



Sugar River students at the NHDE Expo May 2003

The Information Technology Career Pathway

“Preparing students to live, learn and work in the global economy”

What is Information Technology?

Information Technology (IT) is the study, design, development, implementation, support or management of computer-based information systems, particularly software applications and computer hardware.

Is there a need for IT workers?

Companies in and outside the information technology (IT) industry employ information technology workers. While one might think of the typical IT worker as employed by a major software company or systems developer, the reality is that nine out of ten IT workers are found in banks, insurance companies, manufacturing plants or other non-IT businesses.

What are skill standards?

Skill standards establish the agreed-upon, industry-identified knowledge, skills and abilities required to succeed in the workplace. Skill standards provide benchmarks of skill and performance attainment that are behavioral and measurable. Skill standards answer two critical questions:

- What do workers need to know and be able to do to succeed in today’s workplace?
- How do we know when workers are performing well?

What are the Pathway Objectives?

1. To deliver a challenging course of study that integrates academic, technical and employability skills
2. To create school/business/community partnerships that engage multiple stakeholders in the curriculum development process
3. To identify work-based learning opportunities where students can measure their knowledge and skills
4. To expand the number of postsecondary options through articulated agreements

What are the learner outcomes for the recommended core courses?

- (a) read, understand and communicate technical information
- (b) apply technical concepts to solve problems and make decisions
- (c) perform basic functions in multimedia, programming, network systems, business technologies



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Which schools do they represent?

- ❖ Sixteen High Schools: Alvirne, Berlin, ConVal Regional, Exeter, Goffstown, John Stark Regional, Keene, Lisbon, Londonderry, Mascenic Regional, Newport, Oyster River, Pinkerton Academy, Raymond, Sanborn Regional, Stevens.
- ❖ Two Middle Schools: Milford Memorial and Lisbon
- ❖ Five vocational centers: Dover Technical Center, Cheshire Career Center, R.W. Creteau Technology Center, Seacoast School of Technology, Sugar River Valley Technical Center at Claremont. NH.

Who developed the core courses?

Thirty-five teachers – from across the state – have developed, field tested and assessed the core courses – IT & ME and IT & ME Works.

What has been the role of postsecondary partners?

Faculty members at New Hampshire's Community-Technical College at Stratham/Pease have worked with their middle/secondary school colleagues to develop and field-test the curriculum. Each occupational strand has an articulation agreement that serves as the model for other comprehensive high schools and career/technical centers. There is a system-wide articulation agreement for the seventeen high schools offering the Cisco Networking Program and, in addition, the following schools have articulated agreements:

- ✓ The Seacoast School of Technology and NHCTC-Stratham for Programming and Multimedia
- ✓ The Sugar River Valley Technical Center and NHCTC-Claremont for Network Systems
- ✓ Alvirne High School and NHCTC-Stratham for Multimedia
- ✓ Alvirne High School and Hesser College for Multimedia
- ✓ Goffstown High School and NHCTC-Stratham for Business Technologies
- ✓ Pending: R.W. Creteau and NHCTC-Stratham for Business Technologies

How do schools access the IT Career Pathway?

All information including the course outlines, 100+ lesson plans, career planning forms and recommended sequence of courses can be accessed through the www.nheon.org website. Scroll down to "NH Projects" and click on this link to IT Pathway. To schedule a presentation, contact:

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