

From the Superintendent:

One purpose of education is to prepare students for the world of work when they graduate. In order to better prepare students, and to engage students more deeply in their classes, North Chicago High School has invested in the creation of three career pathways: Healthcare, Information Technology, and Manufacturing and Engineering Design. Each pathway is aligned to dozens of jobs available in our economy right now, and each pathway provides students with unique class choices, clubs, and links to college and career options.

NCHS is leading the region in this respect. Many schools are working to offer career pathways for students, and for us to have three well-established pathways is a strength of our high school. We are working to do more to inform parents and students about each of the pathways that we offer, and to align classes and career education to the pathways in middle school and elementary school.

Students are not required to pick a pathway (right now students pick a pathway as a Freshman) - there are interesting courses for all students at the high school. But, the pathways offer students who are interested in one of those three career clusters the opportunity to learn about those fields, confirm their interest in working in those fields, and pursue industry certifications prior to graduation. This gives students a leg up in applying for jobs, or pursuing additional education.

If you are interested in learning more about the career pathways at NCHS, please reach out to me ([jprice@d187.org](mailto:jprice@d187.org)), or our Pathways Coordinator, Jeff Hollenstein ([jhollenstein@d187.org](mailto:jhollenstein@d187.org)). We would be happy to give you more information about our programs.