GEAR UP ACTIVITY IDEA

MILITARY EXPLORATION



Objective

Wahkiakum hosts military events through a structured program called "Military Pathways," focusing on tight coordination with military partners and individual student fit.

Procedure

Coordination and Planning:

- They maintain tight coordination between their school team and military partners.
- A key aspect is fact-checking on behalf of students to ensure accuracy.
- The overall program, "Military Pathways," emphasizes a focus on fit for the student.
- Visitor Management and Scheduling:
 - o Military partners hold lunchtime visits.
 - Appointments are mandatory, and drop-ins are explicitly not permitted.
 - The names of all visitors must be provided before their visit.
 - Wahkiakum allows for recurring visits to be scheduled.
 - A table is used to control access and promote visibility during visits.
 - Follow-up meetings are arranged by appointment.
- Student Engagement and Opportunities:
 - o They conduct 1:1 meetings with students.
 - o The program facilitates ship visits for students.
 - o Base visits are also arranged for students.

Through these structured methods, Wahkiakum has seen a significant increase in students pursuing military pathways, from previously 1-3 students per decade to 2-5 students per year, joining various branches including the Coast Guard, Air Force, Navy Nuke, and National Guard, and even two students being accepted into the Naval Academy. This approach underscores their commitment to ensuring a proper "fit" for students interested in military careers.

Themes

College Exploration

Audience

All GU students

Grade Level(s)

7-12

Cost

Required Materials

WAGU military exploration docs

Prep Time

Varies

Additional Notes

Contributed by Wahkiakum MS/HS.