About Middle College

This first year of Middle College programming will establish the foundation for creating a culture of success and achievement for these students. It will be present the plan and focus necessary for students to acquire college readiness skills in academics, behaviors, attitudes and decision making that will guide them through their high school years towards graduation and acceptance at the college of their choice.

The classes developed for this group will focus on rigorous academics, and will begin the student’s path towards academic performance at or above the level needed for success in college.

The Career Exploration component will introduce students to emerging careers and the relative college programs that are options for them to consider. Five colleges from the RIT community will present these options to the students. These workshops are meant to be an overview of the field of study and will speak to required high school courses and other academic prerequisites for entry to the program. By presenting these options to the students as 9th graders, we will give them the opportunity to plan their high school programs to include courses and assessments (such as the SAT) that will enable them to qualify for college admission into the programs of their choice upon completion of high school.

The personal development component of the program will focus on the “soft skills” necessary for success in high school, college and life. They will include communication, team work, decision making, time management and goal setting skills. In addition to learning these skills, Middle College students will be given examples of how they apply to the academic and career exploration aspects of the program. Skills learned in this portion of the program will provide the foundation for Middle College students to develop their core college readiness mentality.

Winter Reading Assignment:

This is a story of two boys living in Baltimore with similar histories and an identical name: Wes Moore. One is free and has experienced things that he never even knew to dream about as a kid. The other will spend every day until his death behind bars for an armed robbery that left a police officer and father of five dead. The chilling truth is that his story could have been mine. The tragedy is that my story could have been his.

Students were asked to read the book “The Other Wes Moore” and be prepared to discuss their own thoughts about on it and how sudden moments of decision-making can diverge and seal ones fate.
How Well Do You Manage Your Time?

Students were asked the question of how they plan their daily schedule. They were then issued a planner and were told to write down their schedule starting at 6:30 am -11:30 pm. After reviewing what they wrote, students realized how much time they potentially misuse.

The second component of the assignment was what they would do with a limited amount of time and resources. The majority of the students responded that they would spend time with their family, as well as their friends. Some also stated that they would learn to do some things they haven’t had the chance to do such as travel, drive a car, and join the Japanese army.

Ten Thousand Hours to Perfecting Your Craft

The 10,000 hour theory was formulated in regards to people who have spent at least 10,000 hours learning, internalizing and perfecting their crafts.

Students were asked to either agree or disagree with the article that was given to them and produce facts to support their conclusion. These students also faced the challenge of swaying the other students who neither agreed or disagreed.

Next, students were placed in groups and were told to form a company of any kind. Within their company students had to list the top five positions that their company could not function without and also explain to their peers which positions needed ten thousand hours and which positions did not.

Students had to present their company concepts to their peers, and to the student coordinators who sat in as a group of wealthy investors.

Did You Know?

Did you know is a YouTube video that is comprised of different facts regarding our society today. The students were asked what they found surprising about the facts that were presented to them. Some said it was: 25% of India’s population with the highest IQ’s is Greater than the total population of the United States, which meant that India has more Honors kids, than the US has Kids.

Others said it was surprising to know that students who started a 4 year technical degree, half of what they learn will be outdated by their third year of study.

The overall consensus was the world is changing rapidly, and we have to create new and innovative ways to continue to be a world power.
Teamwork

In 1965, Bruce Tuckman proposed a model for group development. The stages of the development comprised of Forming, Storming, Norming, Performing and lastly Adjourning.

Students were given a task of forming into groups, and then were given directions on a task. Students would have to build a tower with marshmallows and spaghetti. Students decided amongst themselves who would be the director and who would be the constructors. This activity allowed students to work as a team and enabled

Leadership

Emotional Intelligence

Emotional Intelligence is the use of taking control of your emotions; you intentionally make your emotions work for you by using them to help guide your behavior and thinking in ways that enhance your results.

Developing this skill will help students within leadership positions, as well as helping them become successful in both life and work.

This concept allows students to go beyond their existing knowledge of what a leader is supposed to be, and can help develop their individual leadership qualities, thus helping to produce real impact, growth and change.

Leadership

Multiple Intelligence

Howard Gardner proposed the theory of Multiple Intelligence. Multiple Intelligence is a view that considers other concepts of intelligence such as Logical-Mathematical Intelligence, Linguistic Intelligence, Spatial Intelligence, Musical Intelligence, Bodily-Kinesthetic Intelligence, Interpersonal Intelligence and Intrapersonal Intelligence.

Students filled out a survey, which in turn helped them locate their strong areas and how they could apply to their future career endeavors. Students also realized which aspects weren’t their strongest and can take steps to better themselves in these particular areas.

