

Prentice School District

Academic Career Plan



Introduction

Academic and Career Planning (ACP) is implemented in the Prentice School District to give students and their families the tools necessary to make more informed choices about post secondary education and training as it leads to career selection. ACP is also based on personal exploration and designed learning targets which are sequentially based using activities that promote every student graduating high school college and career ready. Although many ACP activities are done on site through the use of Xello program, students will also be involved in learning activities off-site at work sites and post-secondary institutions.

Career Readiness Vision

CAREER READINESS MISSION/VISION

ACP is intended to equip students and their families with the tools necessary to make more informed choices about postsecondary education, training, and careers for life after high school. It is part of DPI and the Prentice School District's overall vision for every student to graduate high school academically, socially, emotionally, and life-ready.

CAREER READINESS TEAM

Megan Enders - ACP Coordinator, K12 School Counselor
Lynn Granberg - High School Special Ed. Teacher
Gunard Hoogland - CTE Teacher, Tech. Ed. Teacher
Katina Isaacson - K12 School Principal
Cal Kraegenbrink - CTE Teacher, High School Business, Middle School History
Julie Lake-Elementary Teacher
Sheridan Makovsky- CTE Teacher, FACS Teacher, Phy. Ed. Teacher
Debbie Strobl - School Secretary

Career Readiness Data

DISTRICT CAREER READINESS DATA

Prentice Portrait of a Graduate

Career Readiness Data

- Career and Technical Education Participants-55 students
- Career and Technical Education Concentrators- 53 students
- Students Participating in Work-based Learning-8 students

- *Students Participating in Dual Enrollment-65 students*
- *Students Completing Industry-recognized credentials- 2 students*
- *Number of Employer Partners-16 partners*
- *Number of local and regional career pathways offered-5 pathways*

CURRENT PROGRESS AND FUTURE GOALS FOR IMPLEMENTATION

Our district is committed to preparing students for future careers through dynamic, hands-on learning opportunities such as industrial arts and engineering courses, dual-credit science programs, and a robust special education curriculum. These programs provide students with practical skills and industry knowledge, laying a strong foundation for post-secondary success.

Looking ahead, we aim to achieve the following measurable goals:

1. **Expand Dual-Credit Access:** Increase student enrollment in dual-credit courses by 20% within the next three years by collaborating with local colleges and universities to offer more course options in high-demand fields such as healthcare, technology, and skilled trades.
2. **Strengthen Career Readiness:** Incorporate career-readiness standards into the curriculum across all grade levels, with a focus on skills like resume writing, job interviewing, and teamwork. We will track progress by ensuring 100% of students complete at least one career-focused activity, such as a mock interview or job shadow, by graduation.
3. **Increase Community Involvement:** Build partnerships with local businesses to provide students with real-world experiences. Our goal is to have 20% of high school juniors and seniors participate in internships, apprenticeships, or mentorship programs by 2027.

By pursuing these objectives, we aim to equip every student with the skills, knowledge, and experiences needed for meaningful and fulfilling careers while fostering a stronger connection between our schools and the local community.

Career Readiness Success Stories

STUDENT SUCCESS STORIES

Reese Isaacson – Apprenticeship at IMR

"My high school apprenticeship at IMR gave me the hands-on experience I needed to turn my interest in manufacturing into a career. I started learning real-world skills while still in school, and now I'm proud to be working full-time at the same company that gave me my start."

Ryan Bergman – Welding Academy

"The Welding Academy was a game-changer for me. The hands-on training and certifications I earned in high school helped me land a job at Prentice Auto Body right after graduation. It's amazing to see the skills I developed in school being put to use every day."

Each spring 3 high school students from each school district in Price County participate in a welding competition put on by OEM Fabricators in Phillips. Each student needs to weld a fire pit to match a blue print with all steel and prints being provided by OEM. OEM then measures and inspects each fire pit for accuracy and determines a winning overall school and overall individual winner in the county. Drake, Ian, and Jayce won the overall school competition and Jayce won the overall individual competition last spring and have just received the plaque they earned for the school.

Career Readiness in the School District of Prentice

ACP CURRICULUM, SUPPORT, AND SERVICES

Grade Level Appropriate Career Readiness Activities and Career-based Learning Experiences

- K-5: Career Readiness Activities

Career Day - Guest speakers and hands-on activities.

