

Northwest High students explore careers in

Being a teacher is a lot harder than it looks. **Catherine Paul**, 17, a senior at Northwest High School, has learned that by experience.

Catherine spends three hours a day in a kindergarten classroom, practicing for the profession she hopes to move into.

She drives to **Germantown Elementary School** five days a week as a participant in Northwest's student internship program.

"It's a really good opportunity," Catherine said. "I wanted to experience what working was like."

The **Darnestown** resident plans to major in elementary education. She was accepted in December to **Indiana University** and **Mount St. Mary's University** in **Emmitsburg**.

The Northwest student internship program is giving 77 students an opportunity to explore careers in education, government, business, medicine, research and other areas this year.

About 70 students participate annually. Northwest has been offering the program since the 2001-2002 school year.

The students generally spend two to five hours of the school day at their internship sites, earning academic credit for their time, according to **Greg Bowman**, the acting internship coordinator at Northwest.

Students must meet strict requirements to participate in the program, Bowman said. They are required to

attend seminars, develop portfolios and engage in professional development activities during their internship. They must also submit timesheets, journals, reflections and evaluations.

All high schools in **Montgomery County** offer the internship program, Bowman said, but Northwest's program is among the largest.



People and Places

JEN BONDISON

