McDowell High School School-to-Career Mentorship

School-to-Career Mentorship is a part of the TALES Program.

What is the Mentorship Program?

Mentorship means matching a student on a one-to-one basis with an adult member of the community who can provide expertise and/or advice in a field of study or other community endeavor. Both mentor and student have predetermined goals and outcomes.

What is School-to-Career Mentorship?

The School-to-Career Mentorship program provides a qualified student the opportunity to begin learning an occupation. It consists of a half-day or daylong experience per month over a six or seven month period during the school year. Students meet and work with professionals who share their experience, expertise, enthusiasm, and zeal for what they do for a living. The program provides hands-on, behind-the-scenes experiences and gives students the opportunities to make connections with organizations and people who can help them as they pursue their career choices. Mentorship candidates must be self-motivated and disciplined. Students are expected to attend all sessions.

Who can participate in a mentorship?

Students may participate in one mentorship per year in grades 11 and 12. Because this competitive program has limited space, students should not apply if they cannot commit to attending <u>every</u> session.

Why should I apply?

Not only is it a great accomplishment to include on a resume or college application, but a mentorship is also one of the best ways to really explore career paths of interest. You will gain firsthand knowledge from experts in the field and also make valuable contacts that can be beneficial to you in the future.

When do I apply?

The application window opens April 1st. Space is limited so be sure to submit your application as early as possible.

How do I apply?

You may pick up an application packet in the Gifted Support office. The packet will give detailed information and walk you through the steps in the application process. You may also access the application packet on the TALES site.

What does it cost?

The program is absolutely free!

How do I get there?

Students have to make their own transportation arrangements. Oftentimes, more than one McDowell student is placed in the same mentorship so carpooling might be an option.

What types of mentorships are available?

There are a large number of mentorship categories. Please see the list on the TALES site and/or in the application packet.

What if I have questions?

Mrs. Means and Mrs. Willow are available to help you. You may visit the Gifted Support Office or email them at Means@mtsd.org or Willow@mtsd.org.