Every April, all elementary students receive weekly career lessons. The lessons range from community helpers, to career clusters to career research. At the end of the month, students have a dress up day where they dress up as what they want to be when they grow up.

Firefighters come in for fire safety month to show the firetrucks and fire gear. Students can ask the firemen questions about their job and what they do to help our community.

Students at Prentice elementary are 1:1 in devices beginning in kindergarten. Students use technology daily and work on advancing their technological literacy.

Teamwork Activities: Foster collaboration through group projects or games that require students to work together, mimicking workplace scenarios.

Problem-Solving Challenges: Set up puzzles or problems that require creative solutions, encouraging critical thinking and collaboration.

Time Management Exercises: Use simple tasks with deadlines to help students understand the importance of managing their time.

Classroom Jobs: Assign classroom responsibilities (line leader, materials manager) to teach responsibility and job roles.

Field Trips: Organize visits to local businesses, farms, or government offices to expose students to real-world careers.

- 6-8: Career Readiness Activities

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1uvCy5Mn7Gn60QdJePziX04U9G4fink8AaZpsNIIKD3cE/edit?usp=sharing>

Heavy Metals Tour - Northcentral Technical College and two other manufacturing businesses hosted students and exposed them to engineering, machine tools, welding, and more. They are working with the Central Wisconsin Manufacturing Alliance to excite kids and bring more workers into the field.

Mind Trekkers - The STEM roadshow is hosted at NTC and run by volunteers and the Michigan Tech Mind Trekkers team, which consists of undergrad and graduate students. Mind Trekkers will guide those who attend through fun, hands-on experiments. Let the Michigan Tech Mind Trekkers be your guide as you explore the excitement of STEM.

- 9-12: Career Readiness Activities

https://docs.google.com/document/d/1KI2MZC9oYWv5yp7cUD_OoBuW7ebKVGScTzP4AO62TRw/edit?usp=sharing.

Mini-Business World One day program where students are broken into small groups and are tasked with building a business from the ground up, and will showcase their new product in an engaging mock trade show at the end of the day.

Wood Discovery Days - NTC Antigo - Exploring different career and continuing education opportunities for those interested in Wood Manufacturing.

Nicolet College (Fair and Tour) - Junior attends this college fair and tour of campus. This is a great opportunity for students to begin exploring different college and understand the requirements for schools.

NTC Phillips Tour (Freshmen) - explore different career programs available to them after graduation. They will be exploring Machine Woods, Machine Tool, Welding, Nursing/CNA, and EM/Automation.

Band- Duluth campus

ACP/School Counseling Services

Our school counselors play a key role in supporting students' academic and career journeys. They help students develop important social-emotional skills (SEL) like self-awareness, communication, and decision-making, which are valuable for both school and future work. Counselors also focus on employability skills, teaching students time management, teamwork, and problem-solving, which are essential for both local and global job markets.

Counselors facilitate academic and career planning conferences to help students set goals, choose courses, and explore potential careers, such as through local job shadowing or internships. These conferences also support transitions, whether from middle school to high school or high school to postsecondary options. In a small-town setting, counselors may have a closer connection to students and their families, offering personalized guidance on college, trade school, or local career opportunities.

They also collaborate with teachers and families to address any challenges students might face and ensure that resources are available to help them succeed, making them a vital part of the academic and career development process in a close-knit community.

Whole School Support

Our district has a structured approach to connecting students with teachers and staff to support their academic and career planning (ACP). ACP activities occur during dedicated advisory periods, where each student engages in career-focused conversations with a designated adult mentor or counselor. During these sessions, students explore career interests, set academic goals, and map out postsecondary pathways. These regular check-ins provide students with a consistent and personalized opportunity to think critically about their futures and make informed decisions.

Teachers across all subjects actively contribute to career readiness by integrating ACP goals into their lessons. For example, science teachers highlight connections to healthcare or engineering careers, while English teachers emphasize communication skills vital for success in any field. By linking course content to real-world careers, educators help students understand the practical applications of their studies and foster a deeper appreciation for career readiness.

