

Frequently Asked Questions

What is Northview Next?

Northview Next is a new NVPS district initiative expanding career pathways and flexible learning options for students ages 15-20. Fully staffed with district teachers, support team members and administrators, Northview Next is a comprehensive approach to student learning featuring two distinct options:

- Northview Next Learning Center
- Northview Next Career Center

Northview Next outcomes include receiving a high school diploma, having access to potential job opportunities and gaining industry experience.

What is the difference between the Career Center and the Learning Center?

The objective of **Northview Next Learning Center** is to help all students ages 15-20 acquire a NVPS diploma, regardless of their circumstances. To that end, Northview Next Learning Center will offer extended hours of operation, including summer and evening hours, so students can design a schedule that accommodates work requirements, health issues or other barriers to participating in a traditional high school schedule.

Students attending Northview Next Learning Center will benefit from “wrap-around” services that include:

- On-site teacher
- Online instructor
- District mentor
- Job services
- Social and emotional support services
- Free breakfast and lunch

Students attending the **Northview Next Career Center** will participate in skills-based classes through Future Focused Fridays (connecting students to job shadows, internships, co-ops and part-time jobs). These opportunities span across a variety of industries, including mechanics, art, technology and real estate. In addition, Career Center students will also take career preparation classes with a focus on interview preparation, resume building and budget management, all while earning credit toward their diploma.

Will Northview Next be available this fall?

Yes, Northview Next will be available for the 2019-20 school year. The Career Center and Learning Center will be open for the fall semester. The Career Center will be located at 3801 East Beltline Ave NE. The Learning Center will be located at the Ross Medical Center at 1624 Woodworth St NE.

How do I enroll my child?

Parents interested in learning more about Northview Next should fill out the interest form on our website: <http://nvps.net/northviewnext/>. Once submitted, a member of the Northview Next team will be in contact to discuss next steps.

My child would greatly benefit from this program, but we don't live in Northview's district. Can we still apply?

Yes. Northview Next is the first program in all of Michigan to extend resources to students ages 15-20 (many programs end upon a student's graduation from high school) and which is available to students across Kent County.

My child is already a part of Northview Public Schools but not a part of Northview Next. How do we seize this opportunity?

As soon as your child is 15 years old, he/she can be considered to participate in Northview Next. The next step as a parent should be to connect with your child, counselor, or contact a Northview Next staff member.

Is there a cap to the program?

Yes, unfortunately there is a cap in the number of students we can serve at Northview Next Career Center. We are looking to expand the program in the coming years.

The Northview Next Learning Center does not have a cap.

What is Future Focused Fridays? How is Future Focused Fridays a part of Northview Next?

Future Focused Fridays, launched in 2018, gives all Career Center students (not just seniors) an opportunity to work with local businesses every Friday to gain invaluable professional experience. Giving students a chance to work with businesses before graduating and going to college better prepares them for multiple success pathways.

Northview Next's Career Center provides internship opportunities, on-the-job training, part-time job prospects and career shadows through Future Focused Fridays.

We're thrilled to continue partnering with local businesses and organizations to provide our Career Center students with opportunities to explore.

What areas/industries are available through Northview Next?

We believe there are multiple pathways to success and are committed to providing our students with opportunities across STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art and math) industries. With a focus on skilled-trade, we partner with local businesses and organizations to provide options that match the interests of our students.

Who are your current business partners?

We're always looking for additional partners to emphasize multiple pathways to success for students and are grateful for the current organizations who have dedicated their time to fostering the next generation of workers. Current partnerships include Grand Rapids Community College, Associated Builders and Contractors, M-TEC, Keller Williams, West Michigan Center for Arts & Technology, and River City Mechanical.

If I'm a business owner or leader, how can I partner with Northview Next?

We're always looking for new opportunities and valuable learning experiences for our students. If you're interested in learning more about becoming a business partner, please reach out to our coordinator of student supports, Drew Kloplic, at (616) 361-7396 or dkloplic@nvps.net.

How much of a time commitment is it to be a business partner to Northview Next?

We're asking business partners to welcome our students on-site for approximately 4-5 hours on Fridays. For 25 Fridays during the school year, the students would report to your business. If you're unable to host our students but are interested in other partnership opportunities or sponsorships – such as hosting facility tours or participating in speaking engagements – we encourage you to connect with our coordinator of student supports, Drew Kloplic, at (616) 361-7396 or dkloplic@nvps.net.

How are students selected for internship and job opportunities?

It is important to Northview Public Schools that we provide our students with opportunities that match their skill set and interest. Once we find an organization that matches the preferred industry, we work with the organization to discuss appropriate opportunities for both parties.