



Meet Tommy

Tommy is interested in studying public service. He enjoys pushing himself physically and mentally, as well as helping people in need. Tommy believes he would like to be a firefighter.

Elkhart Community Schools • Six Schools of Study
Example: School of Health & Public Safety

Since a young age, Tommy has been the first to spring into action when someone needs help. A classroom visit to the downtown fire station showed Tommy that his desire to help people and the community could be made into an excellent career as a firefighter.

Throughout elementary school, Tommy's primary interest in academics lies in science and physical education. Tommy is an active leader through athletics, the anti-bullying club, and volunteer efforts at his school.

In middle school, Tommy begins to study potential career fields around his interests, including health, biology, law enforcement, and firefighting. Through his studies, he learns about the traits needed to succeed in these fields, as well as the schooling needed, opportunities for advancement, and possible incomes. He continues to be a leader on the sports field, as well as through leading community service efforts.

After examining career options, Tommy determines that he wants to study public service and seeks to fulfill his goal of becoming a firefighter to help others in need.

When Tommy reaches the 10-12 grade campus, he decides to pursue his studies within the **School of Health & Public Safety**.

Here, Tommy will experience curriculum that is taught to the required standards, but in a way that is meaningful to his passion and goals. What this may mean is that his studies will strongly focus on Science and Physical Education, and he may learn English Language Arts through HAZMAT manuals, for example. His electives may include foreign language and psychology, where he will learn tools to help in his future career. Since he is learning the required standards at each grade level, if he decides to change between grade levels, he can transition to a different school of study. He'll have the safety of exploring while still in high school.

In addition to his traditional principal, counselor, and teachers, Tommy will be supported by a business dean and a business advisory group who will ensure he is receiving an education that puts him ahead in his industry. This team will help Tommy receive hands-on experience through job shadowing, internships, and work-study.

Through his work-study and observation at the Elkhart Fire Department, and dedication to receiving some certifications, Tommy has earned an invitation to join the department after the future completion of all of his required certifications.