The Academies at Romeo - Quick Reference

➢ What are our 4 Academies?
  ○ 9th Grade Academy - feeds into the 3 career academies
  ○ Academy of Design, Engineering and Manufacturing
  ○ Academy of Business, Entrepreneurship and Innovation
  ○ Academy of Health, Human and Public Service

➢ What are the features of the academy model?
  ○ Small Learning Communities (schools within schools)
  ○ Students learn within a career pathway that interests them
  ○ Students learn in an academy with “like minded” students for 3 years (10th, 11th, 12th grades)
  ○ Small learning communities where teachers and students get to know each other over the course of three years. Relationships between teachers and students foster engagement, trust and attendance.

➢ How is this model different & beneficial for students?
  ○ The block schedule offers students the opportunity to dive deeper into curriculum and content, as well as take more “global” classes to explore and deepen knowledge, while keeping their favorite classes electives like AP’s, music, language and the arts.
  ○ Longer class periods open opportunities for teachers and students to work cross-curricularly with other teachers and academies to implement more Project Based Learning (PBL)
  ○ Longer class periods open opportunities to engage with business partners, in and out of school, and to learn and experience real world applications to classroom concepts.

➢ How is this model different & beneficial for parents?
  ○ Each academy has a dedicated principal and counselor which offers opportunity to better know and help the students with their goals, weaknesses, strengths and future.
  ○ Principals and counselors are located within the physical academy which allows easier access for students, parents and staff.
  ○ Students are in academy classes that are interesting. Research shows that attendance goes up and discipline referrals go down when students are engaged and enjoy their learning.

➢ 9th Grade Academy purpose and benefits
  ○ 3 academy teams are like small “schools within a school” to foster teamwork, belonging and success. Teachers team to ensure no student “slips through the cracks”
  ○ Ongoing college and career exploration eases an academy pathway choice in the spring
  ○ Includes all state curriculum standards along with embedded career “Success Skills” and a seminar component to hone interpersonal, communication and social skills.

FAQ's
Q. How do you expect a 14 year old to pick what they want to do in life?
  A. We don’t. We want them to explore and experience as much as possible in high school so they can make informed choices about their futures, and wisely use their (your) time and money.

Q. Can a student change a pathway or academy?
  A. Yes, at the end of their 10th grade year. There will be a thorough process in place involving parents, the student, counselors and teachers to help with this decision.