Through these practices, our district ensures that every student has the guidance, mentorship, and contextual understanding needed to support their academic and career aspirations.

PREPARING FOR THE FUTURE

The ACP program at Prentice School District ensures every student is prepared for life after high school no matter what path they plan to take. This includes:

- **Career and technical education provided in the school district**
Career Decision Making, Introduction to Business, Microsoft Office, Accounting, Principles of Engineering, Machine Woods, Machine Tool, Carpentry, Welding, Fab Lab, CAD, Intro to Tech Ed., Everyday Shop(Promoting Female Engagement in Tech Ed), Middle School Tech Ed, Middle School STEM, Middle School Computer Studies, Middle School FCS
- **Courses that provide advance placement and/or advanced standing**
AP Literature, AP Language, AP Biology
- **Early College Credit Program and Start College Now**
<https://dpi.wi.gov/dual-enrollment/eccp>
<https://dpi.wi.gov/dual-enrollment/start-college-now>.
- **Postsecondary education preparation**
Our district prepares students for a variety of postsecondary pathways by offering diverse opportunities to explore and engage with different career and education options. Field trips to colleges, technical schools, and businesses give students a firsthand look at potential future environments and careers, helping them visualize paths they might pursue. In the classroom, regular discussions around career interests and postsecondary goals allow students to reflect on their options and gain valuable insights from their teachers and peers. We also invite college representatives, military recruiters, and industry professionals to meet with students, providing them with direct access to information on higher education, vocational training, and military careers. This comprehensive approach ensures that students are well-informed and prepared to make decisions about their futures.
- **Youth apprenticeship or other job training and work experience**
During the 2024-2025 school year our students are participating in youth apprenticeship through the following businesses: Village of Prentice, Ogema Library, BC Auto Repair, Prentice Hardware Store, Prentice Market and Deli, Kwik Trip, and the Prentice School District.
- **Instruction in skills related to employment**
Our district helps students build essential employability skills through targeted courses and counseling resources. In *Intro to Business* and *Career Decision Making*, students learn practical skills such as communication, teamwork, problem-solving, and workplace professionalism, all of which are essential in any career. Additionally, our counselor incorporates XELLO lessons, which guide students in career exploration, resume building, and interview preparation. For students interested in earning industry-recognized credentials, we offer opportunities aligned with specific career fields, giving them a competitive edge as they enter the workforce or pursue further education.

CAREER PATHWAYS

Our district selects career pathway programs by focusing on helping students match their unique interests and skill sets to high-demand careers in northern Wisconsin. Using Labor Market Information (LMI), we highlight local career opportunities in fields like manufacturing, healthcare, agriculture, and technology, encouraging students to consider pathways aligned with regional needs. To support these ambitions, we offer apprenticeships and job-shadowing experiences, giving students hands-on exposure to careers that fit their strengths and interests. This approach ensures our students are both informed and prepared to pursue fulfilling careers in their community.

Direct Patient Care:

file:///C:/Users/endemeg/Downloads/Prentice%20North%20Central%20Wisconsin%20Direct%20Patient%20Care%20Pathway%20Map%202023-2026.pptx%20(2).pdf.

Business Administration:

file:///C:/Users/endemeg/Downloads/Prentice%20Business%20Administration%20Career%20Pathway%20Map%202024-2027.docx%20(1)%20(1).pdf.

Education and Training:

file:///C:/Users/endemeg/Downloads/prentice__education_and_training_rcp2.pptx.pdf.

Hospitality, Culinary and Tourism:

file:///C:/Users/endemeg/Downloads/prentice_north_central_wisconsin__hospitality_culinary_and_tourism_pat hway_map_2023-2026.pptx.pdf.

Advanced Manufacturing:

file:///C:/Users/endemeg/Downloads/Prentice%20Advanced%20Manufacturing%20Career%20Pathway%20Ma p%202024-2027.docx%20(1).pdf.

LABOR MARKET INFORMATION

Labor market information (LMI) helps our school districts develop cutting-edge Career and Technical Education programs by uncovering the skills students will need in the future. In addition, LMI can help students understand which jobs are most likely to be available and well-compensated.

