

Visit to Froedtert Community Memorial Hospital Exposes SDNB Students to Various Healthcare Professions

New Berlin, Wis. - Nearly 40 New Berlin Eisenhower and West students got a behind-the-scenes look at various health science careers during an all-day visit to Froedtert Community Memorial Hospital in Menomonee Falls on April 12.

The event, as well as participation in a Health Care Expo held last month, was part of the School District of New Berlin's annual College and Career Readiness Event Series.

Students split into groups to visit several areas of the hospital, including the emergency department, pharmacy, the intensive care unit, physical medicine and rehabilitation, labor and delivery, imaging and the lab. Professionals in those various fields explained their individual roles and their department's role in relation to the hospital's overall operation. They also shared insights about post-secondary education options and career pathways that lead to various healthcare professions.

Students also learned about sterile processing and surgery, and participated in a discussion with human resources professionals regarding what health care employers look for in candidates, as well as what high school students can do to prepare for a career in this industry.

"We are grateful to have such terrific community partners like Froedtert willing to provide our students with unique opportunities that could help shape their future career choices," said Kelli Kwiatkowski, Director of Curriculum. "Our students got the chance to learn first-hand from the very professionals many of them hope to emulate: nurses, therapists, pharmacists and more."

SDNB already has an established on-site certified nursing assistant program designed to help Wisconsin keep up with the state's projected shortage of nurses in the coming years. This program is offered in partnership with Waukesha County Technical College and LindenGrove. Successful students are placed in patient care positions at senior care facilities as well as local hospitals. Additionally, the SDNB has established pathways to registered nursing for interested students. In addition to Advanced Placement coursework, students are able to take transcribed credit coursework through WCTC, a dual enrollment course in Heredity through UW-Waukesha, a dual enrollment course in Genetics and Genomics through UWM and more.

"We are committed to providing college in high school experiences that inform post-secondary planning, increase post-secondary completion rates, and ideally reduce time to degree," Kwiatkowski added.

In March, SDNB students also had the opportunity to attend The Many Futures in Healthcare Career Expo at WCTC, an event sponsored by the Waukesha County Business Alliance in partnership with local healthcare providers. Students learned about a variety of healthcare industry career paths, including patient care, information technology, behavioral health, emergency care and much more. Both two- and four-year post-secondary education providers were on hand to discuss what type of post-secondary education is needed to prepare for each one.

"Exposing students to various healthcare professions really heightens their awareness of the career possibilities awaiting them along with how to prepare for them," said Herman Restrepo, SDNB's science

content specialist and a science teacher. “It really helps to inform their Academic and Career Plans as well as their plans for their post-secondary education.”

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- [SDNB Nursing Program](#)
- [LindenGrove – New Berlin](#)
- [WCTC Nursing](#)