

A LASTING IMPRESSION: TEACHER TIPS TO OPTIMIZE THE STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Expose students to new perspectives and areas of expertise by inviting local professionals and leaders into your classroom. Here's some tips to make the most out of the experience for you (the educator) and your students.



PLANNING YOUR SPEAKER VISIT

- Consider a large versus small student gathering. Determine whether to hold speaker presentations in an auditorium or a larger space to accommodate an entire grade(s), or in a smaller classroom setting.
 - A larger space may expose more students to these presentations.
 - Alternatively, a smaller classroom setting may yield more in-depth conversations about the speaker and their field.
- Consider hosting a series of speakers throughout the academic year to expose students to different people and careers. The WVPEC is happy to help you coordinate a speaker series, though we recommend that one teacher, guidance counselor or educator in your school takes point in planning these speaker visits.
- Once the presentation is scheduled, provide background information about the speaker to your students. Please encourage active and respectful participation.



DURING THE SPEAKER VISIT

- Offer to help the speaker, as needed, but allow the speaker to be the focus of the room.
- Please remain in the room/classroom and display interest in the speaker and topic.



AFTER THE SPEAKER VISIT

- Consider asking students to complete a brief student reflection form to help them reflect on what they've learned about the speakers' career and their experiences. This can be done in the classroom or as a take-home assignment.
- We encourage teachers to complete the post-visit evaluation to help us make improvements and ensure that the K12 Speakers Bureau remains a valuable experience from start to finish.