[PRICE COUNTY WORKFORCE PROFILE](#)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FOR STAFF

The Prentice School District is committed to supporting our entire staff to become engaged in the career readiness process. We provide the following professional development to staff:

Our district provides annual professional development to all educators, ensuring they are informed about the career readiness programs and resources available, as well as who to contact for more intensive career advising. Staff members receive training on how to conduct inclusive and equitable career conversations with students, emphasizing the importance of personalized guidance. Additionally, teachers across all subject areas are trained on how to connect their content to real-world careers, making lessons more relevant to students' future goals.

New leadership and staff go through an onboarding process that includes specific career readiness training to align them with district goals. For K-5 educators, we offer professional learning focused on introducing early career awareness, helping students understand the connection between academic skills and future career options. These ongoing professional development opportunities ensure that all staff are equipped to support students' academic and career planning from grades 6 to 12.

Career Readiness is for ALL of our Students

INDIVIDUALIZED ACP SUPPORT

Our district provides individualized support to help each student complete and annually update their academic career plan. For students with Individual Education Plans (IEPs), we offer necessary modifications, accommodations, or enhanced support for career readiness activities. This includes tailored interventions such as additional guidance or adjustments to learning materials to ensure full participation in career planning activities.

To ensure effective communication with families, we provide personalized meetings and maintain regular contact with families to track progress and discuss goals for students with IEPs. Furthermore, our district actively seeks diverse community, industry, and higher education partnerships, providing students the opportunity to interact with adults from a variety of backgrounds and cultures, enriching their career exploration and broadening their perspectives.

ACCESS FOR ALL STUDENTS

If a pupil is a child with a disability, the pupil's academic and career plan shall be made available to the pupil's individual education program team. The pupil's individualized education program team may, if appropriate, take the pupil's academic and career plan into account when developing the pupil's transition services.

The Department of Vocational Rehabilitation (DVR) is a state agency that assists individuals with disabilities in finding and retaining employment. DVR provides services such as career counseling, job training, and placement assistance, as well as support in developing skills needed for successful, long-term employment. The goal of DVR is to help individuals with disabilities achieve greater independence and integrate into the workforce, contributing to both personal and community growth. This is available starting junior year to students in the Prentice School District with an IEP.

CAREER READINESS TECHNOLOGY

Once a month, students will use their [Xello](#) accounts to complete various activities to help them think about what their next steps are after high school. Xello is interactive and has great resources about careers, postsecondary options, labor markets, etc.

Get Involved

FAMILY ENGAGEMENT

The School District of Prentice engages families and caregivers in academic and career planning by:

Regularly informing families and caregivers about career readiness activities:

We inform families through our school newsletter, social media, and emails about upcoming career readiness events, opportunities, and initiatives.

Providing multiple ways for families and caregivers to participate in career readiness activities:

We host community nights, offer IEP meetings with family members, and provide opportunities to engage with local businesses and higher education representatives.

Regularly informing families and caregivers about the progress of their student's academic and career planning:

We provide progress updates during parent-teacher conferences, IEP meetings, and through individual communication about student career plans and goals.

Actively seeking feedback from students, families, and caregivers when regularly evaluating our career readiness activities, programs, and initiatives:

We gather feedback through informal conversations during events such as community nights and IEP meetings.

Other ways the district engages families and caregivers in the ACP process:

Families can volunteer, participate in local business partnerships, and are encouraged to attend career-related events. For questions or involvement, they can contact the district office or visit the school website.

COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

The School District of Prentice is proud to collaborate with over 15 business and community partners.

Our district engages businesses, postsecondary institutions, and workforce development organizations to implement our education for employment program. We seek regular feedback from these partners to ensure our career readiness activities align with workforce needs. Career-based learning experiences include internships, job shadowing, apprenticeships, and site visits. We also host a community breakfast where businesses meet with our teaching staff to discuss industry expectations and career opportunities.

In partnership with Northcentral Technical College, we offer dual-credit classes, college representative visits, academies, tours, FAFSA assistance, and college application help to support students' postsecondary planning. For more information or to get involved, community partners can contact our career readiness coordinator (Megan Enders) at endemeg@prentice.k12.wi.us or visit our school website.

MOST RECENT DATE OF BOARD APPROVAL	
List the date your board approved this plan.	3/18/25