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Health Sciences pathway internship helps Wheeling student affirm career choice

A summer internship at a physical therapist's office affirmed Wheeling High School's Hannah DeGraff's decision to pursue a career in the field.

The internship – coordinated through
District 214's Center for Career Discovery –
gave Hannah a better understanding of
what physical therapists do every day. It
also provided her a behind the scenes look
at running a healthcare business, from calling
insurance companies to cleaning medical
supplies and the importance of taking
detailed notes to track patients' progress.

District 214's Health Science pathway is one of 44 in District 214's Career Pathways program, which provides students a competitive edge when applying for direct admission programs with early college credit, industry credentials as well as early work experiences that inform their post-secondary decision-making and choices.

The goal is to help all District 214 students discover their futures so they can decide what they want – or do not want – to pursue after high school. Business Management, IT, Culinary Arts, Journalism, Engineering, Visual Arts and Aviation are just some of the pathways to choose from.

During her senior year at Wheeling, Hannah was directly admitted to pre-physical therapy



District 214's Career Pathways program not only gives students the academic skills to make them college and career ready but also instills grit, perseverance and resiliency so they can tackle and achieve their goals.

To learn more about District 214's Career Pathways, speak to your student's counselor and visit www.d214.org/discover214.

"The internship definitely confirmed I like getting to know patients on a deeper basis," said Hannah, now a freshman in college. – Hannah DeGraff

programs at three universities, giving her the opportunity to graduate in six years with a bachelor's and doctorate's degree. She also plans to study finance to better understand the business side of the industry.

Additionally, Hannah, who was an AP and honors student at Wheeling, credits the hands-on experience for helping her realize she enjoys a fast-paced environment and is interested in pediatric physical therapy.









