

Grade 9 Career Portfolio 2020-2021

Parent Notification Form

Enclosed in this packet are a description, the procedures, and assessment guidelines for the Career Portfolio your child must complete in order to graduate. All necessary forms are included at the back of this booklet in the “Required Forms” section.

This is an ongoing, 3 part project beginning in grade nine and continuing until May of the junior year. It is important for you and your child to carefully examine the information in this booklet so that you are aware of your child’s responsibilities.

GRADE 9

- Career interest survey- **will be done in class**
- 1 career questionnaire- **will be done in class**
- Job shadow **OR** 1 Visit to a college, trade school , military branch recruiter
Job Shadow & thank you letter (*can be a virtual conversation- question sheet must be completed or done in-person if permitted*)
Post-Secondary visit with a journal (*can be completed virtually or in the building*)
- 1 community service activity (you must complete the entire activity start to finish)
For example; if you volunteer at a community 5K race then you must stay for the entire shift you were assigned to. If you choose to volunteer at Big Brothers Big Sisters, you must attend all sessions with your little, not just 1 session. You must also get your community service verification form signed by the person in charge of whatever event/activity you choose to obtain your service through.

It is the responsibility of your son/daughter to successfully complete all parts of the Career Portfolio in order to graduate. If all of the requirements for the Career Portfolio are not completed on time, he/she will receive an incomplete (I) on his/her transcript, will not receive credit for the requirement and may forfeit his/her graduation ceremony participation or ability to receive a New Brighton Diploma. Every student is responsible for completing all assignments given in class and any independent activities required of the Career Portfolio by the due dates assigned. Any questions regarding Career Portfolio assignments should be directed to the teacher who assigned the task or your child’s school counselor.

3 Year Career Portfolio 2020-2021

New Brighton Area School District implements a 3 Year Career Portfolio broken into 3 parts as the final exit activity. The 3 Year Career Portfolio needs to be satisfactorily completed according to the standards set in order to graduate. The requirements of the project will be completed both during class as assigned activities and outside of school as independent activities. The student is responsible for completing all requirements of the project. If a student is absent on a day an activity is completed, he/she is still responsible for the assignment. Students should talk with the teacher who facilitated the activity for completion requirements. Students can also speak to their counselor if they have questions or need help.

The timeline for this project provides ample time for all parts of the project to be completed successfully. If all of the requirements for the Career Portfolio are not completed on time, students will not receive credit for the requirement and may forfeit their graduation ceremony participation or ability to receive a New Brighton High School Diploma. Students in the class of 2024 will earn .25 credit on their transcript upon successful completion of part 1 (grade 9), .25 for successful completion of part 2 (grade 10), and .5 credit for successful completion of part 3 (grade 11) for a total of 1 full credit required for graduation.

The Career Portfolio encourages a student to focus on post-secondary options and consists of 3 parts to be completed over 3 years (grades 9, 10, 11). Below are the requirements students are to complete at each grade level.

GRADE 9

- Career interest survey- **will be done in class**
- 1 career questionnaire- **will be done in class**
- Job shadow **OR** 1 Visit to a college, trade school , military branch recruiter
Job Shadow & thank you letter (*can be a virtual conversation- question sheet must be completed or done in-person if permitted*)
Post-Secondary visit with a journal (*can be completed virtually or in the building*)
- 1 community service activity (you must complete the entire activity start to finish)

GRADE 10

- Career interest & skills survey- **will be done in class**
- 1 career questionnaire- **will be done in class**
- Financial Experience- **will be done in class**
- Completion of a job application (will not be submitted for employment)- **will be done in class**
- Job shadow **OR** 1 Visit to a college, trade school , military branch recruiter
Job Shadow & thank you letter (*can be a virtual conversation- question sheet must be completed or done in-person if permitted*)
Post-Secondary visit with a journal (*can be completed virtually or in the building*)
- 1 community service activity (you must complete the entire activity start to finish)
For example; if you volunteer at a community 5K race then you must stay for the entire shift you were assigned to. If you choose to volunteer at Big Brothers Big Sisters, you must attend all sessions with your little, not just 1 session. You must also get your community service verification form signed by the person in charge of whatever event/activity you choose to obtain your service through.

