



**ROMEO  
COMMUNITY  
SCHOOLS**

## **GOOD NEWS ACROSS 'R' DISTRICT**

February 5, 2024

### **The journey to selecting a pathway**

Some of the 9th graders already had a career in mind when they started the process. Others changed their minds along the way.



The process is known as career card sorting. Once completed manually, the students now perform it online, sorting a host of prospective careers into categories – green for careers of interest, yellow for possible careers, and red for no interest.

The goal, once completed, is for each student to rank their top three pathways for next year, which will determine which Academy they attend. Whether they get their first, second or third choice will be announced during the Pathway Reveal Ceremony on March 8.

Avery Glugla, pictured on left, believes the career sorting process was “extremely useful in narrowing down jobs that fit my personality, interests and lifestyle.” The architecture career pathway in the Academy of Design, Engineering and Manufacturing (DEM) is her top choice.

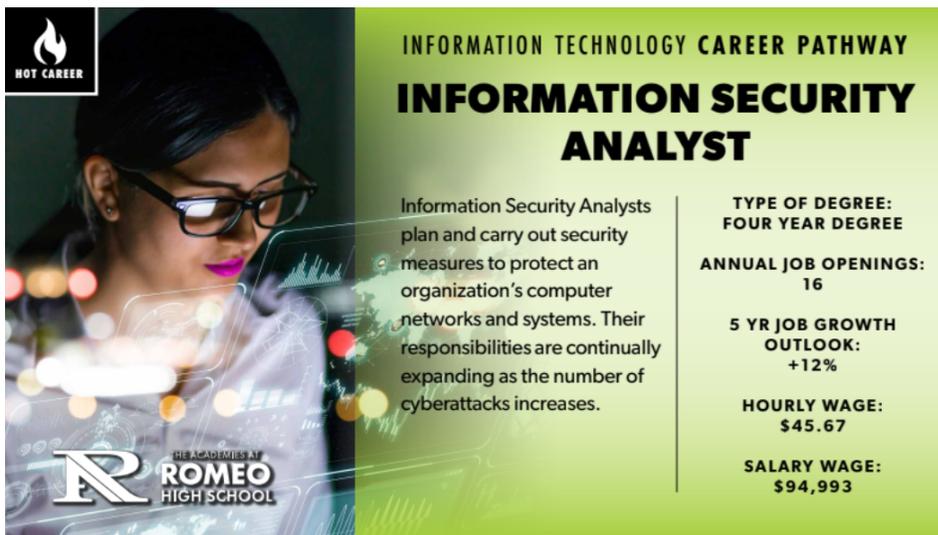
For Naya Jovanovski, the law and public safety pathway in the Health, Human and Public Service (HHP) Academy is a clear first choice.

“When I was going through it, I had a career in mind,” she said. “I want to be a lawyer when I’m older, so I want to do something down that pathway and that goes along with law and

public safety. I'm not sure exactly what kind of lawyer I want to be; I just know that's something I want to do when I'm older."

Andrew Canu also wants to be a lawyer, but his father, who practices family law, recommended he select another pathway for high school and pursue this in college before seeking a Juris doctorate degree.

Andrew plans to select engineering as his top pathway and attend the DEM Academy, while taking crossover classes in law in the HHP Academy.



The infographic features a woman with glasses looking at a screen with digital data overlays. A 'HOT CAREER' icon is in the top left. The title 'INFORMATION SECURITY ANALYST' is in large bold letters. Below it, a paragraph describes the role. To the right, a table lists key statistics.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY CAREER PATHWAY	
<b>INFORMATION SECURITY ANALYST</b>	
Information Security Analysts plan and carry out security measures to protect an organization's computer networks and systems. Their responsibilities are continually expanding as the number of cyberattacks increases.	<b>TYPE OF DEGREE:</b> FOUR YEAR DEGREE
	<b>ANNUAL JOB OPENINGS:</b> 16
	<b>5 YR JOB GROWTH OUTLOOK:</b> +12%
	<b>HOURLY WAGE:</b> \$45.67
	<b>SALARY WAGE:</b> \$94,993

THE ACADEMIES AT  
**ROMEO**  
HIGH SCHOOL

Alison Hudgens initially thought she wanted to pursue the marketing pathway in the Business, Entrepreneurship and Innovation (BEI) Academy, but after talking with her mother and doing independent research, she decided on information

technology instead. The classes in that pathway really interest her, in particular cybersecurity.

Another elective is AP Computer Science, which she thinks she will benefit from because this year she is enrolled in Microsoft Business Applications and enjoys doing projects using PowerPoint and Excel.

"My friend's mom does an IT job and she said that the certifications you get from doing the classes here are really good and can get you a really good job in the future," Alison said. "I thought it was really cool you can take classes to earn certifications before you even graduate."

Kat Rice also found it beneficial to talk with her parents about career possibilities – something she doesn't think she would have done if not prompted by the 9th Grade Academy approach. Her first choice is the education pathway in the HHP Academy and her second choice is the business pathway in the BEI Academy.

"I thought I wanted to go into some kind of medical research, but after going through the slides and talking to my parents, I considered some business opportunities too," Kat said. "It's always beneficial to have these skills. I talked to my parents a lot about this because I really want to make sure I'm making the right decision. It's very important for college to make sure you know what you want to do."



**HOT CAREER**

LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY  
CAREER PATHWAY

## FORENSIC INVESTIGATOR

Forensic Investigators are responsible for collecting evidence such as fingerprints, tissue, fluids, from crime scenes without tampering or damaging it. They also analyze samples in a laboratory.

**TYPE OF DEGREE:**  
FOUR YEAR DEGREE

**ANNUAL JOB OPENINGS:**  
3

**5 YR JOB GROWTH OUTLOOK:**  
+8%

**HOURLY WAGE:**  
\$28.04

**SALARY WAGE:**  
\$58,232

**THE ACADEMIES OF  
ROMEO  
HIGH SCHOOL**

Alexa Mackovski was on the fence between the health services and law and public safety pathways, both in the HHP Academy.

"Going through the slides helped me realize all my career choices were in law," Alexa said. "I love reading books about that, I love listening to podcasts. I'm a

part of my school's debate team, which helps me focus on the path I would like to take."

This decision was reinforced in discussions with her parents.

"They said do something that you can focus on when you get to 10th grade so when I go to college I can save money and focus on what I want to do," Alexa said.

Emma Chubb also thought when she started the career sorting process that she wanted to be a lawyer, but she realized she doesn't want to be in school that long. In fact, she has landed on a career path that doesn't require a college degree.

Emma wants to be a conservation officer for the Department of Natural Resources. While this requires a 23-week training course, she cannot enroll until she is 21. In the meantime, she plans to get a two- or four-year degree in environmental science or a related field.

"I like the pathway system because I can learn more about what I want to be when I'm older and then I'm not going to be put in random classes that I won't use when I'm older," she said. "I like how it focuses on what I want to be for a career. Also, anyone who graduates will have some sort of job they can go into and I like that."

### COMMUNICATIONS AND MARKETING DEPARTMENT

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