

# Endorsements Planning Guide

## For Rising Ninth Grade Students

High school diploma endorsements are an important part of the CMS high school experience. In ninth grade, there will be time and opportunities to explore interests and prepare for completing an endorsement. This guide can be used to explore endorsements, as well as planning for after high school.

### What is an endorsement?

An endorsement is an indicator that a student completed coursework and credentials in high school that prepares them for college and/or career.

### When will students select their endorsements?

Endorsements will be selected when students register for tenth grade courses.

### Endorsement Options:

- Career Endorsement
- College Endorsement
- College/UNC Endorsement
- NC Academic Scholars Endorsement
- Global Languages Endorsement
- CMS Scholars Endorsement

## What should students do now?

### 1. Enroll

Students should enroll in classes related to their interests, such as CTE courses, the arts, or foreign languages.

Tip: Students who enroll in a variety of courses now will have a better idea of their interests when selecting an endorsement.

### 2. Explore

Students can explore career opportunities by taking classes, researching career opportunities, and reflecting on their own interests.

Tip: Students can use the Naviance and CFNC portals to view career surveys and resources.

### 3. Discuss

Students should talk with their families about their plans after high school, such as the workforce, community college, or a four-year university.

Tip: By having these conversations early, students can be better prepared for the future.