GRADE 11

- Career interest survey- **will be done in class**
- 1 career questionnaire- **will be done in class**
- Personal entrepreneurial traits reflection- **will be done in class**
- Job shadow (*can be a virtual conversation- question sheet must be completed or done in person if permitted*) & thank you letter
- 2 Visits to a college, trade school or military branch recruiter
One visit can be completed in the building by a visiting representative (*this can be completed virtually*)- Journal entry is required with this visit
One visit must be completed on your own with a representative from a post-secondary institution (*either in person or virtually*) Journal entry is required with this visit
OR additional job shadow experiences can be done to fulfill this requirements- *thank-you letter(s) is required if additional job shadow experiences are completed*
- 1 community service activity (you must complete the entire activity start to finish)
For example; if you volunteer at a community 5K race then you must stay for the entire shift you were assigned to. If you choose to volunteer at Big Brothers Big Sisters, you must attend all sessions with your little, not just 1 session. You must also get your community service verification form signed by the person in charge of whatever event/activity you choose to obtain your service through.
- Resume & cover letter- **will be done in class**

WELCOME TO GRADE 9

During your freshmen year, you will participate in activities that will help you continue the process of career exploration. You will complete assignments and activities both in and out of the classroom. You are responsible for completing all requirements and asking for help if needed.

In order to be successful follow a few tips:

- Choose post-secondary visits, job shadows and community service projects that will help you with your post-secondary planning.
- Meet your deadlines.
- Seek help if needed.
- DON'T PROCRASTINATE!
- Be responsible and organized.

Below is a checklist of the activities you will complete by the end of 9th grade.

GRADE 9

- Career interest (completed in class)
- 1 career questionnaire (found on pages 11, completed on your own)
 - Use the websites below to explore careers based on the results of your career interest survey.
 - Answer all questions on the questionnaire in a Word/Google Document.

Websites to explore for career exploration: feel free to use additional sites you may find

<http://www.khake.com/page2.html> (This site has a large variety of links for career exploration)

<http://www.acinet.org/explore/View.aspx> (The sites gives 5 simple steps for looking into career options)

http://www.quintcareers.com/teen_jobs.html (The site has good links and articles- including activities for writing resumes and understanding work ethics.)

http://www.dmoz.org/Kids_and_Teens/People_and_Society/Careers/ (This is an open directory by dmoz- it contains a large number of links to other career sites.)

<http://www.bls.gov/> (This site is for the bureau of labor statistics and provides info such as job outlook, salary and the type of education needed, etc)

- Job shadow & thank you letter or question sheet for virtual shadow (completed on your own)
 - Cannot be a member of your immediate family (parent or sibling)
 - Job shadowing requires that the student shadow the person on site for a minimum of 4 hours and must take place in one day.
 - Students are responsible for following all rules of the workplace.
 - Dress according to the guidelines of the workplace
 - Thank you letter must be mailed to job shadow facilitator
 - Sample thank you letter is found on page 8-9
 - A job shadow verification form is required and can be found on page 12
 - VIRTUAL shadow question sheet can be found on page 13

OR (Post-Secondary Visit)

Visit a college, trade school or military branch recruiter; a journal for each visit (completed on your own or through a visit at NBHS)

