

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION

Career and technical education is a comprehensive educational program that begins in early childhood and continues throughout the life span of an individual. All educators, parents, students, and community members are involved in enhancing this broad approach to the economic, social, and psychological development of each student.

The Waterloo Community School District is committed to the development and implementation of a comprehensive Pre-K-12 career education program that includes opportunities for students to expand career and technical interests. This program shall include sequential activities which:

- promote an awareness of the 16 nationally recognized career clusters and their importance in the community and society,
- develop skills needed to effectively explore and evaluate opportunities in a variety of career and technical areas, including all six service areas identified by the State of Iowa,
- encourage problem-solving and decision-making through the application of fundamental skills as they relate to present and adult life roles,
- pursue specific career and technical interests through participation in work-related experiences, including job shadowing, internships and Registered Apprenticeship opportunities,
- increase knowledge of and appreciation for one's own values, interests, and aptitudes,
- create a positive attitude toward work and pride in accomplishment,
- develop oral and written communication skills,
- develop skills needed to get along with people (interpersonal relationships),
- develop transferable competencies and skills adaptable to a wide choice of occupations, and
- foster lifelong learning and exploration,
- develop an understanding of the relationship between educational achievement and career learning.

Legal Ref.: Iowa Code §§ 256.7, 11; 258; 261E1 279.61, 279.61, 280.3, 280.14
281 I.A.C. 12 and 22

Cross Ref.: 602.2 Basic Instructional Program

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POLICY