



# Education Pathway

## Overview

---

The Bethel High School Education Pathway is a personalized learning community for students interested in pursuing a future career in the field of education. Students will engage in a variety of rigorous, relevant and authentic courses and activities centered on their interest in the field of education.

The goals of the BHS Education Pathway are to increase the student's knowledge and appreciation of the education field, as well as to expose students to all that an educator does to be successful in his/her profession. When all pathway requirements have been met, students will receive a certificate of completion and a Pathway Seal will be affixed to their final transcript.

## **Bethel High School Education Pathway students will have the opportunity to:**

---

- Engage in a contextualized curriculum that will prepare them for post-secondary coursework in the field of education as well as future careers in the profession.
- Engage in career-based learning opportunities that include shadowing, community service, working one-to-one with children, as well as a full-year Cadet Teacher internship or other immersion experience in the district.
- Build relationships with teachers, staff, and mentors.
- Attend seminars, conferences and special events relating to current pedagogy, classroom management, technology in the classroom, becoming an educator, and current issues in education.
- Become affiliated with National Education Organizations.
  - ASCD
  - NCTM, NCTE, NSF
  - Phi Delta Kappa
- Become more prepared for college-level education courses
- Engage in a culminating experience in the field of Education.
- Be provided the opportunity to earn ECE college credit from our partnerships with local colleges and universities such as the University of Connecticut (UConn) and Western Connecticut State University (WCSU)

### **Pathway Requirements**

As part of or in addition to Bethel High School graduation requirements, Education Pathway students will successfully **complete the following course requirements** to earn the Pathways certificate:

- ☐ Child Development I
- ☐ Child Development II (starting with the class of 2027)
- ☐ Introduction to Psychology (AP or CP)
- ☐ Public Speaking (starting with the class of 2027)

**Electives:** Students choose at least one, based on interest

- ☐ Unified ART, Unified Music, Unified PE
- ☐ Peer Leadership
- ☐ Individual and Family Development

In addition to the required classroom courses, the Bethel High School Pathways Program also emphasizes the importance of hands-on, experiential learning as part of post-secondary preparation. For that reason, all Education Pathway students **must also complete the following experiences** to earn the Pathways certificate:

☐ **Complete at least 50\* immersion hours at a site or program supervising or teaching youth**

\*Please note that the 50 hours can come from more than one site (for example 30 hours from cadet teaching and 20 hours working with the Unified Sports team) but they must represent a true immersion experience at no more than 2-3 sites total.

*Immersion Hour Examples:*

- Cadet Teaching (includes planning and teaching a lesson as the Capstone project)
- Internship in an educational/child care setting
- Park and Rec Camp Counselor
- Summer's BEST Volunteer
- Youth team coach or talent instructor
- Daycare
- Unified Program (Classes or Extracurricular activities)

☐ **Successful completion of a culminating experience as a Cadet Teacher or an equivalent pre-approved experience in the education field**

### **Partnerships:**

---

Students in the Education pathway will be encouraged to partner with the following businesses, agencies and institutions to create personalized experiences:

- Bethel Public Schools
- Western Connecticut State University
- Bethel Parks and Recreation Department
- Other education-related service providers