- If you take a visit outside of school, your visit is to be a minimum of **three hours** in duration in order for the student to gain valuable information about the campus or opportunities.
 - Signature forms are required for all visits and found on page 14-15
 - Field trips **and** presentations by college reps held by school personnel are acceptable and require a signature form as well
 - Journal entries must be typed and consist of 1-2 paragraphs (5-7 sentences per paragraph) for each of the visits and community service that answers the 5 W's (who, what (did you do, see, like, dislike), where, when, why)
- 1 community service activity (completed on your own & you must see the entire activity through)
- The activity can be designed around community service or a community/school project.
 - Community service is about helping others. It is not just giving of free labor or time. You will be working with the people you are helping. (soup kitchen, teaching Sunday School, Habitat for Humanity).
 - Community projects are about helping others through an outside source or organization. (clothing drive, food drive, 5K run benefit, town clean-up) See list of projects.
 - The community service log and Mentor verification form is required and can be found on page 16.
 - What will **NOT** be accepted for community service?
 - This is not a comprehensive list:
 - Shoveling snow for neighbors- this is just being neighborly and you should do this anyway when it's needed
 - Helping a friend/neighbor with a personal project- this doesn't benefit the community
 - Working at your place of employment and "not getting paid"
- ***Ask if you are unsure of your service idea**

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- ◆ ALL work/activities that are completed on your own (not as an assignment from a teacher) **MUST** be turned in to your counselor for grading.
- ◆ Students may be excused **two days** from school for their Career Portfolio. An excuse must be provided to verify your absence. Signature forms may be photocopied and 1 copy turned in as an excuse to your homeroom teacher. Students will be responsible for making up any missed work.
- ◆ If any part of the Career Portfolio is not completed, students may be required to complete an alternative assignment to meet the requirement of the project.
- ◆ Failure to complete the requirements of this project will result in failing the Career Portfolio for the year and not receiving the necessary credits toward graduation. Students delinquent in credits will forfeit participation in the graduation ceremony and will hinder his/her ability to earn a New Brighton High School diploma.
- ◆ Ultimately, it is up to the discretion of the Career Portfolio Coordinators to determine if you have satisfactorily completed all the requirements of this project. The Career Portfolio Coordinators will be assigning the pass/fail grade for this credit. It is a requirement for graduation. If you have any questions or concerns, please see the Career Portfolio Coordinators.

All documents, instructions, and this guide are available on the high school's guidance webpage under the 'files' link.

Community Service Ideas

(Community service verification form can be found in the ‘Required Forms’ section of this packet)

- Work with local clubs/organizations for community service projects. (Lion's, Rotary, NB Parks and Recreation, youth baseball association, etc.)
- Recycling Program in high school or in community.
- Coaching- Must start and finish the season & be at practices and games
- Raise money for a charity through an event you plan
- Butterfly Garden Elementary
- Talk with church leaders of New Brighton churches for service projects
- Beautify an area of the school grounds- Talk with school officials about this idea.**
- Summer Reading Program at Public Library
- Help with the Car Cruise or the Halloween Parade
- Organize a clean-up day for New Brighton or your community
- Paint murals in the town or school
- Help with an after school program
- Help with the triathlon
- Organize a used book sale for the public library
- Decorate the display case on the third floor
- Help with PTO events
- Town Christmas Project

Places to Volunteer

Elementary/Middle school
Soup Kitchens
Ambassador Program
Cambridge Village
Brighton Wellness & Rehab
Animal Friends
Heritage Valley

Big Brothers Big Sisters
Festival of Trees
Habitat for Humanity/ Habitat Restore
Beaver County Humane Society
PTO-Market Day
Salvation Army
Meals on Wheels

Rochester Manor
Grove Cemetery
Providence
Chamber of Commerce
Franciscan Manor
Community Churches
Ready Yourself Youth Ranch

Tips for Writing Journal Entries/Reflections

- A journal entry/reflection is needed for the following experiences:
 - Post-Secondary visits (2 visits)
 - Community Service (10 hours)
 - 1 journal entry can be written for all 10 hours even if they are not done at the same place. Include all of your experiences in the same journal entry. Use proper writing technique to separate your paragraphs/experiences.
- During your experience, pay close attention to details; names of people helping you, where you are, what you are doing specifically etc.
- As soon as you are done and have a minute, take out your phone and jot down notes in your phone of those things you paid close attention to (from above).
- Think about the 3 What's
 - WHAT- recall your event
 - So WHAT now- reflect on the details of your event
 - WHAT's next- what have you learned and what can you take away from the experience?

Good questions to ask yourself as you write your reflection.

- 1) What actually happened? What was your experience?
- 2) What have you learned about the experience?
- 3) How has the experience impacted you?
- 4) Was your experience interesting? What did you like, dislike, why?

Letter of Appreciation

(Thank You letter to those you job shadowed)

Thanking someone for taking time from his/her busy schedule is very important. You should send a letter within two weeks after you job shadow, showing your appreciation for their time. This will be a graded Career Portfolio item. (See Rubric) Make sure you keep a copy of your letter for your portfolio. Please do not send the letter until it has been approved by a parent, teacher or the Career Portfolio Coordinator. Proof-reading is very important when sending a letter to another person.

Remember to do the following when writing your letter:

1. Follow the correct format. (See Example next page)
2. Watch your spelling and grammar.
3. Paragraph one should thank the person you shadowed.
4. Paragraph two should state something you learned or enjoyed.
5. Paragraph three is a short thank you again.
6. Remember to sign your name between "Sincerely" and your typed name.
7. Sign your name in black ink exactly how you typed it.
8. Before sending show someone the letter and see if it follows the steps above
9. **This letter is a reflection of you. Misspelled words, incorrect format, bad grammar, no signature shows the person you are careless and you don't care.**

Use proper Letter Format for Letter of Appreciation:

Your Street Address
Your City, Your State Your Zip code
Date you are typing Letter

Job Shadow Person's Name
JSP Street Address
JSP City, JSP State JSP Zip code

Dear Mr. Mrs. Ms Dr. JSP Name:

Thank you for taking time from your busy schedule to provide me the job shadowing experience on (Fill in Date).

I found the ... Paragraph two should state something you learned or enjoyed. It should be at least four sentences.

I thank you again for your generosity and patience in helping me complete my Career Portfolio.

Sincerely,

Your Name

REQUIRED FORMS

Forms in the packet can be photocopied if needed.

For example: if you are doing more than 1 job shadow or complete community service at 2 different locations, please make additional copies

All assignments completed outside of school must be submitted to your counselor for grading. This includes all journal entries and verification forms.

Please use the checklist below to be sure you have completed ALL required items for your portfolio.

- Career Interest Survey
- Career Questionnaire # 1
- Job Shadow OR Post-Secondary Visit Verification Form
- Letter of Appreciation (thank you letter to the person you shadowed)
OR Question Sheet if shadow was virtual OR Visit Journal Entry
- Community Service Verification Form
- Community Service Journal Entry

Career Research Questionnaire
Hand-written answers will NOT be accepted for the final project:
Questionnaires MUST BE TYPED

1. **Name of Occupation:** (choose one base on your career survey results)

2. **Nature of the Work:** (Brief job description of this occupation)

3. **Working Conditions:** (Where do people work in this occupation? Are there physical demands for this job?)

4. **Training and Education Requirements:** (Do you need a license? College Degree? Advanced Education—describe the qualifications you will need for this occupation.)

5. **Job Outlook:** (What will be the demand for this occupation in the next five years? Include the date of your source)

6. **Earning Potential:** (How much can you expect to be paid in this occupation? Explain)

7. **Related Occupations:** (Describe two other occupations that are similar to this one that you could also pursue.)

8. **Sources used:**

Job Shadow Experience Verification Form

****If a school day is missed for this job shadow, make a copy of this form and turn it in as your excuse for absence.****

New Brighton Area School District implements a Career Portfolio as the final exit activity. The Career Portfolio needs to be satisfactorily completed according to the standards set in order to graduate. Portions of the project are to be completed independently by students outside of school.

Students need to complete 4 hours of job shadowing a career and these hours must be completed in a single day.

To understand what your career is all about, the student should participate as much as possible in your job duties. Please review and select activities for the student to perform or observe within your place of work. It's important to have the student participate in your job in ways that will not inadvertently disrupt or damage your work. We hope they will have a first-hand experience of your work.

If the student has completed four (4) hours of job shadowing with you please complete the following information for the purpose of verifying their experience.

Student Name _____

Name of Person Job Shadowed _____

Date _____

I agree that the above named student completed four (4) hours of job shadowing. The above student completed an interview with me and acted in a professional manner.

(Signature)

(email address)

(Place of Employment)

(Telephone)

Virtual Job Shadow Question Sheet

Directions:

This question sheet is to be used for any job shadow experience that is completed virtually. Please complete each question on this sheet and turn it in to your counselor/career portfolio coordinator.

- 1) What is the name and company name of the person you shadowed?

- 2) What is the job title of the person you are shadowing? _____

- 3) What are some of the biggest responsibilities within this position? _____

- 4) Please share some personal skills and strengths that you have that would be helpful in being successful in this position.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

- 5) Please share some job related/essential skills that are required to be successful in this position.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.

- 6) What type of post-secondary education/training is needed for this position? _____

- 7) Please share what your shadow person enjoys most about his/her job/work day/responsibilities. _____

- 8) Did you enjoy this shadow experience and would you consider this type of work for yourself upon graduating from high school/post-secondary training? Why/why not?

COLLEGE/TRADE SCHOOL/MILLITARY VISITS

*****It is the student's responsibility to get a verification form/letter from the person with whom you met on your visit.*****

This letter must:

- be on official letter-head paper from the institution that verifies your visit
- include the date of your visit
- include the name and signature of the person with whom you met and their title within the institution

If a letter is not available, please have the institution representative complete the Additional Visit Verification Form (page 13 of this packet). I will also accept a printout of an email sent directly to the student from the institution representative verifying a visit date.

This email must:

- be sent to the student from the professional email address of the institution representative
- include the date of your visit
- include the name of the person with whom you met on your visit and their title within that institution
- be printed out by the student and included in the paperwork to be turned in to a Career Portfolio Coordinator.

STUDENTS WHO ATTEND A COLLEGE VISIT SET UP BY THE COUNSELING DEPT:

- Please complete the Visit Verification Form and have it signed by your School Counselor

What will not be accepted as verification of a visit:

- brochures, booklets, flyers etc. from an institution
- hand-written letters

Visit Verification Form

****If a school day is missed for this visit, make a copy of this form and turn it in as your excuse for absence.****

New Brighton Area School District implements a Career Portfolio as the final exit activity. The Career Portfolio needs to be satisfactorily completed according to the standards set in order to graduate. Portions of the project are to be completed independently by students outside of school.

To understand what your institution offers, the student should participate in a tour of the campus (walking or virtual) and also receive information regarding admission, student/campus life and financial aid.

Please complete the following information for the purpose of verifying the student's visit at your institution.

Student Name _____

Name of Institution _____

Name of Institution Representative _____

Signature of Institution Representative _____

Date of visit _____

Lions Take PRIDE In Learning

MENTOR VERIFICATION OF COMMUNITY SERVICE

Student Name _____

Event Title: _____

Event Date: _____

Tasks you were assigned to complete: _____

Name of Mentor in Charge of event: _____

You have been chosen to verify this student's efforts on his/her Career Portfolio. Please answer the following questions to help us evaluate his/her volunteer time. This form can be mailed to the school or faxed (724-843-8651) Attn: Counseling Department. Please contact the student's school counselor if there are any concerns regarding student performance during an event.

1. Did the student come ready to help for this event (dressed appropriately, positive attitude)?
2. Was the student willing to help wherever needed?
3. Did the student complete all tasks required in helping this event be successful?
4. Would you allow this student to volunteer for your event in the future?
5. Additional comments regarding student performance (optional).

A mentor signature is **required**. Please sign below.

Mentor Signature

Contact info (email or phone number)

Thank you for allowing this student to complete his/her community service hours with you. We appreciate your help in introducing our students to community service. You are a valuable member of this process. Please feel free to contact a Career Portfolio Coordinator if you have any questions or concerns.

Career Portfolio Coordinator: 3202 43rd St, New Brighton, PA 15066 724-846-1050