Leadership Staff

Molly McGowan, Director of RIT Leadership Institute

Duane Beck, RIT Professor

Daniel Greer, RIT

Tegan Spinner, RIT Student

Erika Voight, RIT Student

Florinda Cardenas, RIT

Keisha Manning, RCSD Counselor

Fran Versace, RIT

Daniel Greer, RIT
Career Exploration

Hospitality & Tourism

Students were exposed to a number of possibilities within the Hospitality and Tourism industry. Throughout this presentation the presenter spoke about the study abroad program associated with Hospitality. Students were given the task of examining Rochester, and creating a tourist attraction that would generate revenue for the city.

Some of the ideas were as followed:
• Medieval Castle located in the middle of Genesee River
• An Outlet, that would include many stores that aren’t currently here as well as in-door sky diving, roller skating rink and more.

Career Exploration

Nanotechnology

This presentation exposed students to sustainability career opportunities. Presenters gave students a tour of the facilities and explained what nanotechnology meant. Presenters demonstrated how solar energy could be used in our society today, as well as the draw backs of using solar energy.

Presenters also gave students ideas of what career paths they could follow with a degree within this specialized area.

Career Exploration

Biomedical Research

During this presentation, students were able to see the many different careers throughout the medical industry. Students were also able to discover the amount of time they will have to offer in order to get a certain degree.

Students were taught the important aspects such as how to maintain your health, and were shown the differences between a healthy heart and an unhealthy heart.

Career Exploration

Math

During this presentation, students were able to see the many different careers throughout the Mathematical field. Mathematicians create models to solve practical problems in fields such as business, government, engineering, and the sciences.

The median annual wage of mathematicians was $99,380 in May 2010. Employment of mathematicians is expected to increase by 16 percent from 2010 to 2020, about as fast as the average for all occupations. There will be competition for jobs because of the small number of openings in this field.

Career Exploration

Computer Science

Employers not only look for students who have strong technical skills, but who also understand mathematics, science, and the importance of effective communication. The BS program provides students with a solid foundation in mathematics, science, liberal arts and an opportunity to take outside electives, complimenting the strong technical core that the program offers.

The career outlook for computer science graduates is strong. The combination of our strong technical preparation and co-op experiences, give our graduates a leg up in industry, allowing them to join virtually any career field as a computing professional.
Math

- A typical Math session is 75 minutes long.
- 10 minutes drill covering material from the previous week.
- Main Lesson (about 40 minutes)
- Short quiz, 5 minutes on last week’s
- Material Go over quiz and answers, they grade
- Hand out example question for next week upon which the next quiz will be based.

Sine & Cosine Lesson

Math

Jan 28 - Mathematics assessment test (40 minutes), 10 minute break, percentage, ‘of’ means multiply
Feb 11 - Graph Theory, networks, bridge problem
Feb 18 - functions: domain and range, discrete and continuous, 2-4-3 sequence
March 10 - lines, intersection of lines, linear relationships
March 17 - system of linear equations, intersection of lines
March 24 - lines of best fit, introduction to stats
April 21 - statistics: mean, mode, median, variance, standard deviation, data analysis
April 28 - probability and expected value

Accuplacer

The Accuplacer is a suite of computer-adaptive placement tests that quickly, accurately and efficiently assesses reading, writing and math skills.

Accuplacer assures that students will be placed in courses according to scores on the exam. Students also benefit from a custom tailored study guide that will provide collaboration between students and

Math Instructors

Bernard Brooks, RIT Professor
John Palo, RCSD Teacher
Pratima Kumar, RCSD Teacher
Deana Olles, RIT Professor
Imagine RIT: Innovation and creativity festival is a campus-wide event that showcases the innovative and creative spirit of RIT students, faculty and staff. Visitors experience the breadth and depth of RIT through interactive presentations, hands-on demonstrations, exhibitions and research projects set up throughout the campus.

Inflatable’s, games and multiple performance stages with live music and entertainment are also very enticing.

May 19, 2012 End of the Year Celebration

Students will present a project they’ve been working on throughout the year. The project will be comprised of what the students learned and how they can apply it to themselves.

Middle College Staff from office of K-12 Partnerships

Dianne Spang, Director of K-12 Partnerships

Bridgette Jones-Waters, Program Director
LeVauer Andrews, RIT Student Mentor
Andrea Boarman, RIT Student Mentor
Jane Litvin, RIT Student Mentor

Mary Guerinot, Data Specialist
Chantelle Bailey-Riddick, Lead RIT Student Mentor
Danielle Guarneri, RIT Student Mentor
Jasmine Tompkins, RIT Student Mentor

Middle College Staff from Rochester City School District

Mr. Shaun Nelms, Chief of Schools, Northeast Zone Schools