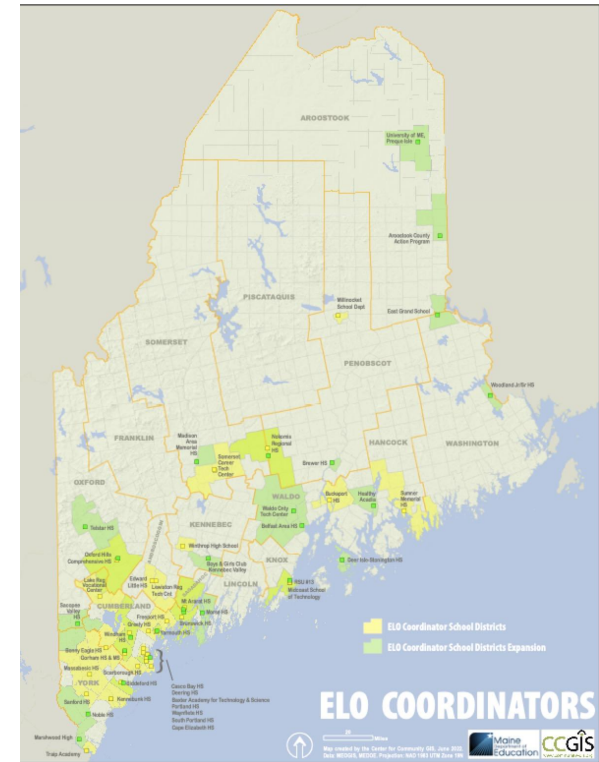


- Aroostook County Action Program
- Biddeford School Department
- Boys and Girls Club of KV
- Brewer School Department
- Brunswick School Department
- Gorham School Department
- Healthy Acadia
- Madison Area Memorial HS
- MSAD 55 (Sacopee Valley)
- MSAD 60 (Berwick) (Noble HS)
- MSAD 75 (Mt. Ararat)
- Oxford Hills Community Education Exchange
- RSU 1 (Bath)
- RSU 13 (Rockland)
- RSU 14 (Windham High School)
- RSU 19 (Nokomis Regional High)
- RSU 35 Marshwood High School
- RSU 71 (Belfast Area High School)
- RSU 84 (Danforth)
- SAD 13 (Deer Isle)
- SAD 44 (Telstar Middle High School)
- South Portland School District
- University of Maine Presque Isle
- Waldo County Tech Center
- Woodland Jr/Sr High School
- Yarmouth School Department

Our First Semester 2022 Story Through Photos and Quotes

**50 slides illustrating the scope
of Extended Learning and our
work among the ELO Expansion
grant recipients.**



ELO Districts Existing and New



Statewide Expansion of Extended Learning Opportunity Programming

“A Statewide Collaboration”



A copy of the RFA, as well as the Question & Answer Summary and all other related documents to this RFA, can be obtained at the following website: <https://www.maine.gov/dafs/bbm/procurementservices/vendors/grants>

The aquaculture program at Jonesport Beals High School partnered with Downeast Institute to create a hands on ELO for five students.



In the fall students worked on helping to overwinter clam and oyster growing operations. Students were also able to identify their areas of interest and pursue these during their time. Students will return for two weeks in the spring to continue this ELO.



Jonesport-Beals High School



Group ELO Block class served 12 students from the Alternative Multiple Pathways (MP) program. With this group we focused on volunteerism and career exploration via the ONET survey, guest speakers and the virtual career fair. This group volunteered at an animal rescue, secondhand store, two local farms, a land trust and in two elementary school art classrooms. The photo is of us harvesting carrots at Riverside Farm in North Berwick.



NOBLE
NORTH BERWICK | BERWICK | LEBANON





[Extended Learning Opportunities Program gives Maine high schoolers real-world experience](#)

Kayden Richards has been interning with the Fire Department and working at the Belfast Water District for his ELO, and the experience has helped him determine that he wants to pursue a degree in Fire Science at EMCC this fall. Through his ELO, he has also gained a variety of vocational skills - from working with residential water supply hookups to basic carpentry skills, as well as on-the-job communication and general professionalism.



Student became a volunteer firefighter at the Cash Corner Fire Station and worked with mentors who taught him the importance of proper handling of equipment, keeping a clean fire house, work life balance, perseverance and confidentiality. Plans are to continue with this ELO experience and go to SMCC next year. We are grateful for the relationship between SPHS and SPFD, and for the team at the South Portland Fire Department for providing and nurturing opportunities for our students to learn if a career as an EMT, Paramedic, or Firefighter may be a career for them.





Waldo County Technical Center's Graphic Design program students had the opportunity to explore the world of commercial graphic design while participating in ELO job shadow experiences at PICA Design in Belfast Maine.

Students were shown examples of different types of jobs that the design team has. The editorial director and brand strategist walked students through the process of rebranding a company. They learned about concepts such as business archetypes, logo development, and marketing research.



"I was most impressed with their design process. I also like the way they work together as a company."

"I am very impressed with the detail and effort involved with getting into the history and style of each brand/company that they work for."

