

**What:**

The Rochester Education Foundation (REF) will provide an event for RCSD 7th grade students that exposes them to a variety of careers. We will recruit at least 100 career models from a variety of diverse fields who are financially independent, like their jobs, and give back to the community. These career models will meet with our students in small groups to share their career experiences and the path needed to get there. Not only will they meet professionals, the 7th graders will also meet college students. These career models and college students will encourage them and help them to imagine themselves having a successful future.

When:

Friday, October 11, 2024 from 9:00-1:30

Where:

St. John Fisher University

How:

-REF will be sure to recruit people with diverse careers. We will get help on recruitment from our partners throughout the community.

-REF will engage a graphic designer to create a guide that our 7th grade students and their families can access. The guide will showcase a headshot of each career model and provide a description of the career as well as the education and training that was required to get there. The guide will also highlight opportunities for students in Rochester for grades 7-12, including summer programs, internships, Summer of Opportunities, programs on STEAM, music; all sorts of experiences and programs that are offered in Rochester.

-REF will work with partners at St. John Fisher, RCSD, and First Student bus company for all logistics

Student Experience:

- This is expected to be a 90-minute experience for the students.
- Students will be broken into groups of 8 or 9 and have at least one college student serve as their guide through their schedule, along with other chaperones
- College student guides will welcome groups and briefly tell their story about being at college.
- They will then follow their schedule and visit 8 different career tables for 7 minutes each (3 minutes to pass to their next table). Career models will be dynamic presenters and will repeat their talk to each new group of students (8 times per 90 minute session, there will be at least 2 sessions). Career models will share information about their career - including what they do, why they like their job, and what training they need to get there. They will have pictures or posters or media and a dynamic presentation, (fun giveaways, if possible), and time for Q&A. Each encounter will be highly engaging.

- By meeting with individuals from 8 different careers, students will be exposed to some careers that they have heard of previously and some that are new to them. **They will be inspired as they imagine their own future!**