

## EL & Minority Student Career Exploration & Skills Building Education Foundation Grant 2019-2020 School Year

Our goal is to offer a real-world opportunity for EL & Minority\* students to build their knowledge of career choices that directly relate to a vocation of interest, while also assisting these students in identifying their strengths and how their skills can apply to a career.

\*High School English Language Development program, the American Latino Program, and the Black Student Union.

This initiative was to consist of a three-pronged approach developed to maximize the effectiveness of our minority student career education experiences.

1. First, students interacted with guest speaker Wilma Bonilla, Lender Relations & Economic Development Specialist, for the U.S. Small Business Administration. Ms. Bonilla arrived in the U.S. from Puerto Rico just under a year ago, and is fluent in both English and Spanish. She visited with students in ELL (including ALP students) and share her personal stories/journey to success while also soliciting student input regarding their career education needs and barriers.



2. Fifteen WCAD EL students toured Wings for Success located in Kennett Square PA, where they participated in a workshop entitled "Wearing the Right Attitude and Outfit" for success. They learned about personal branding, dressing with confidence for interviews, internships, and learned proper interviewing skills. Students also met with a personal stylist who assisted them in finding the right outfit for success.



"How to Prepare for a Job Interview"

"What to Wear to a Job Interview"

3. **Cancelled due to COVID-19.** In April, approximately 40 EL/ALP students were to visit Chester County Hospital for a career showcase/shadow where they would have hands on experiences in a vast array of health-related careers - with corresponding education and training requirements, and various financial options. This was to include information about hospital sponsored training and tuition reimbursement programs, and career options achievable for everyone, and how their own skills and interests may align with those in a health-related field. We hope to reschedule this trip!

**Grant Dollars Requested: \$879**

**Grant Dollars Spent: \$604.79 (due to cancelled trip)**

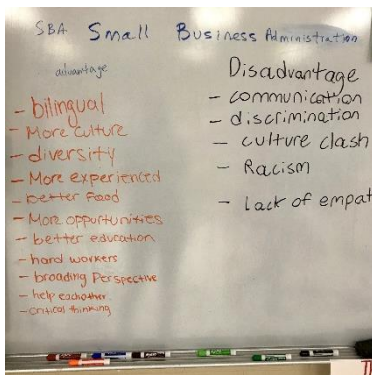
**Budget breakdown: Transportation - \$235.26, Catered Lunch - \$210.27, Substitute Teacher - \$159.31**

## Small Business Association Discussion on Advantages & Disadvantages of Being a Minority



### What students had to say about what they learned...

- *Work hard, and be responsible.*
- *Being responsible, on time, work hard.*
- *Work hard, do a good job, be nice to people, be respectful.*
- *effort, enough knowledge about my career, enthusiasm*
- *Work hard, have my family in mind all the time and always remind myself, and stay positive.*
- *work harder, and be patient*



- *Try your best.*
- *Don't give up. Be kind and listening. Working hard.*
- *I learned that there is a lot of opportunities to people from other places.*
- *Never give up on things and always put the effort to be successful in life.*
- *I learned that having a different culture can be a good thing*

## Wings for Success Workshop and Shopping Spree...



### Students shared insights including:

- *Why dressing for an interview, job shadow, or work is different than dressing for school or going out with friends*
- *Choosing how we speak (i.e. casually) will be different depending on who we are speaking with and for what purpose*
- *Doing some research beforehand and developing questions is critical and shows knowledge and interest*



Students felt better prepared to visit “Wings for Success” after hearing from Wilma Bonilla (SBA) and her personal journey to success. While quick to voice disadvantages of being a minority and slow to come up with advantages, our students seemed to gain more confidence in their abilities, and skills as the discussion progressed. With this confidence, and the interview and “dress for success” skills they learned at Wings for Success, these students are ready to experience a vast array of career possibilities and training. We hope to reschedule our tour of Chester County Hospital, where students will see everything from entry-level careers and training through highly skilled careers – and include business, engineering and other fields within a hospital setting.

Thank you Education Foundation Board for providing this outstanding opportunity!

RHS Students, Kim Freese, Anastasia Coni, Donna Foley