"I learned that the process of creating a logo is very long."

ELO Projects

Swedish language

Coding

Mycology

Vermicomposting

Music Theory

In addition to a number of independent project ELOs that are all fascinating subject matter (music theory, mycology, video game coding, the list goes on), one internship experience stands out. A local business, Alexander & Schmidt, reached out to me at YHS and expressed an interest in having a coding intern come on board with them. Ultimately, two students were selected and now they meet remotely and work on a project that directly impacts the business being conducted by the company. One student is planning on majoring in computer science, and this experience could not be more tailored to providing an authentic experience, applicable skills, and assisting him with future planning.





Morse High School and Bath Tech hosted a Financial Fitness Fair led by the Maine Credit Union League. Morse/Bath Tech Juniors were treated to an interactive and immersive experience.



One student stated, "I realize now, with the career I hope to have, I will not be able to afford a huge mansion on the ocean, and a Lamborghini," but, I should be able to pay for a good home and a reliable car, if I spend my money right."



Morse High School and Bath Tech hosted a Career & College Fair for all Juniors and Seniors. Over 40 employers and colleges attended the event. Students had the opportunity to meet with business and college professionals to learn about careers and post secondary opportunities.



ELO Work Study



Auto Repair



Electrician



Diesel Engines

Work based learning (WBL) has been an integral component of our ELO program. WBL has offered incredibly rich learning experiences in a variety of settings, and has proven to be a wonderful extension of CTE learning, above and beyond the curriculum. These experiences have served as a hook for students with intermittent attendance, the reports from site supervisors have described exemplary transferable / employability skills, and the excitement from the students has been palpable. These work studies have resulted in numerous partnerships and even apprenticeships



One student told me that this time last year he was failing all of his classes, his attendance was sporadic, and he felt miserable, but this year he was motivated because his schedule worked for him, not against him, and he loved doing the work he wanted to continue after graduation.



Student has always been fascinated by cardiology. ELO has been focused on learning more about how this interest can be turned into a career. Student spent time researching, meeting with medical staff through Zoom meetings, and was able to participate in a hospital visit. Student feels doing an ELO is a great way for all students to expand their knowledge and figure out what they want to do in the future. Student has applied to the job shadow program through Central Maine Healthcare and is eagerly awaiting a placement.



“I have particularly enjoyed the freedom that comes with it [the ELO experience]. While Mrs. Sanborn is there to help you if needed, each person has complete control over what they're learning, how they're learning it, and the pace that they're learning it.”



Another program our school has started through the ELO program is the After-school care program at our local Elementary School. We currently have 2 students from our ELO who provide extra care and support for the after-school program with the little ones 3 days per week. They are both interested in becoming elementary school teachers and this program is providing a chance for them to gain experience and clarification regarding their future career choice. They are both also enrolled in The Maine Career Badge course in the LMS.

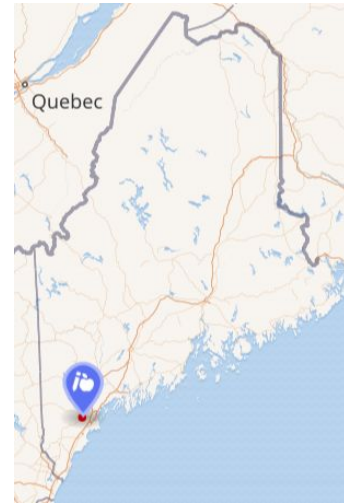


Student is an accomplished artist, having been awarded both a silver key and a gold key at the Maine Regional Scholastic Art Competition. ELO was a portrait-painting intensive in which the student worked to improve technical skills, as well as to stretch creatively and produce works that were more experimental and unique involving subjects in the planning and sketching ideas in paper and with Photoshop. Final paintings included rendering one friend with hair stylized like enormous macaroni shapes; another rendered realistically against a kaleidoscopic background containing hidden references to the subject's features; and a third as a quasi-collage, as if observed through a series of overlapping colored filters.





As part of our ELO expansion, we prioritized students who were interested in pursuing vocational school but were not able to participate because of capacity or schedule limitations. Student was originally interested in participating in the medical occupation program through Westbrook Regional Vocational Center but decided it wasn't a good fit for her. She had a passion for working with animals and wanted to explore her interest in a hands-on capacity. Her favorite part of being in her ELO placement is having the opportunity to learn more about her future career interest while being immersed in a real professional setting. She has loved being part of the surgery team most of all and has continued to learn a lot from her mentors.



When I asked if she would continue to pursue veterinary science after high school she said, "Yes, for sure, I've always thought about working in this field and if I didn't have this opportunity I probably would have chosen the wrong career. But with this opportunity I found what I want to do after high school and found a way I can make it happen."



Student wants to be a professional filmmaker. He chose to do his ELO in order "to gather as much experience as I can to reach my goal of becoming a professional filmmaker. I also want to build my resume for job prospects and future educational purposes." Connected with Dave Packhem of Voices of Hope, Sonny received the opportunity to be a part of the filming of a documentary series that focused on individuals in recovery. "This ELO gave me experience and education in filmmaking. It opened my eyes to different aspects of filmmaking and introduced me to new people who have helped me along my journey so far." Student worked about five hours in the documentary and was paid \$20 per hour from the ELO grant. He will be attending SMCC next fall and is excited to learn about other filmmaking possibilities.



