**

### There are a mix of activities and resources to support Career Pathways:

- ✓ **Campus EPSB** is a way for students in Grades 10 to 12 to move schools for one semester (if the option isn't offered at their home school) to earn high school credits and/or industry credentials and prepare for post-secondary. Options include Automotive Service Technician, Computer Science, Health Care Aide and more.
- ✓ **The Community Marketplace** connects teachers with community organizations for in-class, hands-on learning experiences, such as Active Energy, Skills for the Future, Alberta Agriculture and more.
- ✓ **Inquiring Minds Site Schools** facilitate hands-on, inquiry-based learning and exploration during week-long field studies at community sites like City Hall and the Edmonton Valley Zoo.
- ✓ **Dual Credit** allows students in Grades 10 to 12 to earn both high school credits and post-secondary credits that count towards a certificate, diploma or degree.

## Parents play an important role in Career Pathways by supporting students:

- ✓ Ask your child questions about *who* they want to be rather than *what* they want to be. (*Awareness*)
- ✓ Talk with your child about future possibilities, broadening their ideas about the world of work, post-secondary and community living. (*Understanding*)
- ✓ Help your child recognize their strengths, interests and competencies by trying different things. (*Readiness*)
- ✓ Encourage self-reflection, goal setting and portfolio building through the online interactive education and career-planning tool, **myBlueprint** ([myblueprint.ca](http://myblueprint.ca)):
  - **All About Me (Kindergarten to Grade 6)**: a visual, student-driven portfolio that supports work already being done in the classroom
  - **Education Planner (Grades 7 to 12)**: simple student portfolios and education resources

**myBlueprint is available to all students through SchoolZone.**

## Guiding Principles

Career Pathways embodies the 2018–22 District Strategic Plan, and our vision of *Success: one student at a time*. Following the Career Pathways symposium in October 2018—building on our experience and communication with staff, students, families and community members—four guiding principles have emerged to inspire current and future work.

### Programming

*Innovative learning approaches that are embedded across curricula.*

Skills and competencies are developed through cross-curricular learning activities such as projects, design thinking and inquiry-based opportunities.

### Authentic Experiences

*Engaging students through meaningful and relevant experiences that connect learning to career pathways.*

Authentic experiences help students to see the connections between what they are learning and the world around them, through high quality learning environments, hands-on experiences, field trips, exploration activities and work experience opportunities.

### Community Connections

*Building relationships with parents, community and businesses that intentionally connect students to experiences and potential career pathways.*

Education is a collective responsibility and, through collaboration with stakeholders, we can enhance and enrich opportunities for students while incorporating the expertise that exists within our communities.

### Future Focused

*Adapting to ever-changing environments and realities.*

The world around us is constantly moving forward and it is important that we prepare our students for the future. Responsive learning opportunities and environments will support the development of competencies and transferable skills.

For more information, visit

[epsb.ca/ourdistrict/topics/careerpathways](http://epsb.ca/ourdistrict/topics/careerpathways)

or email us at [careerpathways@epsb.ca](mailto:careerpathways@epsb.ca)