

# **News Release**

## **7<sup>th</sup> Grade Career Day**

### **At Dobbs Ferry Middle School**

### **Focuses on Writing in Real-Life Professions**

**Dobbs Ferry, N.Y. March 25, 2014--** Dobbs Ferry Middle School will host a 7<sup>th</sup> grade Career Day on March 26<sup>th</sup> from 8:00-11:00 AM, focusing on the use of writing in real-life professions. Organized by the school's guidance department in conjunction with ELA teacher Rachael Lief and writing enrichment teacher Jill Rosenblum, the program's goal is to help educate, build excitement for and motivate students to think about different careers where the use of language and writing skills are paramount in order to be successful in that particular line of work.

This year's "Career Day" was designed to give the 128 seventh graders an idea of how writing can be applied in a variety of professions," said Ms. Hacker. "It doesn't matter if you are a plumber or a plastic surgeon, writing skills and analytical thinking are paramount to being successful in any career path you chose. We hope to focus on the connection between writing, thinking and questioning to enhance student learning and initiate a dialogue about a variety of career choices."

There will be five different class presentations, each lasting approximately 25 minutes. The first twenty minutes of the presenter's program includes information on their childhood aspirations and interests, overall job description and culture of their business, some background on the educational and training requirements they needed to jumpstart their careers and how writing is used in their present positions. This introduction is followed by a ten-minute question and answer discussion segment.

At the conclusion of the morning program, teachers will conduct a 20-minute culminating activity that focuses on resume writing, which is new this year. Students will complete a biography/resume-like template providing academic and extracurricular information to help them begin to think about how to convey their accomplishments and skills to a new teacher or a potential employer. "This is a great way to get to know the class in the beginning of the year and to help students learn how to write a resume," Ms. Lief said.

"Seventh graders are at a great age to get them to start thinking about what their interests are and where their talents lie as it relates to future career possibilities," said Middle School Principal Patrick Mussolini. "This program also dovetails nicely with NY State's career development and occupational studies requirements."

Volunteer presenters include:

**Ziya Danishmend**  
Director of Experience Design, Havas Worldwide

**Paul Delcioppo**  
Sound Technician, Metropolitan Opera and Broadway Shows

**Special Agent**  
US Department of Justice, Drug Enforcement Administration

**David Prockter**  
Senior Portfolio Manager, Merrill Lynch

**Stevan Mcaleer**  
Race Car Driver, CJ Wilson Racing

**Patricia Straub**  
Personal Trainer/Business Owner, Spincredible Indoor Cycling

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