Haverhill Public School
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. Sending districts must submit this Policy to DESE by November 1, 2026, and as amended. Sending districts must also submit an annual attestation that the Policy has been implemented in the sending district. Sending districts must make their Policy available on the district website and provide written copies to students and parents upon request.[1]

Policy School Committee Approved September, 2026

Statement of Goals

Haverhill High School is committed to ensuring that every middle school student is aware of and has equitable access to the CTE pathways offered at Haverhill High School, Whittier Vocational Technical High School, and Essex North Shore Agricultural & Technical School. Through close consultation and coordination with vocational schools, Haverhill Public Schools will:

- Provide timely and accurate information about CTE programs, timelines, and admissions.
- Ensure all students have direct opportunities to learn about programs through tours, presentations, and career exploration events.
- 5-8 MyCAP Scope and Sequence will connect CTE exploration to students' secondary and postsecondary academic and career planning

Collaboration

Haverhill Public Schools collaborates with local middle schools, Haverhill High School, Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School, and Essex North Shore Agricultural & Technical School to inform students about the diverse educational programs and opportunities available across the district, as well as regional, agricultural, and other public high schools.

My Career and Academic Plan (MYCAP)

- Beginning in grade 5, all students participate in career awareness and exploration through the My Career and Academic Plan (MYCAP) initiative, which is designed to support academic planning and long-term career exploration.
- Students in grades 5–8 participate in: in-class career readiness workshops, High School and Career Fairs, guest speaker events, school and program tours, career interest survey and activities using the Naviance platform

- These experiences introduce students to high school options such as: Career Technical Education (CTE) programs, Dual enrollment opportunities, Vocational and agricultural programs, Early College pathways, Electives, and extracurricular offerings aligned with their interests

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- The MYCAP scope and sequence also supports students in aligning their middle school curriculum with high school and career goals, helping them explore potential pathways such as STEM, health sciences, skilled trades, and more. (See Appendix A)

Recruiting Events and Media

Haverhill High School provides comprehensive information about Career Technical Education (CTE) programs and high school admissions through a regularly updated calendar of events on the HHS website by **October 15** of each school year. This includes details about the admissions process for Haverhill High School CTE programs, Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School, and Essex North Shore Agricultural & Technical School, as well as other academic and extracurricular opportunities.

To ensure broad access, Haverhill High School shares CTE program information through multiple channels, including an annual Open House, school and district websites, social media, printed materials, and school-based marketing. By **October 15** of each school year, the school sends admissions information—delivered in families' home languages—via email, social media, and the district website to all 7th and 8th-grade families. Haverhill High School also shares recruitment information with potential applicants in the following ways:

Each fall, Haverhill Public Middle Schools hosts **High School and Career Fairs** for students in grades 5–8. Haverhill High, Whittier Tech, and Essex North Shore present on CTE programs, AP courses, Early College, athletics, and extracurriculars. Local businesses help students explore career paths aligned with workforce needs, and students have the opportunity to hear directly from high school students in CTE programs, gaining valuable real-world insight. These events help students connect their interests to future opportunities and begin building career plans.

8th-grade students receive presentations, materials in their home language, and participate in guided tours of Haverhill High and Whittier Tech. Tours are excused absences, and transportation is paid for by the school hosting the tour.

High School Pathway Options Available to Haverhill Students

Haverhill Public Schools offers a wide range of career and technical education (CTE) and specialized high school programs to help students explore their interests, develop skills, and prepare for college and careers. Students can pursue CTE programs at Haverhill High School, Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School, or Essex North Shore Agricultural & Technical School.

<u>Haverhill High School</u>
Chapter 74 Program: Information Support Services and Networking (Information Technology), Programming and Web Development (Computer Science and Web Development), Health Assisting (Healthcare Occupations)

Innovation Pathways: PLTW Biomedical Science, PLTW Engineering/Manufacturing
New CTE Non-Ch74 Programs FY26: Early Education and Care (Teacher Training Program), Graphic Design and Visual Communications

<u>Whittier Vocational Technical School</u>
Chapter 74 Programs: Dental Assisting, Health Assisting, Medical Assisting, Carpentry, Electrical, HVAC-R, Masonry, Plumbing, Advanced Manufacturing, Automotive Technology, Auto Collision, Marine Technology, Metal Fab/Welding, Business Technology/Marketing, Cosmetology, Culinary, Hospitality, CAD/Drafting, Electronics/ Robotics, Engineering Technology

<u>Essex North Shore Agricultural & Technical Schoo</u>l
Chapter 74 Programs: Arboriculture, Companion Animals, Landscaping & Turf Management, Large Animal Science, Natural & Environmental Sciences, Sustainable Horticulture, Veterinary Science

Providing Records to CTE Schools and Programs

A translated letter in needed languages will be sent to middle school principals to share with families of Grade 7 and 8, providing notification that Whittier Regional Vocational Technical High School and Essex North Shore Agricultural & Technical School are requesting student contact information. The notification specifies that this is used to inform families about Open Houses, applications, and other events and requests student and parent/guardian names, mailing address, email, and primary language. An opt-out form is available for families who do not wish to share this information. Haverhill Public School Counselors will provide the contact details of students who have not opted out by the deadline of October 15th.

Maintenance of Records

Haverhill Public Schools will maintain a record of all on-site presentations, assemblies, and student tours of the CTE programs, along with other relevant information about collaboration between the district and member CTE/vocational schools. These records will be made available to DESE upon request.

Appendix A: MyCAP Scope and Sequence by Grade Level

MyCAP Scope and Sequence