Windham Raymond Schools

RSU 14





Student has the goal of becoming a registered Maine Guide and wanted to participate in an ELO to prepare him for that career and learn all he can over his junior and senior years of high school. Student partnered with a registered Maine Guide and owner/operator of the outdoor recreation business, Canoe the Wild. Student participated at a guided moose camp where some of his duties included working with camp cooks on meal preparation, assisting in serving and cleaning up, fetching water from a stream for washing dishes and showers, collecting firewood, and helping to break camp and pack it up. "Having student involved with our remote moose camp not only provided great exposure and training but opened the door to future possible employment for them."



**EAST
GRAND
SCHOOL**





Our strong relationship we created with Cianbro this year has led us to developing the Construction Craft Career Exploration Program.



Nokomis Regional High

Corinna • Dixmont • Etna • Hartland • Newport • Palmyra • Plymouth • St. Albans



Students are seniors who have embraced ELOs in which they are working together to build high quality electric guitars from kits. Both are enthusiastic musicians who also participated in the guitar and/or songwriting courses. In this project they have learned about the basic physics underpinning stringed instruments and are working through the steps of building and assembling their guitars. We have worked to create a menu of such experiences, and together these represent STEM opportunities that will support sustainable programming for years to come. Such hands-on experiences promote the use of cutting-edge technologies and provide for synergy with existing curricula and initiatives. Further, we are appreciative of the possibilities that arise from philanthropic partners who so generously support programming with resources, knowledge, and expertise.

Oceanside students are exploring careers through ELOs. Extended Learning Opportunities give students a chance to earn credit through internship hours at local businesses; like Jack who is interning at Penobscot Island Air in Owl's Head.





ELO Coordinator Story; A creative and shy student was referred to me by guidance. They had applied to the CTE school for the cosmetology program and did not get accepted. I helped find a salon in a neighboring town, met the owner and then we went together during a school day for an informal interview for them to meet. The owner is an experienced stylist and military veteran. They both surprised me with how their relationship bloomed and how well they got along. Last fall, as an additional experience, I brought the student, along with others who did not get into the cosmetology program, to tour the Empire Beauty School. The students were very shy and were previously uncomfortable in social situations, but they reflected on how much more comfortable around people and outgoing they have become during their time at the salon working with customers and the stylists.



The most astounding part of this learning experience, besides their wonderful final product which was a mannequin head of hair dyed and styled, was how much the student grew.





We have two students at Yellow Birch who are learning about sustainable living. They are learning how there are multiple ways to produce incomes and still do things that you love. Right now they are working with a couple, Missy Greene and Eric Ziner, who have a many different projects going on at their farm. When they are not farming and tending to their animals, Missy does ceramics and Eric works with metal and welding. The farm just had baby goats so they are focused on that right now. The two students who are placed there are learning so many different skills and arts. Days vary from working in the greenhouses, tending to the goats, getting their pop-up shop ready, and much, much more.

Deer Isle-Stonington High School

CREATING RESOURCEFUL, KNOWLEDGEABLE AND COMPASSIONATE CITIZENS OF TOMORROW.





By the end of 11th grade, student completed the vast majority of his required credits for graduation, earning strong grades across the board. Early in senior year, he expressed interest in learning more about electrical engineering and visited CMCC. With only two additional courses needed in the second semester, student knew he wanted to spend time “in the field.” To that end, student sought out an ELO experience and was hired by Field Electric in Fryeburg as an Electrician’s Assistant, working in the afternoons five days a week. After graduating from Telstar High School, student hopes to pursue post-secondary education in electrical engineering at Central Maine Community College.



Telstar High School

Engaging Students and Elevating Learning

Student is a junior at Madison High School who worked all summer and fall for us in the community garden. His future plans are to be in the Navy. Alex talked daily about how working and solving problems that we had daily were skills he could take into his career in the Navy. "Even though I do not want to be a farmer, I think that learning how food is grown is really cool. I will be able to save myself money in the future by growing my own garden. If something like covid ever happens again, I will be able to provide for my family if there is ever a shortage of food." Alex was an extremely hard worker and came out of his shell when we had the elementary students come up for a field trip. "I learned how to interact with my coworkers, follow rules that my boss asked me to do, and also learned how to talk to people I didn't know. I thought working with the younger kids was really cool and helped me with my public speaking."



Madison Area Memorial High School

486 Main St. Madison, ME 04950

Tel: (207) 696-3395 Fax (207) 696-5644





Waldo County Technical Center Culinary Arts students had the opportunity to explore the world of commercial food distribution and marketing while participating in an ELO job shadow experience at Dennis Food Service (DFS) in Hampden, Maine. While at the job shadow, students attended a lecture about using online marketing strategies in business and particularly in the world of culinary arts. They were given a tour of the facility, including all the warehouses and the sub zero freezer. They were also able to visit the test kitchen and interview the chef. The job shadow concluded with lunch and the opportunity to ask questions to our tour guides. "I was surprised by the technically sound operations, the inventory system, and perfect flow of day/night operations." "It was amazing. I'd consider working there sometime."



