

Curriculum & Student Development
Committee Meeting
Tuesday, December 19, 2023 4:30 PM

Zoom only
10 Campus Drive
Madison, CT 06443

Meeting Agenda

- I. College & Career SchoolLinks Presentation
- II. Public Comment

The Town of Madison does not discriminate on the basis of disability, and the meeting facilities are ADA accessible. Individuals who need assistance are invited to make their needs known by contacting the Town ADA/Human Resources Director, Debra Ferrante, at 203-245-6310 or by email at ferranted@madisonct.org at least five (5) business days prior to the meeting.

College & Career Counselor Updates

Chrissy Coyle & Jen Hawley

Community Partnerships

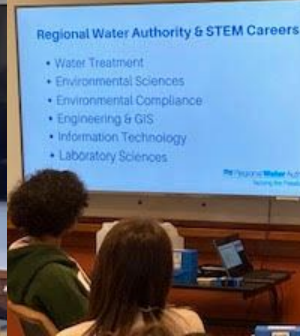


- Recruitment of career mentors for internships, job shadowing, and DHHS programs/presentations - ongoing initiative
 - Superintendent's newsletter
 - Madison Patch
 - The Source
 - Madison Chamber of Commerce
- Develop career mentor database that will be accessible to all students
 - Current contacts not publicly available
 - SchoolLinks - Industry Partner Network
 - Mentors can enter profiles, videos, available opportunities, etc.
 - Students interface directly with mentors
 - DHHS alumni can act as mentors and easily connect with current students

Career Exploration Programming - school day activities



- Guest speakers to share information about their career industries
- Field trips- wide range of special events, companies, colleges, etc.
- School Counseling curriculum now includes lessons with College/Career Counselor
 - Grades 9, 10 - career interest assessment/exploration activity on Naviance
 - Grade 11 - developing post-secondary plans
- Junior Planning Day
 - Successful pilot last year, will now be an annual event
 - Students select workshops focusing variety of post-secondary planning topics
- Career Expo
 - Goal - professionals representing each of the 16 National Career Clusters
 - Pilot year to juniors only
 - Plan for annual event, will open to additional grade levels successive years



SchooLinks Update:

SchooLinks is a modern college & career readiness platform that we have been exploring. From educating younger learners about potential careers, helping explore and apply to colleges, or finding that entry level position to jumpstart a career-SchooLinks can support our entire district.

Why the Change?

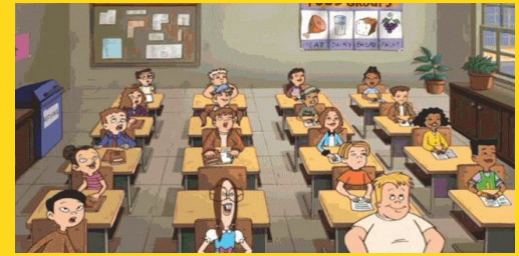
Currently, students are not using Naviance for anything other than their college applications

It is difficult to reach Naviance when there are questions or concerns

SchooLinks 2024-2025 Plan:

- We will add SchooLinks to Polson & Daniel Hand High School for the 2024-2025 school year.
- Training will be completed in the spring of this year with all counselors at Polson & DHHS
- Counselors will create a “how to video” for parental use and post on the website and in google classrooms
- School Counselors and college & career counselor will help to orient students in each grade level throughout the 2024-2025 school year

Student Feedback-Polson & DHHS



- Polson students said that they feel like it is more interesting—more like a game than a school thing, it was fun and they thought their classmates would like it.
- DHHS students said it easier to use and more helpful & useful than Naviance.
- “I loved the college research feature, it was easy to read and presented the information in a way that was engaging.
- “I would rather use SchoolLinks, it seems more current and modern. It is more manageable and less overwhelming.”

Who else is using SchooLinks?

- Weston: Very few complaints and with the few questions they have had SchooLinks was very responsive and implemented change or a solution quickly.
- Greenwich: Currently only using the internship & database portion of SchooLinks but have no complaints and find it easy to use.
- Cheshire: “So far so good! Teacher recs are easy, common app link is easy, and the students navigate the system independently easily. Career tools and resume are much better than Naviance and students seem engaged.”