

NGC Career Day Report

Overview and Objectives

The NorthGate College [NGC] Career Day was designed to give students the opportunity to confront the hidden 9/10s of the career. At NGC, we understand that the job in one sense, is the end result, the process is what is of greater value as even when one chooses a career and lands a job, the person one becomes is what will have a long lasting impact.

We always want our students to see the 'thing within the thing' so our Career Day is not focused on copious amounts of information on any one career. In fact, in the Information Age in which we now live a simple search on any search engine can yield exhaustive amounts on any topic; the day is crafted to go after the hidden principles. This report highlights the principles we wanted to underscore and from the student feedback contained therein, it seems it was a resounding success.

Format of the Day



The day was divided into segments; the upper school [5 & 6] had morning sessions facilitated by C-WBN personnel, Nigel Edwards and Franka Redwood, who looked at Character Before Competence in the workplace and Behind the Interview. The lower school [3] had a morning session facilitated by Monica Musaib Ali who focused on Internal Character Development. They also had a follow up segment by a group of social workers called Naissance Consulting on Time Management.

The afternoon segment for the upper school was a panel of seven professionals who spoke about their experiences on the job in some traditional and some non-traditional occupations; the intention was to expose the students to the variety of opportunities that now exist as possible careers. This will move them away from linear thinking in terms of their career paths. The session was also designed to whet the appetites of the students so that they will go and look for the rest of the information for themselves; we want to ignite within them the desire to search things out rather than wait for all the information to be brought to them. The afternoon segment for the lower school comprised another segment by Naissance Consulting on Career Planning. After this the students participated in a game show on fact-finding which highlighted what jobs could be acquired with different subject combinations.

Feedback

The students were able to appreciate all of the segments. Some of the feedback from them shows what they gleaned and the value that the Career Day continues to impart as a basis for life management amongst the students. Here are some student comments on each segment:

Nigel Edwards – **Character before Competence** – N Edwards examined the issues from his personal experience as well as made reference to international scandals like ENRON and demonstrated how they began with the choices that were made during their youthful years in school. Students commented:

'Mr Edwards opened my eyes to what an employee's life is like' – Esther Louison

'His session stood out to me because it clarified the need for morals and principles in the workplace' – Arianne O'Neill

Franka Redwood – **Behind the Interview** – F Redwood spoke about the interview process and the facets that an interview panel look for when choosing an ideal candidate for a job. She was able to link the current practices of a regular teen, such as social networking, to the implications for success at an interview. Students commented:

'Behind the Interview stood out to me because it gave me a view of how employers view employees and I need to watch what I say about myself on the internet as they assess that also'. – Shebeka Diaz

'Behind the Interview helped me because in a way it helped me to understand how to prepare myself to go about preparing for an interview and how to present myself at work' – Simone Ajodha

Monica Musaib-Ali – Living Consciously – M M-Ali spoke about the main elements that go into developing a healthy life. She examined the intangible inputs and predicted output. Students said:

'The first session stood out to me because it showed me how to live consciously which I thoroughly enjoyed' – Ogechi Akpaka

Naissance Consulting – the group gave hands-on examples of how to manage one's time and how to set and achieve realistic career goals. Students said:

'The second session stood out to me because it was lively and interactive'. – Rinnah Boynes

'The second session stood out because it was more interactive and dramatic' – Kelly Ann Ramdhani

The Panellists – The panel consisted of the following disciplines and personnel:

- Caryn Jameson – Accounting & Hospitality
- Allyson Mills – Environmental Science
- Daya Ottley – Broadcasting
- Shane Mark – Entrepreneurship
- Ife Craigg – Culinary Arts
- Allana Best – Medicine
- Tarin Hodges – Image Consultancy
- Juma Bannister – Photography



The students were greatly impacted by the presentation of the panellists and their professions. They had a lot to say. Some of the selected feedback is:

'The image consultant made me realise that you can expand your career in what you love. For me, fashion and writing are my passions. This way I can combine the two and be a fashion journalist, or furthermore an image consultant for fashion icons in the industry' – Francesca Fournillier

'I gained a lot of insight about photography and what that profession entails' – Cher Best

'Photography opened my eyes to new areas, there are options out there that I never thought photography would offer' – Yeshanah Rambox

'I gained insight on the requirements and sacrifice it takes to become a doctor' – Nicole Francis

'Mrs Mills helped me to gain more insight about the environment' – Mark Rahim

'The panel discussion helped me to choose a second career choice, my plan B is media/broadcasting' – Sophia Ali

'Shane Mark gave me a better business sense' – Emmanuel Ryan

'I was intrigued when I got a one-on-one with the doctor as this helped me to clarify my goals' – Jessonia Wooding

'The chef stood out to me, all the panellists took their time to explain and now I have a better idea of what I want to do' – Sharice Perreria

'I gained the most insight in the session on cooking' – Daniel Maharaj

'The chef stood out to me. She caught my attention because I started cooking awhile ago and cooking is something I love to do because it is creative.' – Hallie Bruce

'The profession I gained the most insight on was being a medical doctor. Dr Best gave full details and steps in different areas of medicine' – Shanice Jackson

'I gained the most insight from the accountant' – Kristie Ann Gordon



The day ended well, with several students staying back after the session to speak with the presenters. The Form 3s had a rousing competition led by Mrs Williamson and Mr Badoo which they enjoyed as they learnt about what they can do with the different disciplines they like.

Post- Career Day Feedback

Students were given a simple feedback activity. We used it as an opportunity to find out which other careers they would like information on for future career days. Some of the fields they requested are:

- Professional Footballer
- Aviation
- Engineering
- Law
- Education
- Criminology
- Defence Force/Marine Corps
- Sport Management
- Psychology
- Human Resource Management
- Actuarial Science

I guess Mrs Smith and the team have their work cut out for them for the next Career Day!

Overall it a great job was done by all and it was a memorable occasion that I am sure will serve the students in good stead.

Yvelande La Pierre

Director