





### The NEXT Career Pathways are

designed to work seamlessly with current coursework offerings while providing real-world experience in the community. With Next Career Pathways you will learn about local opportunities, gain skills to enter the workforce or continue your education in post-secondary training, and receive hands-on learning with local business partners.

Contact Us

### THE EIGHT PATHWAYS



TRANSPORTATION







COMPUTER SCIENCE

CONSTRUCTION

BUSINESS



EDUCATION

HEALTHCARE

MANUFACTURING

NATURAL RESOURCES / AGRICULTURE

Check out these eight career pathways that are available and in demand regionally, statewide, and nationally.

**Explore Career Pathways** 

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# SPOTLIGHT ON THE NEXT healthcare CAREER PATHWAY AT NASHWAUK-KEEWATIN HIGH SCHOOL

Amber Christianson, Healthcare Pathway instructor at Nashwauk-Keewatin High School, remembers her high school days and the Certified Nursing Assistant class that she took at her high school and how that led her to pursuing a career field in nursing. She began with ideas of being a neo-natal nurse, but found herself being drawn back to serving as a registered nurse. This past summer, her nursing supervisor shared an opportunity to work as an adjunct faculty in a local high school teaching a Certified Nursing Assistant/Home Health Aide instructor. She was all in. Nashwauk-Keewatin High School is part of an Itasca Area Schools Collaborative NEXT Career Pathways initiative to offer this course in all IASC schools. The program is currently supported by Applied Learning Institute, Minnesota North College, True North Stars Perkins Consortium and IASC NEXT Career Pathways. Many local facilities, such as Hillcrest Assisted Living, have been very supportive of the program through donations of equipment and supplies.

Students completing the semester course will earn high school elective credit, college credit, and certified nursing assistant/home health aide certification.

"This is a good program for students." Amber said. She went on to say, "It takes away the cost factor of the course and certification. It allows them to experience a real-world sample of what the field of healthcare is like. And, it allows them to gain a jump on more advanced certifications and license–like LPN or RN–if they go that route."



Lexi Buyense is a student in the in the CNA/HHA class, and is hoping to pursue a career in healthcare, possibly as a registered nurse. She plans to work a year or more as a certified nurse assistant before continuing her education.

Lexi feels that offering this course during the school day removed a lot of barriers for her as compared to seeking this certification and experience on her own. "Absolutely!" she responded when asked if she would encourage her classmates to enroll in this course. "You are learning while you are working!"

## Exploring the Future: Career-Focused Activities Manufacturing Tours Across Northern Minnesota

Over 800 students visited manufacturing sites across northern Minnesota last month. Here are just a few glimpses into all the fun!



Exploring the Future: Career-Focused Activities Education Tour to Bigfork School





On Tuesday, October 29th Class Act students as well as a handful of IASC College In the Schools Intro to Teaching students traveled to Bigfork School to observe in three different classrooms and talk with the principal and counselor about their positions. This is a great opportunity for students to be in a K-12 school environment and experience multiple grade level classrooms in one day.

### Exploring the Future: Career-Focused Activities Discover Healthcare Event









NEXT Career Pathways would like to thank the following individuals and businesses for their continued support and partnership with the Healthcare Career Pathways in the area!

Nathan Hough Hiedi Powell Cre Larson Amanda Reed Alesha Shadrick Connie Ross Naesa Myers Hallie Shevich Katie Troumbly Tyler Waller Tina Oles Andrea Carter Lee Church Rachel Buchert Kyle Hedlund CEO, Bigfork Valley Bigfork Valley Executive Director, First Call 211 Operations Director, Essentia Health Executive Assistant, Essentia Health Residential Programs Service Director, North Homes Director, Itasca County Public Health Human Resources Generalist, Grand Itasca Clinic & Hospital Home Care Manager, Grand Itasca Clinic & Hospital Director of Pharmacy, Grand Itasca Clinic & Hospital Supervisor, Grand Itasca Clinic & Hospital Director of Clinic Operations, Grand Itasca Clinic & Hospital Essentia Health Dentist, Grand Rapids Dental Assisted Living Director, Oak Hill



Here is a community event that you might be interested in!

### **Minnesota North Tech Career Days**

Students will rotate through Minnesota North Tech Programs for hands on activities and listen to a student panel about their experience. We expect over 300+ students to attend this popular event! Lunch will be provided. Transportation and subs will be covered.

#### Two dates to choose from!

- *11/19/2024 9:30-12:30 Mesabi Eveleth Campus* email christopher.vito@minnesotanorth.edu to register
- 12/6/2024 9:45-1:00 Hibbing email jessica.matvey@minnesotanorth.edu to register