

**PROGRAM:**

*Charting Your Course for Success at Walla Walla Community College*

**OBJECTIVES:**

Inspire eighth graders to challenge themselves in high school, to earn their high school diploma and to have a plan for what they want to do in order to increase their options as an adult. Also provide an opportunity to introduce students to Walla Walla Community College. Event objectives include:

1. Provide an opportunity for students to learn more about themselves and their career interests.
2. Remind students that it is essential that they graduate from high school.
3. Enable students to identify their education or training needs in order to help them achieve their career dreams.

**LOCATION:**

Community College Campus

**DESCRIPTION:**

On Tuesday, March 24th, nine busses arrived between 9 and 9:30a.m. Walla Walla Community College (WWCC) volunteers and GEAR UP staff greeted the busses as they parked along the perimeter of WWCC’s main parking area. Students with pink itineraries were led to the gymnasium for *College Know-How* and students with yellow itineraries were led to the Performing Arts Auditorium for *Patrick Dunning’s Signature Project*.

While the students were attending their first Big Group Break Out, 36 presenters were signing-in and preparing for the day. Along with two Big Group Break Outs, 8<sup>th</sup> grade students attended four twenty-minute sessions, one of the sessions was their lunch break at the Warrior’s Knee – *Campus Central*. During each 20 minute lunch break, approximately 85 8<sup>th</sup> grade students and event guests enjoyed pizza, cookies and water while getting a glance at Financial Aid and all other Student Services, as well as the Campus Business Office and WWCC’s Library.

Many contributed to the event’s success:

GEAR UP WSU Tri-Cities = 1 staff	John Sager Middle School = 10 staff
Pioneer Middle School = 15 staff	Touchet School District = 2 staff
Vista Hermosa GEAR UP = 2 staff	Walla Walla High School GEAR UP = 6 staff
WWCC student volunteers = 5	WWCC volunteer instructor = 1
Guest Speakers = 38	Event Coordinator

Many WWCC departments were essential for a successful event, providing invaluable infrastructure support:

**Facilities and Maintenance** -- reserve use of rooms, detail room set-up and custodial support.

**Graphics** -- helped create a magnificent workbook and contributed to creative ideas.

**Campus Recruiting Office** – led Campus Welcomes and Wrap-Ups, as well as creative contributions during event planning.

**Technical Support Services** – Always available to provide tech support, as well as AV set-up, throughout campus for speakers/presenters.

## IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE:

**During the summer:** Research motivational speakers/keynote presenter options.

**Mid-September/October:** Begin communicating with middle school representatives to determine participating schools and event date. Know event budget.

**Early December:** Distribute *Save the Date* notices (postcards and/or e-mail) to the prior school-year's Career Representatives/presenters. Determine whether there are college organizations and/or community organizations who will partner with this event.

**January:** a) Select motivational speaker and negotiate contract, b) Follow-up and make contacts with last year's Career Day Representatives and recruit new speakers, c) Edit/update event workbook, d) obtain quotes for lunch.

**February:** a) Finalize meal, printer for workbook and career representatives/presenters. b) Begin setting-up website for student information and registration. c) Recruit student volunteers.

**March:** a) event registration, b) use registration data to create student schedules, c) finalize student supervision and safety plans with participating schools, d) college student volunteer recruitment and orientations d) collate speaker packets that include a thank you certificate, e) Career Day!, f), thank everyone who helps, and g) schedule debrief/event review.

## PREPARATION ACTIVITIES:

1. In Middle School Computer Labs, students completed a WOIS inventory in late February/early March.
2. Presenters were recruited prior to event registration. Therefore, students were able to access presenter information on-line as part of their preparation for event registration.
3. EventBrite was used, enabling students to register on-line for this event. Students selected the five presentations that interested them the most. Students were then assigned three Career Exploration sessions.
4. GEAR UP and middle school staff provided students an orientation after distributing workbooks and Career Day schedules the day before the event.
5. Individualized itineraries were given to each student. Students were divided into two groups, pink and yellow, identified by color-coded schedules. The purpose was two-fold: accommodate auditorium capacity limitations and provide 8th grade students with an opportunity to meet students from other schools. Sample itineraries are provided as attachments.

## FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES:

1. Some GEAR UP schools completed *Field Trip Feedback Forms* for GEAR UP at WSU Tri-Cities to tally.
2. GEAR UP staff held a debrief/post-event session, reviewing what worked and ideas for future improvements.

**COSTS OR COST CONSIDERATIONS:**

Event Budget – 8 <sup>th</sup> grade Career Day at WWCC	
Event Coordinator 260 hours	\$4,211.00
Lunch	1,099.00
Keynote Presentation & Accommodations	2,100.00
Event materials, signage and supplies	1,369.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$8,779.00</b>

WWCC In-Kind Contributions	
- Culinary School Classroom	\$150.00
- WWCC Warrior's Knee & Dining Area	750.00
- Dietrich Activity Center	500.00
- HS & PA Auditorium	500.00
- 30 Classrooms	2,100.00
- 5 Students & 1 WWCC Instructor provided 24 hours of volunteer service	
- 12 WWCC Staff led sessions	
- Administrative Overhead	
<b>Total In-Kind</b>	<b>\$4,000 plus</b>
Community In-Kind Contributions = 26 Career Exploration Presenters	

**CONTACT INFORMATION:**

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**ATTACHMENTS:**

Sample Schedules (next page)

<b>Sample Schedule – Pink Career Day 2009</b>	
9:00	Welcome to Walla Walla Community College! Go directly to THE Dome for <i>College Know-How</i> with Melissa & JJ Harrison!
10:00	To Session #1
10:05	Session #1 Begins - Room # 103 Title: Architecture & Design
10:25	To Session #2
10:30	Session #2 Begins - Room # 120 Title: You'll Never Guess What You Can Do as a Banker!
10:55	Time to go the Health Science & Performing Arts Auditorium to watch Patrick Dunning's <i>Signature Project!</i>
11:55	To Session #3
Noon	Session #3 Begins - Room # Warrior's Knee Title: LUNCH
12:20	To Session #4
12:25	Session #4 Begins - Room # Parent Child Center Title: Learn about careers in early education
12:45	Time to find your bus!! Thank you for coming!!

<b>Sample Schedule – Yellow Career Day 2009</b>	
9:00	Welcome to Walla Walla Community College! Go directly to the Health Science & Performing Arts Auditorium. <i>Patrick Dunning's Signature Project.</i>
10:20	<i>College Know-How at the Dietrich Dome</i>
11:05	To Session #1
11:10	Session #1 Begins - Room 1403 Title: The Corrections & Law Enforcement Program
11:30	To Session #2
11:35	Session #2 Begins - Room # Warrior's Knee Title: LUNCH
11:55	To Session #3
Noon	Session #3 Begins - Room# 205 Title: Electrical Apprenticeship
12:20	To Session #4
12:25	Session #4 Begins - Room # 225 Title: Is Pluto a Planet?
12:45	Time to find your bus!! Thank you for coming!!