



Middle School Pathway Exploration Policy

Overview

Massachusetts state regulations (603 CMR 4.00) require sending districts to maintain a districtwide Middle School Pathway Exploration Policy that documents how middle school students in the district are made aware of, and gain exposure to, career technical education (CTE) schools and programs available to them in their district, regional, agricultural, and other public high schools.

Collaboration

The King Philip Regional School District will collaborate with CTE schools and programs in our district, regional, agricultural, and other public high schools to inform students about such opportunities in the following ways.

- Information about career technical education opportunities will be advertised through the school newsletter and daily announcements
- Information about career technical education programs and careers will be shared with students on-site at their middle schools including via presentations, as well as through email and on their public-facing websites, by October 15 of each school year
- Each fall, all eighth-grade students will have the opportunity to attend assemblies on-campus at the middle school hosted by the CTE/vocational schools Tri-County and Norfolk Aggie. These events will provide students with information about CTE programs and the application process
- All eighth-grade students will be invited to take part in a tour day during regular middle school hours as offered by a public high school to which King Philip students may apply
- Any middle school student absence for an opportunity to tour CTE/vocational schools during regular middle school hours will be excused without penalty
- All students will participate in exploration of the CTE Awareness Module: <https://www.doe.mass.edu/rlo/ccte/cte-awareness-modules/index.html>

Middle school students in King Philip Regional School District may pursue the following high school options:

- **King Philip Regional School District**, which offers a comprehensive academic program including STEM, arts, college preparatory course, fine and performing arts, business and innovation technology, TV and Film
- **Tri-County Regional Vocational Technical High School**, which offers Automotive technology, carpentry, computer information systems, cosmetology, culinary arts, dental assisting, early education, electrical wiring technology, engineering technology, graphic communications, health careers, heating, ventilation, air conditioning, legal and protective services, medical assisting, metal fabrication and plumbing and hydronic heating
- **Norfolk County Agricultural School**, which offers animal and marine science, agricultural and diesel mechanics, environmental science and horticulture (plant) science

The goals of this policy are to:

1. Ensure that all middle school students learn about available high school and CTE pathways, including in-district, regional, agricultural, and other public high schools
2. Explore the [DESE CTE Awareness module](#) (at the end of Grade 7)
3. Provide students with opportunities to tour CTE programs during the school day
4. Connect career awareness and high school pathway information to each student's My Career and Academic Plan (MyCAP)
<https://www.doe.mass.edu/ccte/sec-design/mycap/mycap-guide.docx>
5. Support students and families in navigating the application and admission process for CTE schools and programs

Providing records to CTE Schools and programs

If a request for information is sent from a CTE school and programs in our district, regional, agricultural, or other public high school with a signed parent release, King Philip Regional School District will provide the requested information regarding attendance & discipline to ensure that the student's application may be completed and processed in a timely manner

Maintenance of Records

King Philip Regional School District will maintain documentation of student participation in tours and other elements of this policy implementation such as sharing of contact information, MyCAP, and CTE access schedules. King Philip Regional School District will provide this information to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education upon request

Legal References:

- 603 CMR 4.00 (Vocational Technical Education Regulations)
- DESE Middle School Pathway Exploration Policy Guidance (2025)

Adopted by the King Philip Regional School Committee: December 1, 2025