

Gallatin County High School offers cooperative learning programs to students who are enrolled in a valid career and technical education pathway at GCHS and have taken the required sequence of classes in that pathway. The cooperative education learning experience is taken in conjunction with the pathway's capstone class. The intent is to take the skills the student has learned throughout their pathway and apply them in a real world, practical work setting.

There are some barriers that hinder some students from the co-op program. Students are not limited to Warsaw or Gallatin County for their cooperative work experience, but many students participate in after school activities and wish to be close to school to be able to get back to participate in various after school clubs and sports. This limits the distance students want to travel to work and ultimately many decide not to participate in co-op because they don't feel as if they can do both.

Aside from students who wish to participate in extra-curricular activities, there are only so many co-op opportunities in our community. Employers who wish to hire a co-op student must understand these students need to be there during specific times Monday-Friday in exchange for going to a class. It is sometimes difficult for a business to dedicate that specific schedule to an employee and may not be convenient to their needs.

A position at the board office would allow another student an opportunity to work on campus and demonstrate the skills they have learned and mastered throughout their pathway. It would also allow the student the flexibility to remain active in extra-curricular activities if they so choose.