



College Student Panel

TARGET GRADES

Middle School and High School

OBJECTIVE

Students are able to learn about the college experience from near peers.

MATERIALS

N/A

PREP TIME REQUIRED

Varies. Need time to contact and arrange student panel.

PREP STEPS

- Try to identify college students who are alumni of the student's middle school or high school. This could have a greater impact on the students, because they would be able to connect with someone who had similar experiences as them.
- If not able to contact some of the middle school's or high school's alumni, staff could also contact colleges to engage students in participating in a panel. Possible connections include:
 - University of Washington Seattle Office of Minority Affairs
 - Seattle Central College Student Services
 - Community based organizations: College Access Now and College Success Foundation
 - Invite 3-4 college students to participate in a student panel during DiscoverU. If not available, possibly make arrangements for them to attend later in the school year.
- Determine who will moderate the panel, teacher, principal, student, etc.
- Develop list of questions for students to discuss. Possible questions include:
 - Please tell us about yourself, where you are from, what do you hope to do after college?
 - Can you tell us what how did you prepare to go to college? What were the challenges?
 - What has been the best part of being a college student? The worst part?
 - How does college prepare you for what happens after?
 - What should these students be thinking about so that they can arrive feeling prepared?
 - What would you do differently, knowing what you know now?
- Encourage family members of the middle school and high school students to attend.

ACTIVITY TIME REQUIRED

60 minutes

ACTIVITY INSTRUCTIONS

Facilitate student panel. You may use questions listed above, develop your own, or your students may create them.

For additional resources and to sign up for the DiscoverU newsletter, visit our website at www.discoveruwa.org