

# A SHARED VISION:

ELKHART SCHOOLS OF STUDY







### A TRADITION OF EXCELLENCE

ELKHART HAS LONG BEEN KNOWN FOR ITS CULTURE OF INNOVATION AND ENTREPRENEURIAL SPIRIT. ELKHART COMMUNITY SCHOOLS HAS A RICH HISTORY OF EDUCATING STUDENTS WHO HAVE BECOME LEADERS IN THE ELKHART COMMUNITY AND THROUGHOUT THE WORLD.

The vision for Elkhart High School is to prepare all students to become empowered

citizens who have the ability to change their community and the world. For over 140 years, Elkhart Community Schools has helped shape the minds of graduates who have gone on to win the Pulitzer Prize, Olympic Medals, Awards from NASA, and everything in between. Business owners and community leaders throughout Elkhart credit teachers and programs at Elkhart Schools for their success. In Fall 2021, Elkhart Community Schools will embark on a reshaped educational model that teaches students to their interest. This new model will take successful components from our existing high schools (AP, Early College, extracurricular activities), as well as our successful Elkhart Area Career Center (internships, work-study, in-depth career exploration), and weave in components of a college education (small learning communities, based around an area of interest).

## PREPARING FOR YOUR CAREER

GRADUATES FROM ELKHART HIGH SCHOOL WILL HAVE A FIRM FOUNDATIONAL EDUCATION AND BE READY TO EXPLORE THE NEXT STEP OF THEIR JOURNEY: COLLEGE, CAREER, AND LIFE.

In our rapidly changing world, students need to be prepared for success after high school. Recognizing this, Elkhart Community Schools embarked on a multi-year strategic plan in 2015 to ensure all ECS graduates are college and career ready. Elkhart's Schools of Study model has several benefits for ECS students, including a seamless transition into college and careers, along with integration of existing outstanding academic programs with the district's successful Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs. Students will have the opportunity to dig deeper into one program of study based on their interests and will be offered opportunities for job shadowing, apprenticeships, internships, and/or authentic projects with business and community partners.



## A LOOK INSIDE THE SCHOOLS OF STUDY

THE SCHOOLS OF STUDY WITHIN ELKHART HIGH SCHOOL ARE **SMALL LEARNING COMMUNITIES** OF STUDENTS AND TEACHERS ORGANIZED AROUND AREAS OF INTEREST.

Research shows small learning communities lead to improved attendance, an increased sense of community, higher graduation rates, and achievement gains for students. A sense of community fosters the growth of personal self-esteem, develops a sense of belonging, and creates positive relationships between students and teachers. Small learning communities continue the level of dedicated care and attention our students experience in elementary and middle school by providing them with teachers and staff who know their names, goals, strengths, and challenges. Small learning communities offer a higher level of collaboration and teamwork, matching the experience students will find in the workplace and college.

"Elkhart High School is providing an innovative approach by partnering EHS educators with the Elkhart business community to ensure students have an enriched educational experience and applicable career opportunities. The Elkhart Schools of Study align with local, state, and national career trends while continuing to prepare students for post-secondary educational success, making our community stronger as EHS graduates become the next generation of professionals."

GREATER ELKHART CHAMBER OF COMMERCE



## THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE 🌄

Freshmen at Elkhart High School will focus on individual growth, foundational classes, career interests, and identifying their school of study. Students in Grades 10-12 will enroll in one of the six schools of study, based around a common theme with a centralized office, student space, teachers, support staff, community partnerships, and internship opportunities. Programs at the Elkhart Area Career Center will stay as halfday programs and become more available to ECS students due to their physical locations within the schools of study. MORE THAN EVER, ELKHART STUDENTS ARE EMPOWERED TO TAKE CHARGE OF THEIR EDUCATION AND PURSUE THEIR INTERESTS.

Students at Elkhart High School are empowered to explore career possibilities and engage in a hands-on learning environment to help them find their interests and possible career fields. Within each of the schools of study, students will have the opportunity to study the staterequired materials in a way that connects to their field of interest within their school of study.

### **ARTS & COMMUNICATION**

Advertising & Public Relations Broadcasting Graphic Arts Performing Arts Plus More

#### BUSINESS AND INTERNATIONALSTUDIES

Accounting & Finance Business Management Government & Public Admin Marketing Plus More

### ENGINEERING, TECHNOLOGY, AND INNOVATION

Automotive Engineering & CAD Information Technology Machining, Tooling, and Robotics Welding Plus More

### HEALTH & PUBLICSAFETY

Athletic Training Firefighting Law Enforcement, Forensics, and CSI Medical Careers Plus More

### HUMAN SERVICES

Child Development Cosmetology Culinary Arts Education Hospitality & Tourism Management Plus More

### NATURAL RESOURCES

Agriculture Biology & Chemistry Earth & Environmental Science Veterinary Science Plus More





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