



Burlington High School Counseling Department

Flexible Pathways Newsletter

Winter 2024

Flexible Pathways

Student learning should be customized and personalized. All students should have choice and voice in their educational experiences. Learning should be relevant, authentic, and be able to happen any time in any place. ~ BHS Program of Studies

Each student's pathway to graduation should and will look different from their peers based on the student's needs and interests. The first installment of this newsletter will explore some of the flexible pathways that Burlington High School offers.

Kate Stein entered the role of Flexible Pathways (Act 77) Coordinator at BHS in October 2022. She supports students as they explore flexible pathways such as dual enrollment and virtual learning. She works closely with school counselors and is the BHS liaison to the Burlington Technical Center, Center for Technology Essex, Vermont Virtual Learning Collaborative, as well as the Agency of Education and the colleges/universities where our students take dual enrollment classes.

If you have questions or for more information, please reach out to Kate Stein at kstein@bsdvt.org.



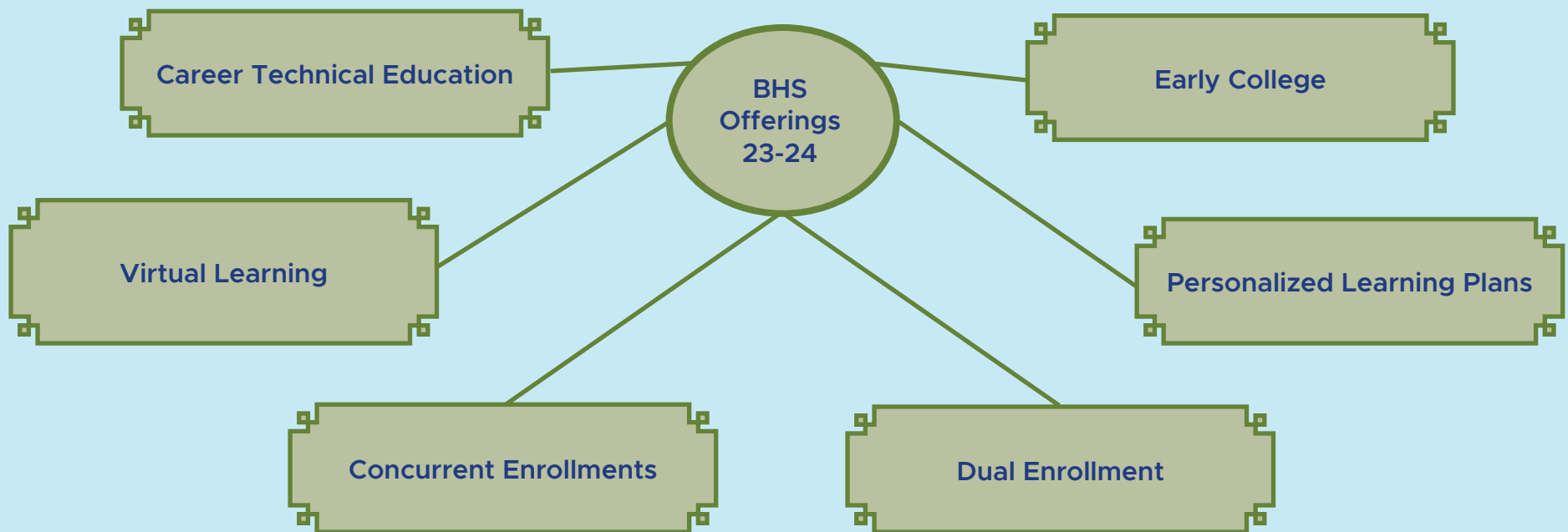
Kate Stein
Flexible Pathways Coordinator



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Flexible Pathways

Flexible Pathways are defined by the Vermont Agency of Education as, “Any combination of high-quality expanded learning opportunities, including academic and experiential components, which build and assess attainment of identified proficiencies and lead to secondary school completion, civic engagement and postsecondary readiness. Flexible pathways allow students to apply their knowledge and skills to tasks of personal interest as part of the personalized learning planning process.”





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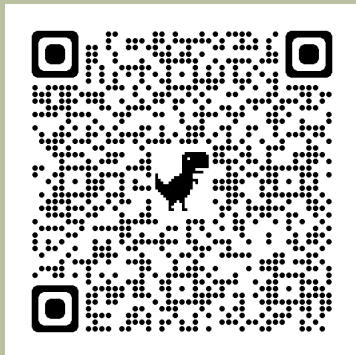
Winter 2024

Sign Up Now!

