

Severna Park High School Career Conversations Guide

The goal of Career Conversations is to enhance the Mock Interview experience for the student, focusing not only on resume writing and interviewing but career exploration and job readiness.

As part of Career Conversations -

- You will be seated at your own table as one of several professionals seated in a 'resource/career fair' type table format.
- Students will drop by tables that interest them, talking to you about your career, how you got started, your typical day, etc.
- These are informal discussions that can last several minutes with 4-6 students
- Allow for students to ask questions throughout the conversation
- Feel free to bring any handouts, materials, samples you may have that highlights your career/company

Welcome/Setting the Stage

- Introduce yourself; who you work for, what you do
- Why did this type of work interest you and how did you get started?
- Describe your job-
 - What are the duties/functions/responsibilities of your job?
 - What kinds of problems do you deal with?
 - What kinds of decisions do you make?
 - Are there busy and slow times or is the work activity fairly constant?

Education/Training

- What are the educational requirements for this job?
- What other types of credentials or licenses are required?
- Is graduate school recommended?
- Does the company provide training in the field?
- What kinds of experience, paid or unpaid, would you encourage for anybody pursuing a career in this field?

Opportunities/Potential

- What are the various jobs in this field or organization?
- How does a person progress in your field? What were the keys to your career advancement? How did you get where you are and what are your long-range goals?
- What are the skills that are most important for a position in this field?

Personal Experience

- What part of this job do you personally find most satisfying? Most challenging?
- What do you like and not like about working in this industry?
- How has your job affected your lifestyle

External

- How is the economy affecting this industry?
- What sorts of changes are occurring in your occupation?