

PATHWAYS APPLICATION

2023-2024

Overview:

Pathways is an alternative learning program that allows students to participate in a small group environment, to learn on work sites and to follow their passions. Essentially, this program helps students create their own path to graduation.

Pathways is not an online program nor is it a credit based program. A student does not participate in typical classes. Students must demonstrate skills in five areas (see graphic below) through self-directed learning experiences. Pathway staff facilitate group learning activities and guide students during the work on projects, but ultimately the student will be responsible for setting deadlines and priorities.

In small groups students will participate in cooking, communication exercises, basic sewing, community service projects, physical fitness activities, and much much more.



After Pathways:

Most students in a program like Pathways enter the workforce or trade school immediately after graduation. That does not mean college is ruled out though. Pathways staff members will help students who want to meet the requirements for college entrance by structuring individualized schedules that allow them to pick up core courses, like Spanish or Pre-Calc, at the high school. Any students who wish to take a

Davenport High School course that aligns with their projects will receive guidance on how to work the course into the schedule.

Who should apply:

Anyone can apply to the Pathways program, but it is not the right program for everyone. We do not expect every student who enters the program to immediately know how to be self-directed learners. We do expect students to be open to alternative learning experiences that lead them to independence. A student should not expect to sit in a lecture, be given a checklist or handouts, or be in a traditional classroom. If this sounds like an exciting opportunity, apply!

Basic Expectations:

Pathways has three fundamental components through which students demonstrate competencies: Leaving to Learn (career interviews, job shadows, mentorships), Exhibitions three times a year and self-designed projects. These can only be accomplished through consistent attendance and full participation. Students can expect to move outside their comfort zone and to develop confidence and resiliency skills.

Students should expect to learn to interact with a variety of people in an family-centered environment.

Completion of this form *does not* mean automatic acceptance into Davenport School District's Pathways Program. Applications will be reviewed by Pathways' staff and a formal interview will be scheduled. If you would like an electronic copy or have questions, please email Jennifer Hargrave at jhargrave@davenportsd.org

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|-----------------------|----------------------------|
| First and Last Name: | Current Grade Level: |
| Student Email: | Student Cell Phone |
| Parent/Guardian Name: | Parent Cell Phone: |
| Parent Email: | English Language Learner?* |
| | Yes No |
| Mailing Address: | IEP?* |
| | Yes No |
| Physical address: | 504 Plan? |
| | Yes No |

1. What school is the student currently enrolled in? If the student is not currently enrolled in a school, what was the last school the student was enrolled in?

2. Preferred Communication method?

Email

Phone Call

Text Message

Social Media

Mail

Students, please fill out the following section. We are looking for answers that come from the heart, are detailed, and are clearly communicated. Please take your time to answer these questions. All questions are required.

1. Please share why you want to attend Davenport School District's Pathways program. Both schools prepare students for careers, so you *do not* need to discuss exploring career options.
2. Describe a time when you had a powerful learning experience in school or outside of school. Explain what stands out in your mind about that experience and why it is important to you.
3. Describe your ability to work independently. What are the advantages and challenges that you've experienced when working independently? Feel free to include an example.

4. Describe your ability to work as a team member. What are your strengths as a team member and where do you stand to improve as a team member? Feel free to include an example.

5. List three values you believe are most important for creating a positive school culture and why.

6. What is one thing you would like to change about schools and why?

7. What is one thing, school or non-school related, that you are proud of and why?

8. One major element of Davenport's Pathways Program is the Learning Through Interest Program, part of which is the opportunity to have an internship up to twice a week. Why do you believe this part of the program would be beneficial for you, and are there any career areas you are hoping to learn more about?

9. Based on your current school experience, what do you believe Pathways will offer that a traditional high school experience will not?

10. What is your all-time favorite television show or movie and why?

11. What is your all-time favorite song and why?

14. Is there anything else that you would like the school's admission team to know about you?

15. Who is an adult that you connected with at your previous school?

16. For parents: Why do you believe Davenport's Pathways is right for your student?