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- Alignment Collaborative for Education -First Responder Internship Launches as a Multi-Municipal Partnership

By: Imaan Azeem, Alignment Collaborative for Education Intern, Elgin High School Date: June 27, 2024



This summer, ten high school students from school districts **U-46**, 300, and 301 had the opportunity to participate in the First Responder Internship offered by the Bartlett Police Department, Hanover Park Fire Department, and Hanover Township Emergency Services. This internship allows students to explore all aspects of this career pathway as it gives them a chance to get a feel for what it would be like to work in jobs such as criminal justice, emergency response, fire safety, forensic science, healthcare, and public safety.



Between practicing search and seizure scenarios and fingerprint collection at the

Bartlett Police Department, earning CPR certifications at the Hanover Park Fire Department along with using drone technology at Hanover Township Emergency Services, this internship offers many hands-on opportunities that help prepare these interns for the workforce. Aside from learning about First Responder careers, students have been able to form bonds with one another and create ever-lasting memories. Karissa Hernandez, a student from Dundee Crown High School, goes on to say "... It's like a community here. They really are brothers and sisters."



As a high school intern for the Alignment Collaborative for Education, I had the great opportunity to be on-site and witness all of the captivating activities taking place. I was blown away by the vast amount of career paths they get to explore as well as all the different aspects of each one respectively. I learned an immense amount of valuable information solely by watching these interns. This internship helps prepare students going into the First Responder industry, giving them a strong grasp of what it is truly like to work in this field while also gaining valuable life skills that they can carry with them no matter the career. Any students who have even the slightest bit of interest in any of the career paths associated with being a First Responder should consider applying for this internship in the summer of 2025. It is a great opportunity with an even greater reward.





To watch the video that accompanied this story, please click <u>here</u>.

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