

The Pathway Forwards

*A Reverse Career Fair Model for Community Engagement in
Career Education*

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Acknowledgements



Who Are We?



Graeme Barber

- Math/ Careers Teacher
- Passionate about technology & meaningful assessment

@MrGBarber

Laura Stewart

- French Immersion Teacher/ Teacher Leader
- Passionate about engaging students in meaningful learning

@mmelstewart

Session Goals



- Experience a version of a reverse career fair
- Understand curriculum connections to *Career Life Education*
- Learn details of year plan and project execution
- Reflect on challenges and ways to implement experiential learning in Careers curriculum



Experience a Reverse Career Fair

Reverse Career Fair



Fill out the sheets on your table

- Who are you?
- What is your interest in career education?
- What is your challenge or key question right now with respect to career education?



Community Networking



Mix and mingle!

- If your paper has a **star**, invite colleagues into a conversation
- If your paper has **square**, look for someone new to talk to
- Introduce yourself and share your challenges



Table Discussions

- How did you feel going into these mini presentations?
- What benefit did this process have for you?





Curriculum Connections

Our Questions

- How do we make our careers curriculum real for all students?
- How do we engage our community partners in career education?
- How do we teach meaningful life skills?



Year at a Glance



My Planning

Hire Me!



My
Action
Plan

Project Goals



- Engage students in real-life situations
- Engage the community in career education
- Open students' horizons to "real world" jobs
- Engage students in authentic communication



Curriculum Connections



Career Life Education



Big Ideas

Career life choices are made in a continuing cycle of planning, reflecting, adapting and deciding

Cultivating networks and reciprocal relationships can support and broaden career-life awareness and options

Content

Personal networking and employment marketing strategies

Ways to represent themselves both personally and publicly

Competencies

Collaborate with supportive community members to explore the reciprocal influences of career-life choices

Explore and connect experiential learning inside and outside of school with possible and preferred career-life pathways

Indigenous Education



Learning is holistic, reflexive, reflective, experiential, and relational



Our Reverse Career Fair Model

Term 1: My Planning

Self-Discovery

- Who am I?
- ABC Career Project



Employment Skills

- Job finding
- Networking
- Resumé building
- Cover letter
- Interview skills



Term 3: My Action Plan



Reverse Career Fair Prep

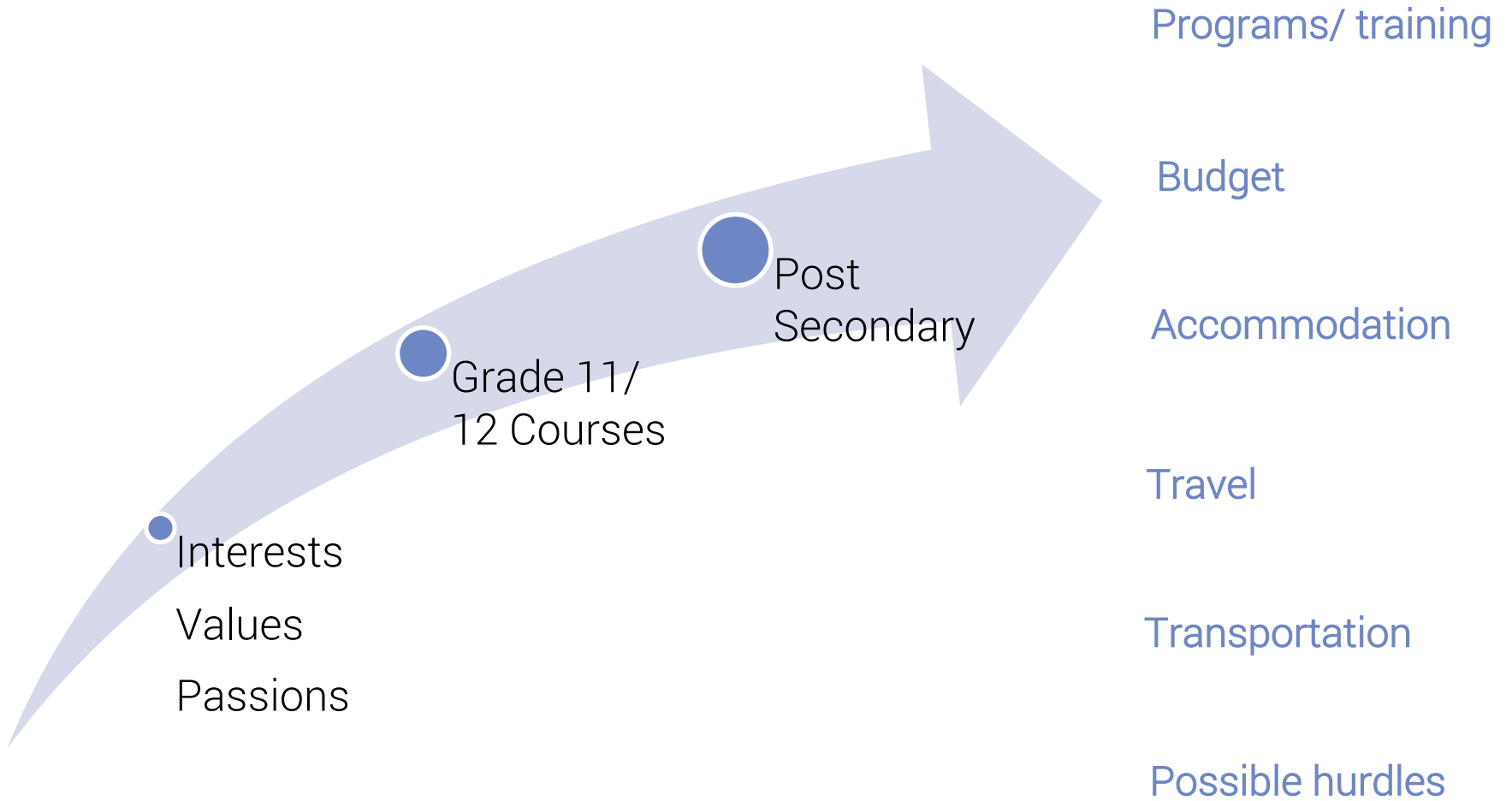
- Identify local businesses
- Cold call for invitations
- Re-visit post-secondary plan



- Develop a visual presentation
- Depth: Choose one career path and research thoroughly with options
- Breadth: Choose multiple paths and give details of each



Criteria



Organization



- Weeknight in June, 5-7pm
- Students each had a table or wall space in school hallways, common areas
- 4 classes - 100 students
- All parents invited
- Approximately 100 parents & community members

Summative Assessment



- Professional tenure
- Networking skills
- Visual presentation
- Path forward:
research & content
- Reflection

Variations

- En français!
- Job fair early in the year
- Use of technology



Questions?





Reflections on the Year

What Worked?

- Student engagement
- Authentic communication & networking
- Community partnerships
- Student employment connections
- Parent engagement
- Authentic assessment



Challenges



- Layout and flow
- Some students didn't have enough people to talk to
- Business partners
- Technology

Table Discussion

- What new ideas do you have?
- Does this inspire any ideas for your context?
- How can we make learning more hands-on?



Get in Touch



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<https://goo.gl/XgUfwi>