**CTE Visit Day
February 20**

2 Easy Steps!

1. Click on the QR code to sign up.



2. Complete and return the BHS permission slip by February 13.

Career Technical Education

During the month of November BHS hosted Burlington Technical Center and the Center for Technology at Essex. Both BTC and CTE had the opportunity to speak to all 10th graders during advisory. Each center has unique programs that offer students the opportunity to work towards individual goals through immersive, hands-on study with highly trained professional instructors, in state-of-the-art labs and classrooms, and through experiential learning opportunities.

BTC's visit day is scheduled for January 25th. The deadline for the 68 students who have signed up to turn in a completed permission slip is Thursday, January 11th. Reminders have been sent to students.

Twenty-one students visited CTE on Tuesday, December 6th and there will be a second opportunity for additional interested students to visit on Tuesday, February 20th. Tenth graders should use the information in the box to the left.

Students who would like to attend either BTC or CTE must apply. The application process begins in January.



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Early College

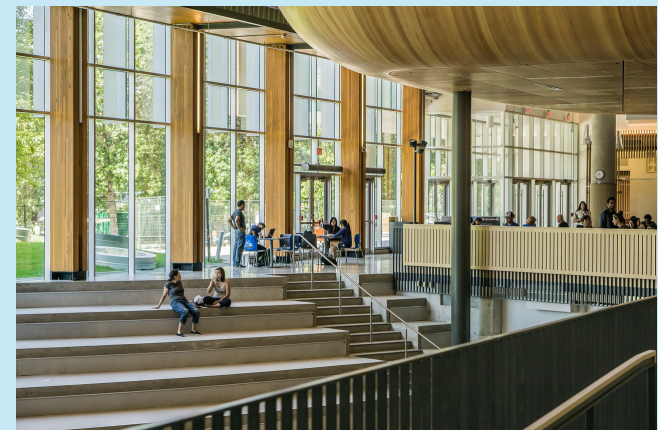
Juniors, please sign up to join us during flex time on Wednesday, February 21st for a presentation about Early College. Early College Degree Program Manager Sara Kresser of Community College will provide information and answer questions. Come see if Early College may be right for you!

The Early College Program allows you to spend your senior year at a college earning college credits. This helps you graduate high school and get a jump on your college degree, tuition free. Students are responsible for fees, textbooks, materials, etc. Students in this program enroll full-time, taking 4 – 5 college level classes during the fall and spring semesters of their senior year for a total of 8 – 10 classes. Additionally there may be 30-40 hours of school work outside of the classroom. As an early college student you are responsible for managing your own time and schedule.

Early College applications may include the following items

- Educator Recommendation form
- Graduation Requirements form
- Principal Assurance form
- Official copies of all high school transcripts
- Essay
- Accuplacer Assessment or SAT or ACT score reports
- Interview

Priority applications due by May 1st of junior year.
(Applicants must have 18 credits by the end of the year to apply.)





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Dual Enrollment

Dual Enrollment is for students who have earned at least 12 high school credits. Students enroll in college classes and have the choice of attending in person or online. This is a great opportunity for students to get a feel for what college is like.

FAQs

- The Agency of Education issues 2 vouchers for eligible students and cover the cost of tuition. All materials and fees are the responsibility of the student.
- Courses taken through the dual enrollment program will be recorded on the student's high school transcript.
- Courses must be included in the student's Personalized Learning Plan (PLP).
- It is the student's responsibility to share their 504 or IEP with the college if they would like to explore having accommodations.
- Once the student is enrolled in the dual enrollment class the student is responsible for all communication with the college.



More information may be found on the BHS website under [Flexible Pathways](#).

Please contact Ms. Kate Stein, Flexible Pathways Coordinator with questions. kstein@bsdvt.org



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Concurrent Enrollments

BHS is pleased to announce our new partnership with Saint Michael's College (SMC) where we are approved to offer three BHS classes as concurrent enrollments with SMC. This path to post-secondary opportunities is an opt-in opportunity. The classes that have been approved for concurrent enrollment are: AP Literature, AP Government, and Honors Physics. By offering concurrent classes taught by BHS teachers during the school day we are providing opportunities for students who may not have time or transportation to earn college credit using dual enrollment vouchers.

As a reminder the AOE permits the use of 2 vouchers for students who have at least 12 high school credits already earned; typically 11th & 12th grades at BHS. For students who may not yet have 12 credits, SMC allows families to pay the \$1050 for the course upon recommendation from the course instructor. Students who have used their allotted 2 dual enrollment vouchers may also pay for the course, but do not need a recommendation.

Vouchers cover the cost of tuition. These concurrent enrollments do not have extra work, fees, or additional textbooks. Students who opt into these courses will receive a college transcript from Saint Michael's College whose credits may be more transferable to other colleges/universities than an AP test score alone.

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