

Business Partner Engagement Opportunities

About District 214

We are the second-largest high school district in Illinois, serving more than 12,000 students from eight communities.

Our nationally recognized District includes six comprehensive high schools and four specialized learning programs, offering more than 600 academic courses and 150 co-curricular opportunities. Our students come from diverse backgrounds, with more than 77 languages spoken at home.

- We serve residents of Arlington Heights, Buffalo Grove, Des Plaines, Elk Grove Village, Mount Prospect, Prospect Heights, Rolling Meadows and Wheeling
- Our six comprehensive high schools include: Buffalo Grove High School, Elk Grove High School, John Hersey High School, Prospect High School, Rolling Meadows High School, Wheeling High School
- Our four specialized learning programs include: Newcomer Center, The Academy at Forest View, Vanguard and the Young Adult Program
- More than 1,600 staff members educate our students
- All six schools have received state or national academic recognition. They were ranked among among the top 50 open enrollment schools in Illinois by *U.S. News and World Report* and among the state's most challenging schools by *The Washington Post*
- The White House has recognized District 214 for providing workplace learning experiences for students as well as our efforts to embed computer coding literacy within our math curriculum

Our Mission

Our primary mission is to help all students learn the skills, acquire the knowledge, and develop the behaviors necessary for them to reach their full potential as citizens who can meet the challenges of a changing society.

Our secondary mission is to provide residents with opportunities for lifelong learning.

* **The 16 Career Clusters:** Agriculture, Food, and Natural Resources; Architecture and Construction; Arts, Audio/Video Technology, and Communications; Business Management and Administration; Education and Training; Finance; Government and Public Administration; Health Science; Hospitality and Tourism; Human Services; Information Technology; Law, Public Safety, Corrections, and Security; Manufacturing; Marketing; Science, Engineering, and Mathematics; Transportation, Distribution, and Logistics.

Redefining Ready

Redefining Ready is a national initiative launched by AASA (The School Superintendents Association) to introduce new research-based metrics to more appropriately assess that students are college ready, career ready and life ready. This initiative is designed to change the national narrative regarding public education from a one-standardized-test judges all philosophy to a focus on readiness for our nation's students.

<p>College Ready Indicators Students are College Ready if they meet either the academic indicators OR standardized testing benchmarks listed below.</p> <p>Academic Indicators GPA 2.5 out of 4.0 and one or more of the following academic indicators:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Advanced Placement Exam (3+) ▪ Advanced Placement Course (Proficiency) ▪ Dual Credit College English and/or Math (Proficiency) ▪ College Developmental/Remedial English and/or Math (Proficiency) ▪ Algebra II (Proficiency) ▪ International Baccalaureate Exam (4+) <p>Standardized Testing Benchmarks (minimum score)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ SAT Exam: Math (530) Reading and Writing (480) ▪ ACT Exam: English (18) Reading (22) Science (23) Math (22) ▪ College Readiness Placement Assessment (determined by post-secondary institution) <p>Additional Factors that Contribute to College Success Earning As, Bs, Cs, FA/PSA completion; enrollment in career pathway course sequence; college academic advising; participation in college bound bridge programs; senior year math class; completion of a math class after Algebra II.</p>	<p>Career Ready Indicators Students are Career Ready if they have identified a career interest and meet two of the behavioral and experiential benchmarks listed below. In addition, students entering the military upon graduation must meet the passing scores on the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) for each branch of the military.</p> <p>Career Cluster Identified and two or more of the following benchmarks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ 90% Attendance ▪ 25 hours of Community Service ▪ Workplace Learning Experience ▪ Industry Credential ▪ Dual Credit Career Pathway Course ▪ Two or more organized Co-Curricular Activities
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Career Pathways

District 214 has restructured its academic programs along career pathways to elevate the rigor and relevance of elective coursework to more closely align the goals of a core curriculum with the demands of a continually evolving technology-driven economy. The district utilizes the nationally recognized career cluster model* to assist students in identifying careers they may wish to pursue. The goal for every student is for them to *Discover their Future* and identify their career cluster of interest prior to graduation.

Career Pathway Guiding Principles

Each career pathway features the following components:

1. Sequence of courses that lead beyond high school.
2. Workplace learning experiences that provides students with real-world understanding of career areas through internships, or mentorships.
3. Opportunity to earn career certifications and/or college credit.

Opportunities for Engagement



Classroom Engagements

Coaching/Co-Teaching

- Work alongside a D214 teacher providing industry-related knowledge and skills

Judging Panel

- Support student competitions as the industry professional

Mentorship

- Mentor student(s) by providing career-related projects either in person or virtually

Problem based learning

- Provide challenges for students to solve in their industry-related class

Development of Professional Skills

- Support employability skills including mock interviews, resume building, and other “soft skills.”

Workplace Engagements

Practicum on-the-job training for:

- Coursework linked with certifications

Internship/Pre-Apprenticeship

- Host an intern for a semester, summer or school break

Supported Worksite

- Host a student with the support of an onsite D214 Job Coach to develop career readiness skills

Other Engagements

Career Events (Career Nights and Career Days)

- Speak to students, parents, and staff regarding professional expertise, including educational requirements, skills and pros and cons of the career area

Site Visits

- Host students and D214 staff to provide information relating to the business and career opportunities within the field

Advisory Boards

- Provide guidance to curricular efforts and pathway design

Financial Support

- Donations
- Grants
- Direct Program Support
- Scholarships

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