Student, a senior, has been exploring a career in law through her ELO. She did an internship during the first semester with Bonnie Gould at Heritage Law in Cornish, Maine. Student explains, "I have learned multiple things such as how to write motions to continue, eviction notices, divorce settlements, estate planning, and real estate sales. I have also learned about the different paths you can take with a degree in law." Student was able to spend time in court with her mentor to see firsthand the different aspects and procedures. She feels her experience enabled her to make connections in the law community that will serve her well into her future career. Student is planning to attend the University of New Hampshire this fall and earn a bachelor's degree through the university's Law 3+3 Option.



Student is a senior at Madison High School. He had never had a job before applying to work the garden this fall. "I did not know how to interview or fill out an application or my tax information. The ELO program taught me all of these things and made me more confident I can get a job outside of high school." Student worked on harvesting the garden, weeding, as well as learning how to use the machinery (tiller and weed whacker). Throughout the fall, Garret's confidence in his ability as a worker grew and he really did a great job. Student was not planning on attending college, but his mother shared with me that he realizes that he can accomplish more than he believed he could and has now applied to KVCC as he tries to figure out what he wants to do with his life.



Madison Area Memorial High School





Corrie Hunkler ELO Coordinator; "In November we were able to bring 17 high school youth to the MYAN Youth Leadership Conference in Orono. Two of our youth were on the Youth Planning Team, two presented workshops and we led a Best Practices in Youth Employment session for the adults in attendance. One youth, a JBHS senior, planned and presented a workshop titled: "Maine Lobster Industry: Our livelihoods, stories, fights and future." She researched her subject, determined the best way to deliver an engaging presentation and facilitated a dialogue of many different viewpoints. This student received English assignment credit for this workshop and was paid as a workshop presenter."



Welcome!
Nokomis High School
Career Exploration Day

Students were able to explore different careers within a hospital as well as get hands-on experiences with medical equipment. Attending hands-on experiences is a critical part to a positive experience for most students.



Nokomis Regional High

Corinna ▪ Dixmont ▪ Etna ▪ Hartland ▪ Newport ▪ Palmyra ▪ Plymouth ▪ St. Albans

Mia has been interning with RSU 71's Occupational Therapist, Vicky Terpoorten, since early October of this year, and has been inspired to continue on a track to become an OT. Vicky took a really hands-on approach with Mia, teaching her how to do activity analysis, coaching her to work directly with elementary school students. Mia has explored further by shadowing OTs at Maine General Hospital and at Harbor Hill Nursing Care Center.





Deer Isle-Stonington High School

CREATING RESOURCEFUL, KNOWLEDGEABLE AND COMPASSIONATE CITIZENS OF TOMORROW.

Another great addition to our program is our vans! The vans have allowed us to get our students to and from their ELO experience. It has been well received by our host sites due to the fact that they know the student has been made reliable to show up to their placement with someone from the high school driving them. It also helps the school feel better about allowing students to come and go from school knowing that school employees are transporting them during school hours. If we had to make exceptions (which we have about two or three times this year) our district has worked with us and we have a permission form for students. However, having the vans has been a huge advantage for us as a program.





A second story of the student development success for the Oxford Hills Community Education Exchange/Maine School Administrative District 17 Extended Learning Opportunities program, centers on another experience of one of our students pursuing a job shadow/internship in our Oxford Hills Middle School. This student has been enjoying this experience since this past fall while pursuing her love of teaching. She has returned to her middle school working with teachers who taught her and confirming her desire to pursue English and Secondary Education at a four year institution in the fall.



Oxford Hills Comprehensive High School

Dare to Accept the Challenge

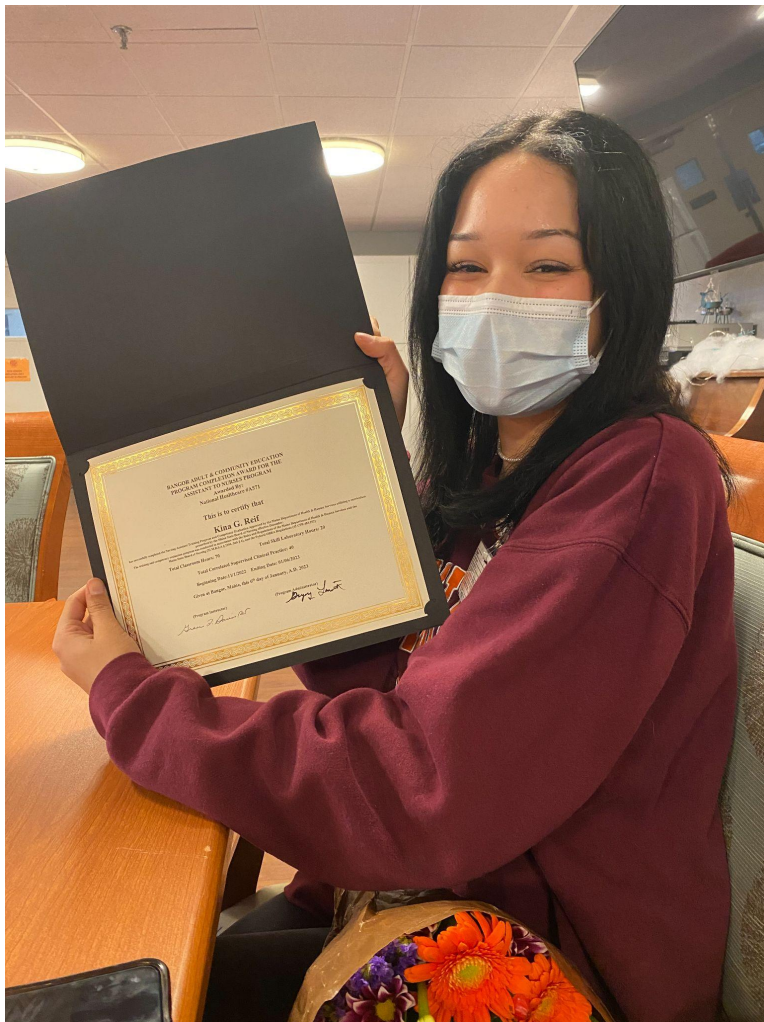


We have placed a young lady, who had previously dropped out and then returned to school, in a meaningful work experience with a local garage to further her interest in auto mechanics. She had a great experience here, and is very excited to continue her journey towards becoming a certified mechanic. This experience has pushed this student to apply to the Automotive Technology program at EMCC where she has been accepted and is very excited to continue on her path.



Brewer High School

An Innovative Learning Community



We have developed a relationship with a local Rehabilitation Facility for them to provide a paid training for the State of Maine CNA Exam. We have had a student who is in our alternative education program register for this class, complete the training, and pass the State Exam. She was offered a position with the facility and is happily employed in a career field that has been her dream since she was a child.



Brewer High School

An Innovative Learning Community



One highlighted story of the student development success for the Oxford Hills Community Education Exchange/Maine School Administrative District 17 Extended Learning Opportunities program, centers on the experience of one of our students job shadowing/interning with Bancroft Construction highlighted in the narrative explanation. Please refer to the explanation discussed in that question response. This student has been able to explore a workforce career field that the student is extremely interested in pursuing for a career. This is a strong student Extended Learning Opportunities success story in Oxford Hills!



Oxford Hills Comprehensive High School

Dare to Accept the Challenge

A junior at Gorham High School, was another student who wished to participate in a CTE school program but was unable to get a seat in the class. Student applied to participate in Westbrook Regional Vocational Center's Electricity Program. The program is very popular and, unfortunately, there wasn't space for him in the program. Student worked with his counselor to get connected with the ELO program. Coordinator worked with student and his mom to identify a community mentor in electricity and to set up a placement for him at Casco Bay Electric in Portland. ELO Coordinator helped him file for his "Helper's Electrician" certification and we went through all the necessary paperwork to ensure his safety. He plans on continuing to work with his ELO placement company for the foreseeable future as he works on his number one goal of becoming a "Master Electrician".



Gorham
High School



Students are engaging in a shared ceramics experience. Student has grown to be an expert turner at the pottery wheel as a senior enrolled in Advanced Placement Art. Their independent study is to apply her time and expertise to instructing both students and staff during and after school. Student also plans to begin providing her services during the very popular after school Art Club which is hosted by our Art Department teachers. The club is typically attended by more than 40 students. These independent studies are examples of experiences that engage students as experts, while integrating in mutually beneficial ways with existing programming in our building.





Student's ELO for fall 2022 focused on her interest in a career as a physical therapist. The student shadowed a variety of practitioners at two local clinics, and her mentors provided readings to provide context for her observation. In her first shadow she observed therapists treating a wide variety of ailments, including mobility issues, pain, balance, pelvic floor issues, and vertigo. Student's second shadow was with a local strength and conditioning coach who she also works with in her own athletic training. She reported learning a great deal about training concepts like triphasic training, APRE and tactics for building speed vs. power, that are not widely understood among youth coaches. Amid her time spent with professionals, student also enrolled in an online course called Health, Safety, and Ethics in the Health Environment. In the course, she says "I have learned a lot about HIPAA and other patient rights, risk management, the continuum of care, ethics, insurance, anatomy, and how stress affects the body."





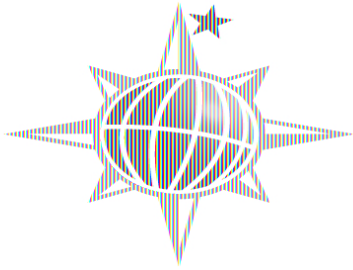
Senior student is a standout in her class. By the end of 11th grade, she completed all needed graduation requirements earning strong grades in all her classes. With multiple jobs already under her belt, student was determined to find an internship placement that would support her love for the study of ecology and wildlife. After gaining approval from the Umbagog team, student is now working with Umbagog National Wildlife Refuge in Erroll, New Hampshire. Because this is not a paid experience, receiving mileage reimbursement and a stipend through the ELO program has made it possible for student to work 2-3 days a week at the Refuge, where her mentors report that she is already fully immersed in their work projects.



Student inquired about completing an internship at a physical therapy clinic as she believed this is what she wanted to do. She had already been accepted to Florida Southern College and wanted to become as familiar as possible with this field and the kind of work she would be doing. Student learned a lot throughout her ELO including exercises, stretches, terminology, and charting. However, as student's internship progressed, she came to a pivotal realization – student realized she needed something more exciting and active. Since completing her initial internship, student has gone on to change her college major to nursing and she was accepted into that program. She has also completed several job shadows at the local hospital and ride-alongs scheduled through her Region 2 EMT course. In part, due to her ELO and Region work, student was able to choose a path that she really wanted all along, but was hesitant due to many factors, but in part a fear of the unknown. Once student had the opportunity to explore this in a real-world setting she was able to make informed decisions about her future and follow her dream!

**EAST
GRAND
SCHOOL**





University of M. PRESQUE *North of*

Student has been working with Professor of Biology at UMPI helping him with projects in the microbiology lab on campus. Her duties have included culturing bacteria, preparing petri dishes, organizing lab equipment and other tasks. Professor Feinstein has her help students during labs including answering their questions in class. She is thoroughly enjoying the experience and mentioned that she is starting to consider changing her major from environmental science to biology. The experience she will have working in the greenhouse on campus this summer (also with Professor Feinstein) will likely help with that decision.

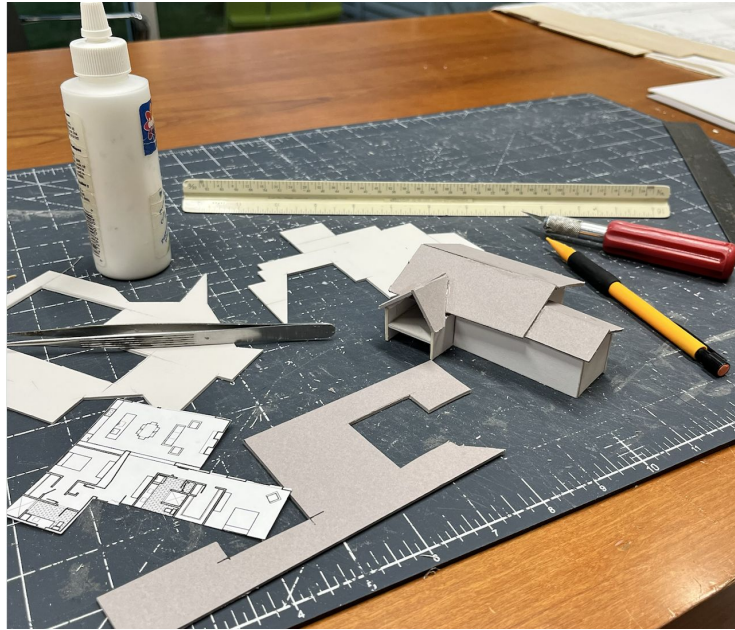




Recent visit to the BIW Training Academy. It was a joint visit of Morse HS ELO Students and Bath Tech Students.

GENERAL DYNAMICS
Bath Iron Works





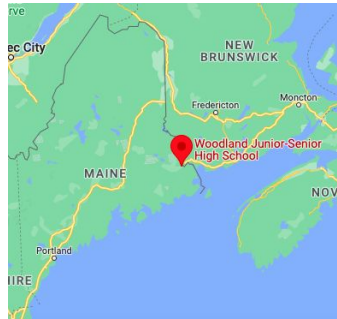
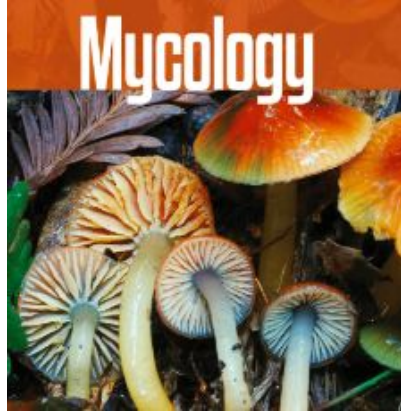
One of our students, who is a senior, is excited about engineering as a possible career choice and wanted to explore Architectural Engineering before going to college. We had a wonderful community mentor who supports our school district and took on this senior in a job shadow/unpaid internship role (the student received a stipend of \$13.70 per hour and was paid through the ELO grant). She spent about 30 hours in the office of Delano Architecture and claims to have learned so much from the experience. "This experience has become very valuable to me with its strengths and the teachings it has brought me. I strengthened and solidified my problem-solving and communication skills, especially after putting them in real-life situations such as interviews and conference meetings. With these strong skills, I feel I have developed solid experience and am ready for what a "big girl job" will look like in the future."





A student enrolled in ELO went through a typing course where he learned how to type without looking at the keyboard. During this career exploration, he also learned how to edit and update his resume, and he created a cover letter. This gave him an opportunity to complete a final project for his life and work class. The final project was typing proficiency.

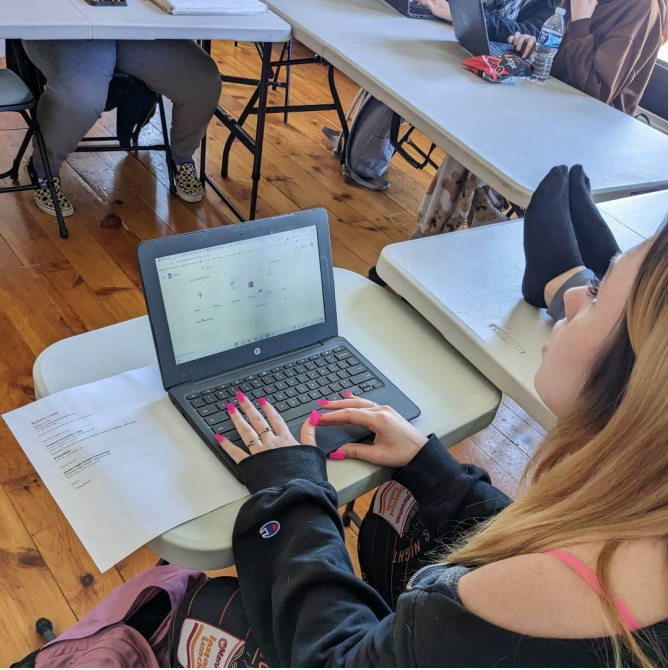




An example of how the ELO Program is helping our students is this example of our student, 'Kai'. Kai is one of the newest students to enroll in 'Choose Your Own Adventure'. This course is brand new in the JMG LMS and providing the perfect opportunity for Kai's fascination to learn all things 'Mycology'! Kai's goal is to write a book about mushrooms and the ways they can help heal, as well as ones that are edible and ones that are poisonous. Kai is also receiving on hands learning from a local educator with Downeast Lakes Land Trust. This representative comes to the school to provide lessons in Mycology, as well as taking Kai on field trips in the woods to hunt for mushrooms together.



Woodland Jr-Sr High School



APC ELO students have all created and updated and have active Indeed profiles. They have also created their resume and are building habits around keeping it up to date with current/new experiences. Students have also participated in mock interviews and resume building workshops. Students are maintaining their personal budget by tracking income and expenses throughout the semester and they met with Biddeford Savings Bank to discuss banking habits. Students also completed the ASVAB. In addition, students visited the LL Bean campus in Freeport, Moody's Collision in Biddeford, and Fish and Whistle restaurant, where they saw a culinary arts demonstration and met with the restaurant owner and kitchen staff.



Biddeford Schools

High School & Alternative Pathways Center

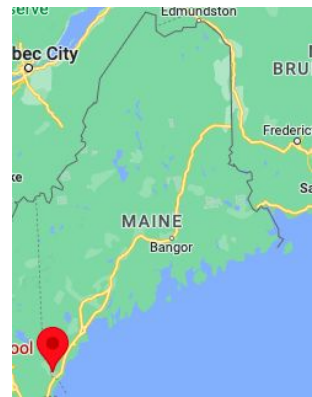
The Alternative Pathways Center's (APC) mission is to give alternative learners an opportunity to obtain a Biddeford High School diploma through individualized, project-based coursework combined with pre-vocational training, work experience, and social and emotional learning.



We have a wonderful internship opportunity with our local elementary school. Twin sisters, who are both going to college for elementary education, are committing the entire year to an internship that affords them the opportunity to work with K-3 students. We arranged the students schedules for morning classes at high school so that they may be at the elementary school by 11:30. Once there, the ELO students have been able to build strong relationships with mentor teachers as well as with the students. In a great coincidence, MHS was invited to participate in the research phase of a potential teacher training program being considered for York County schools next year. We were able to use this experience as a prototype as we imagine aspects for the potential program next year. Additionally, these students are participants in the Maine Career Exploration Badge Program with JMG.



Marshwood High School
Home of the Hawks



ELO Coordinator Rob Scully; "We have a very committed and sincere student determined to enter the healthcare field in nursing. As a junior, this student completed the Sanford High School CTE Center CNA program as part of her plan to engage in as many meaningful healthcare experiences prior to high school graduation. However, as a senior, she had exhausted all the existing opportunities connected to her major/career choice. This was a prime opportunity for us to provide an experience that otherwise would not have existed prior to our work with the grant. We did not have a formal ELO program at Marshwood, but were determined to develop a pathway. Throughout her ELO, this student discovered a particular affinity for children and works primarily in pediatrics. Even though this is normally a semester long experience, we extended the ELO to semester II. This student is now in the Maine Career Exploration Badge program from JMG."



Marshwood High School
Home of the Hawks



Career opportunities come knocking at DISHS

Project Launch, Guidance Department host career fair

DEER ISLE—Project Launch introduced dozens of middle- and high-school students to potential careers at a job fair featuring local presenters in the Deer Isle-Stonington High School gym on September 23. The careers ranged from acting to yoga, health care to the Haystack Fab Lab.

Pat Shepard talked to kids about a career in marine biology. As the collaborative research specialist for the Maine Center for Coastal Fisheries, he brought along gear like headsets and a life raft—some of the tools of the marine biologist's trade.

Cheryl Wixson, owner of Rabbit Hill Farm, talked to kids about marketing food products and working in the culinary field. Brian Duke described how his commercial driver's license got him into plumbing and propane delivery at Elmer B. Eaton & Son.

Linda Nelson had some advice useful for many Mainers: How to wear many hats. Nelson works for Stonington as economic development director, for herself as a journalist and for nonprofits as a consultant.

Project Launch and the DISHS Guidance Department sponsored the career fair. They plan to hold another one in May, according to Kim Hutchinson,



Project Launch's executive director. The spring fair will also offer seasonal job opportunities for students, including college students home for the summer.

Other presenters included: James Rutter at the Haystack Fab Lab; Chris Joyce, electrician; Thomas McGuire,



marine electrician for McGuire's Mobile Marine Electric; Liz Leuthner, yoga instructor and small business entrepreneur, Deer Isle Yoga; Farrell Rupert and Brock Eaton, arborists; Morgan Eaton, real estate, The Island Agency; Kassandra Shepard, daycare, Snappers; René Colson Hudson and Jen Spofford, Healthy Island Project; Jenn Adams, acting, Opera House Arts; Julia Trundy, overview of medical professions; Walker Thomas, National Guard; Tim Cormier, warden, Marine Patrol; Leslie Landrigan,



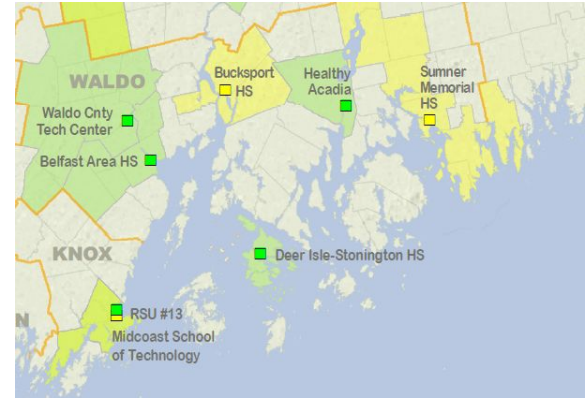
PHOTOS BY LESLIE LANDRIGAN

Clockwise from above left: Marine Patrol Officer Tim Cormier chats with Ashton Larrabee about a career working on the water; Walker Thomas, in the background, talks to kids interested in a National Guard career; Broc Eaton demonstrates why an arborist career isn't for people afraid of heights; Chris Joyce brought along some electrical parts to help explain some of the techniques electricians use; Brian Duke tries to interest students in a career that's much needed on the island—plumbing.

reporter, Penobscot Bay Press.

Project Launch

Project Launch for a decade has helped DISHS students and their families make a successful transition from high school to postsecondary education. According to Hutchinson, well over half of Project Launch's students come from first-generation college-bound families. The program has had measurable success keeping students in college and graduating.



Deer Isle - Stonington High School

DISHS plans to offer credit-bearing paid apprenticeship, job shadow, summer employment, and career fair opportunities. Through paid apprenticeships, 12th grade students will spend 6-8 hours a week with their host site and enroll in a credit-bearing apprenticeship class to learn 21st century career skills.

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G20 offers a unique opportunity for youth to join a network of emerging leaders, receive innovative job and leadership training, build their professional network, explore career interests, gain experience, and develop critical Work skills.

RSU 13 has been dabbling in partnerships and learning experiences outside the walls of the classroom for a few years, and we see the power that these experiences can have for our students and the community when we break down these walls. We are thrilled to be grant recipients because it allows us access to resources that will help us expand these opportunities as well as learn from other sites across the state in an effort to develop some best practices. We look forward to helping Maine further blaze the trail in these important connections for our students and our economy.

Steffany Tribou Assistant Superintendent RSU#13 Rockland



The ELO program at Belfast Area High School has brought a level of excitement and engagement back into our hallways that has far exceeded even my highest expectations. With this funding we have hired an all-star ELO coordinator who has already connected with dozens of students and their excitement about exploring and pursuing their passions is palpable. Businesses in our community are welcoming the opportunity to work with our high school students, and soon I expect that the enthusiasm our students are showing is going to envelop our entire community. None of this would be happening without this grant funding- so, thank you!

Jessica Wood Belfast Area High School AP



Southern Mid Coast Maine Model



We are honored and excited to be among Maine’s ELO grant recipients! This funding will significantly enhance the quality of our Mt. Ararat High School Community Pathways program – impacting our efficiency, growth, sustainability, and efficacy. Most importantly, we will be positioned to provide many more meaningful and engaging learning experiences to support students in pursuing their dreams, interests, passions, and aspirations. In the end, I believe we are tasked with helping students find their way toward healthy and fulfilling lives. This support improves the probability that we will be successful in that mission!

Doug Ware - Community Learning Coordinator - Mt. Ararat High School

