2019 Senior Presentation Description

The Senior Project is a pre-planned series of activities (may be job shadows, college visits, research projects, college/career experiences, military explorations, etc.) that inform the audience about the student's future plans, answering a specific question. A clear timeline and research question must be approved by a senior advisor before the project is approved. **The rough draft of this project is due on _____ during Advisory. Senior projects will be presented to a committee on _____.** Invite your parents and/or special people who have supported you throughout this journey.

The Senior Presentation presents the student's research process and findings with a visual slide presentation (PowerPoint, Google Slides, Prezi, Etc.).

While every Senior Project is different, here are some probable steps:

1: Establish and narrow research question.
:(Questions that are too broad:
- "What job is good for me?"
- "Is the medical field a job choice that fits my learning style and goals?"
- "What is sustainable energy?"
- "What is the history of sustainable energy?"
:) Narrow questions and connect them to your future goals:
- "How does XXX job suit my learning style and goals?"
- "How does XXX research tie to my future goals?"
- "How does XXX project connect with my future goals?" (This one is particularly good if you are doing a community service project.)

2: Establish steps that you will take to investigate your question.
What will you do to discover the answer to your initial question? Possibilities include:
- Find out vocabulary you will need for further investigation
- Research the job you will be shadowing
- Find a mentor to help you build something or work on a project
- Plan a specific activity or series of activities that will help inform you
- Figure out places you will visit to discover more
You don't need to do all of these, and what you do may not be on the list. The idea is to brainstorm possibilities.

3: Plot a timeline

You know that you will need to complete this project before May of your senior year. Ideally, you will complete a chunk of your project the summer before your senior year, when you have more schedule flexibility. So… June this year through April next year -- what do you need to do when?

4: Reassess as you proceed

As you work through your project, new ideas and questions should arise. Maybe you'll even realize that your original question is totally unsuited to your future plans and will need to drastically revise it. Remember, this project is to inform you on your future, and learning is part of the process.

:) Change and adapt as you go through your proposed timeline!

:(Realize at the last minute that you need to do an entirely new project and pretend that your summer job connects with your future when it doesn't.

5: Reflect on your process

This would be your **Senior Presentation**. Your presentation tells the panel about what answers you found to your questions and how you found them. Here are a few basics to keep in mind when you present:

- 5W's and 1H: Your audience does not know about your project! We need to know:
    - What your original idea/project was
    - Who you worked with to achieve it
    - When you did the significant activities
    - Where you did the activities
    - Why you thought these would connect to your future (before)
    - How your senior project ultimately connects to your future (after)
- Keep it simple: your slide presentation should contain minimal text -- basically just your talking points. You'll fill in the rest with your verbal explanation. **Do** use pictures from your experiences to illustrate your points!
- Personalize it: this really is all about **you**! Talk about what you learned, and end by connecting your learning with your future goals.