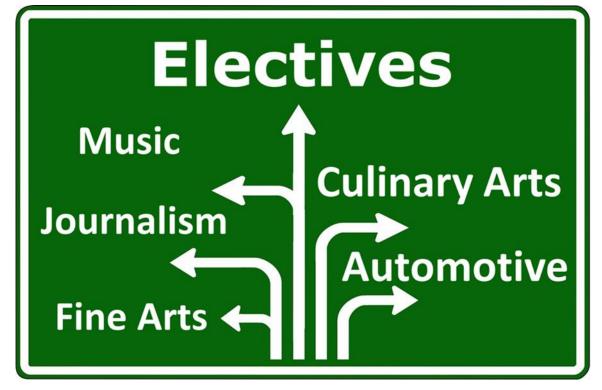
NEW MEXICO 4-H

Aggie Next Step Exploring Electives

Extracurriculars



Post Secondary Pathways



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Exploring Electives & Extracurriculars

Introduction

Getting involved in school or community activities helps you build confidence, leadership, and skills that extend beyond the classroom. In this lesson, participants will explore how participation creates "good news" for their future by improving academics, relationships, and readiness for college, careers, and life.

SET UP

Review lesson materials and determine which worksheets and handouts you will use for the lesson. Print enough pre/post assessments, worksheets, and handouts for each participant.

ACTIVITY

- 1. Have participants complete the *Pre-assessment*.
- 2. Start discussion with: Imagine starting high school and realizing you finally get to choose some of your own classes—art, robotics, culinary, agriculture, or music. Each choice is a chance to discover new interests, build skills, and shape your future.

Ask: What elective or extracurricular activity are you most excited to try? How can the electives or activities you choose help you reach your future goals?

- 3. Explain that today's lesson will help them understand how electives and extracurricular activities connect to college, careers, and personal growth—showing that every choice they make is helping them build their future.
- 4. Distribute the *Elective Selection Worksheet*, *Elective Example Sheet*, *How to Choose High School Electives*, and *Career Clusters and Career Pathways*.
- 5. Spend some time reviewing each of the handouts and worksheet, touching on a few of the tips and strategies.
- 6. Give participants 10 15 minutes to complete the *Elective Worksheet* using either the *Elective Example Sheet* or electives listed on the high school website.
- 7. Allow participants to share some of their top electives and why they chose them.

Supplies

- Worksheets
- Handouts
- Sticky notes
- Pens/Pencils



Students will be able to:

- Identify how extracurricular involvement contributes to academic and personal success.
- **Interpret** data showing the benefits of participation.
- Reflect on personal involvement and growth opportunities.
- Recognize transferable skills gained through activities.
- Set one goal for future engagement in school or community programs.







Exploring Electives & Extracurriculars

- 8. Transition to extracurricular activities with: *Electives help you explore your interests in the classroom—extracurricular activities help you apply those interests and build leadership, teamwork, and communication skills often outside the classroom.*
- 9. Start a discussion around what extracurricular activities they are currently involved in, what activities are offered at their school, and the benefits of participating in these activities.
- 10. Introduce the *Good News–Bad News Gallery Walk* as you post the *Good News and Bad News Gallery Walk* pages around the room or display them on a screen. Give each student a few sticky notes and a pen. Explain that they'll move around, review the graphics, and respond to a reflection question at each station.
- 11. After all students have rotated, gather for a short discussion about what they observed and the common themes from their responses.
- 12. Pass out the *Making Better Choices* and *Good News Bad News* handouts. Discuss how involvement in school or community activities connects to leadership, personal development, and future college or career readiness. Ask: "What skills do these activities help build that could benefit you after high school?"
- 13. *Exit Ticket* depending on time, this can be done as a class discussion, or students can complete the worksheet in class, as homework, or the following class.
- 14. Have participants complete *Post-assessment*.



Involvement creates opportunity. Whether through clubs, sports, service, or leadership, each activity helps shape who you are becoming. By choosing to participate, you invest in your goals, your community, and your readiness for life after









Exploring Electives & Extracurriculars



NM Standards:

NM PED Standards: Career and Technical Education (CTE):

CTE 1.1.1: Identify training, education, and certification requirements for one's occupational choice

CTE 1.2.1: Demonstrate knowledge and skills of language arts specific to a career pathway opportunity

CTE 2.1.4: Evaluate and use information resources to accomplish specific tasks

CTE 2.2.2: Identify the main ideas of an informational text

CTE 4.1.3 Operate internet applications to perform tasks

CTE 9.1.2 Develop a personal career plan to meet career goals and objectives

CTE 9.2.2 Demonstrate skills in evaluating and comparing employment opportunities

CTE 9.2.4 Identify and explore career opportunities in one or more career pathways to build an understanding of the opportunities available in the cluster

CTE 9.2.5 Recognize and act upon requirements for career advancement to plan for continuing education and training

CTE 9.2.6 Continue professional development to keep current on relevant trends and information within the industry

CTE 9.2.7 Examine licensing, certification, and credentialing requirements at the national, state, and local levels

<u>Common Career Technical Core (CCTC) Standards: Career Ready Practices (CRP):</u>

CRP-10: Plan education and career path aligned to personal goals

Optional ELA Alignment (Grades 6-12)

SL1: Participate in a range of conversations

SL2: Integrate and evaluate information presented in diverse media and formats

RI1: Read closely to determine what the text says explicitly

RI7: Integrate and evaluate content presented in diverse formats and media

Video Resources:

Engaging in Extracurricular Activities (2:46)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MVHy_hbKSa4

What Extracurricular Activities Should You Do in High School? (5:51)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v= YrIAc3YL3E

Choosing Courses for High School (2:36)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hCVJIV5N-t8



