Pathways for 2016-2017 will Optimize Dual Enrollment

Helena College’s 2016-17 Strengthening Big Sky Pathways Grant plans to enhance existing Pathways with new dual enrollment courses and to develop new Pathways that contextualize current dual enrollment offerings.

Helena College has developed 45 pathways with 8 high schools, and in 2015-16 offered 65 concurrent enrollment courses for 575 high school students. In addition, 35 high school students earned college credits at Helena College last year.

By strategically selecting the most beneficial high school courses and learning opportunities, pathways help students move seamlessly from high school to college. When students begin focusing on a career pathway early, they learn whether or not they have the interest and skills to invest in that pathway.

In 2016-17 Helena College will enhance existing pathways in Health careers by exploring possibilities for additional dual enrolled courses, such as Medical Terminology, Human Biology, and Emergency Medical Technician. In addition, accounting pathways will be enhanced by the possible addition of a dual enrolled Personal Finance course, a course that also helps students plan for financing college.

Additional pathways will be developed to complete a range of Office Technology careers, including Administrative Office Management, Computer Skills Specialist, and Administrative Office Specialist, with dual enrollment possibilities in a range of Microsoft courses.

Pathways will be developed to contextualize a variety of current dual enrollment courses, so that students are taking courses that will apply to the degrees they wish to pursue.

Finally, the Helena College Big Sky Pathways program will provide training for Auto and Welding instructors to ensure their concurrent enrollment courses are aligned with the courses taught on the college campus.

The Career Pathways Coordinator is available for presentations at parent and students events.
Events & Professional Development

Women in Gear
Saturday, October 8
8:30-2:00, Helena Airport Campus.
For girls in grade 8 and older
Register at www.umhelena.edu.

- Miss Montana and biochemistry major, Lauren Scofield: Planting the Seeds of STEM.
- Hands-on demonstrations in Automotive, Aviation, Diesel, Fire & Rescue, Welding, CAM, and Pre-Pharmacy
- Panel of successful young women working in science and technical trades
- Medical Emergency Simulation
- Funded by Boeing, with FREE snacks, lunch, gift bags and prize drawings

MCIS Regional Training Career Exploration, September 28
9:30 am-11:30 am
Helena College Lecture Hall
12:30 pm – 3:30 pm  Computer Lab 132
RSVP to Jan.clinard@umhelena.edu
by September 19, 2016
5 Renewal Units available if pre-registered

MCIS is the Montana Career Information System, a free internet-based website for career exploration, with versions suitable for use by students from elementary through college level.

Pam Brandt, Montana Department of Labor, Trainer

Montana ACTE Conference
October 21, Bozeman
Pathways and Dual Enrollment!
Maximize your time at MT ACTE and minimize your time out of your classroom! This year Big Sky Pathways and MT ACTE are partnering on a hands-on approach on Pathways and Dual Enrollment. Friday’s schedule will feature 30-minute “Pathway Sessions.” These allow conference attendees to register in advance to work with Pathway coordinators at MT ACTE.

Helena College will provide an opportunity for teachers to explore the development of a dual enrollment Personal Finance class by working with Accounting & Business instructor, Barbara Yahvah. Discuss the Financial Literacy component of Reach Higher Montana and its alignment with high school personal finance classes, potentially for dual credit. Barbara and Jan can also help with business, accounting, and other pathways.

Programs of Study are posted on the Helena College website: http://www.umhelena.edu/admissions_enrollment/careerpathways.aspx.

For more information about Big Sky Pathways, snap this QR Code: