

## **WEST HIGH SCHOOL**



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# Freshman Academy

### FRESHMAN SEMINAR

The Freshman Seminar is focused on pairing multiple activities and experiences with results of the YouScience Assessment to help equip students with the knowledge and self-awareness necessary to make thoughtful academy/pathway choices that align with their unique strengths and interests.

#### CAREER EXPLORATION

Career exploration is the process of researching, evaluating, and learning about different work opportunities, job functions, and industries in order to better link personal and professional aspirations with a potential career path. In the Freshman Academy this is done through career talks delivered by guest speakers.

#### **CAREER FAIR**

The career fair offers students a unique opportunity to meet local professionals; learn about the practical skills and qualifications required for a specific job; and expand awareness of employment opportunities in fields of interest. Combined with other career exploration activities and assessments, students should be well-equipped to make informed academy and pathway decisions.

#### **PATHWAY SELECTION**

The purpose of pathway selection in The 865 Academies model is to provide students with a more focused and specialized educational experience that aligns with their interests, career goals, and aptitudes; it allows students to explore subjects and complete coursework that is either directly aligned or proximally related to their career interests in order to facilitate a successful transition to post-secondary education or the workforce.

#### **DECLARATION CEREMONY**

The Declaration Ceremony is the symbolic announcement of a student's academy and pathway decisions.

\*Students do have the option to change their pathway one time before graduation.

#### ADVANCED ACADEMICS

Advanced academics activities are designed to prepare students to pursue advanced academic classes, obtain industry credentials, and/or receive dual enrollment credit through a community college.