

Welcome to Career Exploration!

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Welcome to Career Exploration! I am excited to have your student in class this semester.

Career Exploration is designed to help students learn more about themselves, explore a wide variety of careers, and begin thinking about the many paths available to them after high school. Along the way, students will build practical skills they can use now and in the future, explore education and training options, and complete their four-year high school plan.

Students will participate in individual and group projects, career exploration activities, and opportunities to learn directly from guest speakers representing a variety of career fields. My goal is not for students to leave this class knowing exactly what they want to do for the rest of their lives. Instead, I want them to leave knowing more about their strengths, interests, options, and how to continue exploring what comes next.

Grading

Students will frequently see assignments assessed using a four-point proficiency rubric:

- 4 – Exceeding**
- 3 – Achieving**
- 2 – Developing**
- 1 – Beginning**

This language is intentional. Boise School District is transitioning to standards-based reporting district-wide next school year, and using these terms now gives students an opportunity to become familiar with thinking about their learning in terms of proficiency and growth.

Our current gradebook still reports percentage grades, so rubric scores are converted to percentages when entered. Generally, the levels correspond to the following ranges:

- 4 – Exceeding: 90–100%**
- 3 – Achieving: 70–89%**
- 2 – Developing: 60–69%**
- 1 – Beginning: 50–59%**

Course grades are weighted as follows:

- Projects – 60%**
- Assessments – 30%**
- Daily Work – 10%**

Assessments may include traditional unit assessments as well as reflections or activities connected to guest speakers and other career-learning experiences.

Grades will be updated at least every two weeks in accordance with Les Bois expectations. I generally aim to update grades weekly so students and families can identify missing work or concerns early. Infinite Campus is the best place to check current grades and missing assignments.

Missing Work, Reassessments, and Absences

We will follow Boise School District and Les Bois policies regarding absences, late work, and reassessment opportunities. I encourage students to communicate with me when they have missing work, need additional help, or would like another opportunity to demonstrate their learning.

Because guest speakers provide experiences that cannot always be recreated, students who miss a speaker may be given an alternate assignment. This might include interviewing a family member, family friend, or another adult about their career and career path.

Cell Phones

Cell phones should remain in student lockers during the school day. I will follow Les Bois and Boise School District policies regarding student device use.

Communication

If you have questions or concerns at any point during the semester, email is the best way to reach me. I aim to respond within 1–2 school days.

I am looking forward to getting to know your student and helping them explore the possibilities ahead of them. Thank you for being part of our school community!

Sincerely,

Ms. Jessica Johnson

jessica.johnson@boiseschools.org

Career Exploration – Family Information

Please return this page to Ms. Johnson OR complete the online version using the QR code below.

Student Name: _____ Class Period: _____

I have reviewed the Career Exploration course information and expectations.

Student Signature: _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Parent/Guardian Signature: _____

Help Me Get to Know Your Student

Is there anything you would like me to know that could help your student be successful in Career Exploration?

This could include interests, strengths, learning preferences, concerns about the class, or simply something you think would be helpful for me to know.

Bring the Real World Into Our Classroom

One of the best parts of Career Exploration is giving students the chance to hear from people who actually do the jobs we're learning about.

And that means **you don't have to have an unusual or "exciting" career to have something valuable to share.** Students benefit from hearing about all kinds of jobs, career paths, education and training, unexpected career changes, and what work is actually like day to day.

If you—or someone you know—would be willing to visit our class and talk about a career, I would love to hear from you. You don't need to prepare a formal presentation or be an experienced speaker. I can help with questions, ideas, and planning.

Your career/job title:

Partner's career/job title, if applicable:

Would you or your partner be interested in talking with Career Exploration students about your career?

- ☐ **Yes!** I would be interested.
- ☐ **Maybe.** I'd like more information first.
- ☐ **Not at this time.**

Name of potential speaker: _____

Career/field: _____

Know Someone Else With a Career Students Should Hear About?

Parents and guardians aren't our only potential experts! If you have a family member, friend, coworker, or community connection who you think would be a great person for students to learn from, feel free to share their information below. I would be happy to reach out—or you can connect us.

Prefer to Complete This Online?

Scan the QR code to complete this page using Google Forms.

