Making the Most of the Mini-College Fair

@ the Heritage HS Senior Roundup!



General Tips to Consider:

- Bring something to write with and to take notes in case you need it.
- You may want to come dressed nicely.
- Bring a copy of your resume with you especially if you will be talking with any schools that you really want to attend. You can also have a copy of your transcript so you can easily access GPA, rank, etc.
- Take business cards & join mailing lists come prepared to either fill out a contact card, give your resume, fill out a QR code, etc. Some schools do track demonstrated interest in their admissions process (this means they track if you're on their mailing lists and how often you open and click on emails that they send).

Have an open mind.

There may be some schools in attendance that aren't on your radar but they might have the major you are considering, offer great scholarship opportunities, or be a good fit for you based on location/size/etc.. Go and talk to one new school and Listen to what they have to say.

Be sure to have 3 options on your list of colleges to apply to - your dream school (reach school), your ballpark school (match) and your back up plan (safety). If you don't have all three - this is a great opportunity to fill up this list.

Many times the college admissions reps are the reps that read and review your applications. This means this is a chance for you to make an impression, in person. Take advantage of that opportunity and introduce yourself & ask important questions about admissions.

- If you want to go to these schools stop by, be friendly, be polite and just let them know you are excited and interested in attending their school.
- Ask about scholarships What are their scholarship deadlines? Question to ask yourself "How do I make sure I am considered for as many scholarships as possible?"
- Is there an Honors College? If so, what is that process and what are the benefits to applying? Is your Honors College connected to the early application deadline?
- Review all of your applications ahead of time if possible so you can ask any clarifying questions you might have to the college rep. Ex: How can I determine if it's better for me to apply to your college with the early application deadline or the regular deadline?

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Resources to learn more and go into more detail:

- Princeton Review College Fair Checklist
- ACT How to Prepare for a College Fair
- College Board College Fair Checklist
- Coalition for College: How to Get the Most from a College Fair
- Advantage College Planning: Tips for Attending a College Fair