

CAWS Teacher Exchange – Wallace State Community College and Quality Staffing Solutions

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Date: September/October

Lesson Length: 4 class periods (2 weeks)

Topics: Making Decisions and Setting Goals

Overview: Our 9th grade students need the skills and information necessary to make informed decisions about their career and educational future. They also need to learn time management skills and effective study habits, develop a strong work ethic, and be able to set short and long term educational and career goals. In this lesson, students will learn the steps to making decisions about their career and outline the steps which they will follow in the process. They will learn the importance of setting goals and will begin setting some of their own short and long term goals.

Background/Preparation: Before the unit, the teacher will invite Wallace State College instructors from various technical programs to speak to the students about college and career opportunities. The teacher will provide the game chips for a decision making game. Handouts on steps for effective decision making and career goals will also be provided.

Primary Learning Objectives:

1. Students will use the seven steps of decision making to make a decision.
2. Students will identify what is important to them.
3. Students will identify 3 career goals and 3 personal goals.
4. Students will identify which goals are long term and short term.
5. Students will list steps needed to reach their established goals.

Essential Questions:

1. What is your dream career?
2. Where do you see yourself in yourself in 8 years?
3. Do plan to go to college?
4. If so, will you seek a 2 year degree, a 4 year degree, or more?
5. If you could accomplish anything you wanted, what would it be?
6. Where do you plan to live?
7. What kind of life do you want?
8. Do want to have your own family?

Materials, Equipment, and Technical Resources:

Special Guests – Cold Springs High School’s career coach and Wallace State College instructors
Computer
Internet
Supplemental Materials

Procedures, Activities, and Learning Experiences:

Individual Work
Class Discussion
Handouts
Visuals
Group Work
Speakers

Assessment Strategies:

Teacher Observations
Feedback from Discussion
Performance
Class Work
Group Work
Portfolio

Lesson Instruction Includes:

Project-Based Learning
Employability Skills
Presentation
Role Playing
Problem Solving Skills
Higher Order Reasoning

Culminating Project:

Students will develop a four-year plan. This plan will guide them in making important decisions now which will, ultimately, allow them to achieve their long-term, college and career goals.