

Dear Students:

Thank you for participating in Senior Panels. Today is the first time seniors are sharing their ideas in a public setting. They will be asking for your feedback on their ideas as well as ideas of your own that could help them create a great Senior Exhibition.

Please take notes during presentations and fill out the questions/suggestions sheet as completely as possible. You will also have a rubric on which you will assess the presentation as a whole. Your feedback is important to seniors, and will hopefully help you to start thinking about your own future exhibition.

We all appreciate your thoughtful, respectful, and helpful participation in this process.

Ms. Cassell and The Senior Class

GOAL OF JANUARY 24th PANELS

1. Seniors will present their plan for an exhibition that will meet the four major criteria:

The Essential Question: To engage in a real investigation of their topic, students will choose a complex, relevant, and sustainable essential question. The questions should not be easily answered and the student must engage in the project in order to answer.

Research: Students will move beyond their initial knowledge of the topic and show new learning throughout the process. Research must be both text-based and experiential (interviews, internships, observations). Sources should be recent, relevant, varied, and reliable. All students will write a 10-20 page research paper in which they will answer their essential question.

Context and Community: Students will connect their learning to real world applications. This entails working with community members outside of Riverdale who are somehow engaged with the work students are researching. Each student will have an outside expert to help direct him or her in research and a plan for senior service connected to the topic. Students should work toward Service Learning, in which they've identified a need and made a plan for a project that has lasting benefit to the community.

Scholarship: Exhibitions must be designed to show deep critical thinking and intellectual growth. This requires integrating several academic disciplines and considering multiple perspectives.

2. Seniors will receive feedback from their panel on the ideas they present:

After each student presents, the group will help the presenter brainstorm ways to plan for a more vibrant, satisfying, profound exhibition. The panel also serves as a check to make sure the senior's plan meets all four criteria described above.