

Swallow School District Guidance Program May 2021

Swallow strives to provide students with a comprehensive, developmentally appropriate Guidance Program which supports both the social and emotional development and academic and career planning needs of all students. With this programmatic goal and the [District's Strategic Plan](#), the following is a proposal to deepen the impact of Guidance programming while taking bold next steps to advance the achievement of District Action Plans and directly benefit students.

Elementary Guidance Program Beginning in 2021-22

Swallow elementary students have the benefit of staff using cross-curricular collaboration to make meaning for students in their social and emotional development as they approach academic and career planning. Students have Guidance weekly for 30 minutes for the duration of the school year. The counselor plans with grade level teachers to ensure relevant social and emotional learning units of study and exploration of academic and career planning rooted in cross-curricular lessons tied to [science, math and/or social studies units already taught within each grade level](#). This also includes an element of learning from/with others across the world and a transformative experience through an annual service-learning project at each grade level.

Grade Level	Career Cluster Focus (Selected from the 16 Career Clusters based on Current Grade Level Curriculum)*
4K	What is a job?
5K	Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources; Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security
1st	Hospitality & Tourism; Transportation, Distribution & Logistics
2nd	Business, Management & Administration; Education & Training; Human Services
3rd	Arts, Audio/Video Technology & Communications; Finance; Marketing, Sales & Service
4th	Architecture & Construction; Government & Public Administration; Manufacturing
5th	Health Science; Information Technology; Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics

**There are multiple career clusters at each grade level, and through PLC work, each would be focused on during the year with at least one selected for deepening via a worldwide connection and service-learning component.*

Middle School Guidance Program Beginning in 2021-22

Swallow's middle school program builds on the elementary experience and continues the dual focus on social and emotional development and academic and career planning. This is accomplished through two means: a trimester of Guidance for all Middle School students each year

and additional more in-depth academic and career planning experiences during monthly Early Release Days.

The trimester of Guidance is during one of the two elective periods within the middle school schedule. This allows for a mix of social emotional programming and learning more about careers and academic planning with additional in-depth experiences planned for Early Release days.

In 6th and 7th grade, Early Release days are structured with an in-depth experience into a specific career cluster each month such that by the end of the two years, students have had in-depth experiences in all 16 career clusters. Then in 8th grade, students are paired with business partners/organizations to do a more personalized service-learning project overseen by Swallow Staff.

For 2021-22, since none of the rising 6-8th graders have had the career programming to date, they will all experience what is listed below for 6th grade in the inaugural year of this programming change. For 2022-23, the rising 6th graders will follow the progression below and the rising 7th and 8th graders will have the programming noted in the 7th grade column below. In the 2023-24 school year the rising 6-8th graders will fully experience the program as noted below.

	<i>By grade, more in-depth focus on Career Cluster for Early Release Day.*</i>		
Month for Early Release	6th Grade	7th Grade	8th Grade
September	Agriculture, Food & Natural Resources	Hospitality & Tourism	<i>(Experience with organization in areas of interest for student--prolonged service learning over months)</i>
October	Arts, Audio/Video Technology & Communications	Human Services	
November	Architecture & Construction	Information Technology	
December	Business, Management & Administration	Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security	
January	Education & Training	Manufacturing	
<i>(February)</i>	<i>(Typically no Early Release Day)</i>		
March	Finance; Government & Public Administration	Marketing, Sales & Service	<i>(Experience with organization in areas of interest for student--prolonged service learning over months)</i>
April	Health Science	Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics	

May	(No Early Release May 2022)	Transportation, Distribution & Logistics	
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**This includes guest speakers, field trips, and/or other service learning opportunities.*

Community Support Sought to Ensure Success

Swallow community members play a vital role in the academic and career planning (ACP) process from supporting their child(ren) via the aforementioned learning progression to volunteering to assist the District in providing meaningful ACP information, activities, and projects. In addition, community partners, who may be parents and/or local or regional businesses or service agencies, provide knowledge, expertise, and experiences in support of ACP programmatic goals. Specifically:

- Parents and community partners are kept abreast of the ACP programming, curricular changes, and student involvement and desired outcomes.
- Parents and community partners have been asked to be involved as speakers about the career clusters and specific jobs at each grade level.
- Integrated educational goals, learning targets, and community partner involvement are interwoven into service learning projects that benefit all those involved so that students participate in the Swallow Worldwide initiative and see the benefits of service learning.
- The resources of community partners are utilized to further expand students' understanding of workplace expectations, structure, and occupations.
- Examples of specific partnerships include:
 - Regional Career Pathways Collaborative DPI and CESA #1
 - The Institute for Personalized Learning at CESA #1
 - Milwaukee 7 Regional Economic Development Partnership
 - Swallow Education Foundation
 - Hartland Chamber of Commerce
 - Waukesha County Business Alliance
 - Swallow families

Annually as specific ACP and service learning opportunities are planned by grade level, parents will be contacted for assistance as well as community partners.

To volunteer your time and talents, please contact Superintendent Melissa Thompson at thompson@swallowschool.org or 262-367-2000 x108.