



THE PATRIOT WAY

SIGNATURE MONTHLY

PREPPING PATRIOTS FOR PROFESSIONS

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Old Mill HS Mission:

- The mission of Old Mill High School, a community rich in diversity with a multitude of programs, is to promote academic excellence and global perspective through collaboration and self-assessment in an effort to prepare productive citizens in an ever-changing world.

Signature Mission:

- The mission of the International Economics & Finance Signature is to help students develop a sense of individual responsibility, learn life and career skills, gain business, finance, and economic skills, and the critical thinking skills necessary to achieve the highest levels of personal, academic, and career success.

Preparation leads to success! We are all working to prepare our students for life beyond Old Mill High School. Whether



students plan on attending college or going directly into the workforce, we want them to be ready for whatever they choose.

With preparation in mind, the 2017 Mock Interview Program, coordinated by Signature in conjunction with the English 11 team, took place on November 16 & 17.

Over 70 volunteers from the community came to Old Mill and provided professional interview experiences to more than 530 students.



Interviewers represented a wide variety of fields. Several came from local colleges and universities like AACC, UMUC, and Towson University. The

financial services industry was also represented, with

guests from Bay Vanguard FSB, First Command Financial, and Education Systems FCU in attendance.

Owners and employees from local small businesses participated in the Mock Interview Program as well. A sampling of those include Bailey Funeral Home, Mobile Posse, and RGI Technology.

We were also fortunate enough to have guests from several levels of govern-

ment. Delegate Mark Chang of the Maryland House of Delegates, Don Rau, Chief of Staff for Sen. Ed DeGrange, and Amalie Brandenburg, the Education Officer for County Executive Steve Shuh were all enthusiastic participants in this year's interviews.

Students received both verbal and written feedback from interviewers, who were eager to praise students for their poise, professionalism, and positive attitudes. Students also received suggestions on how to improve their resumes, creative ways to answer common interview questions, and the importance of body language.

The Mock Interview Program continues to be an important event at Old Mill. Students are the true beneficiaries, and hopefully they carry these lessons forward as they enter the workforce.

Islamic Society of Baltimore & World History

Students taking World History had the opportunity to hear from two representatives from the Islamic Society of Baltimore at the beginning of November.

Khaled Helmi and Raj Rushdan visited Old Mill to discuss the five pillars of Islam, talk about

why their faith was important to them, and how Muslims view the other major religions.

Both guests talked about their past and how their faith grew as they matured. Mr. Helmi, from New York City, and Mr. Rushadan, from Barbados, had very different paths but

ended up in the same place.

They also took some questions from the students. It was an informative presentation and provided relevance for students, and there are plans for a follow up visit from both guests.

Upcoming Events:

Signature: International Economics & Finance:

- ◆ Dec. 4 Field Trip: Aquarium, Marine Biology
- ◆ Dec. 5 Field Trip: Coastal Sunbelt Produce, Culinary Arts
- ◆ Dec. 6 Guest Speakers- AACC Business & Law Dept. Media Center during PRIDE
- ◆ Dec. 14 Field Trip: Badlands Indoor Placespace, Preschool & Child Devel. 3
- ◆ Dec. 18 Field Trip: Port of Baltimore , Explorations I
- ◆ Dec. 20 ICST Meeting, 8:00am College & Career Conference Room

Financial Literacy Tip:

Holiday shopping season is upon us! Give students a brain break to compile a holiday wish list:

- * What is the item
- * How much does it cost
- * Viable alternatives (generics available?)
- * Identify the popular item of the year; supply and demand & scarcity! Hatchimals, anyone?

Visit OMHS on the web!
www.oldmillhs.org

*Patriots are:
Productive. Respectful. Involved. Determined.
Empowered.*



Old Mill

High School

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Signature Program Notes:

- ⇒ The Millionaire's Club is up and running! The Club meets on **Tuesdays during PRIDE** in the **Bredon Lab** to examine all things related to becoming a millionaire, from saving to investing to smart financial choices. If you think your students might be interested, please tell them to stop by Bredon on Tuesdays!
- ⇒ Ms. Brown and Ms. Few brought a group of International Studies and IB History students to the **Holocaust Museum in Washington, DC** on November 28. The trip was a success and we will be taking the Spring semester students as well!
- ⇒ Ms. Campion took **AP Environmental Science** students to the Broadneck **Environmental Summit** on November 29. Students learned about the affects of climate change and worked to determine ways our school could play a role in limiting waste through composting!
- ⇒ If you would like to get your students out of the building in support of your content, contact [Joshua White](#), Signature Program Facilitator, to coordinate a field trip! Bus and sub support are available if your trip connects to our International Economics & Finance theme! Money is going fast, so don't miss....the....um....bus!

CONNECTIONS CORNER

The Science Department has been working with Signature related content in several courses this year!

Marine Biology students examined the economic impact of the Chesapeake Bay in preparation for a trip to the National Aquarium in Baltimore. Zoology students will also take a trip to the aquarium in January and will take up issues related to tourism and conservation prior to their visit.

In Chemistry, students in Ms. Bowen's class completed a multi-step project and experiment dealing with the physical properties of elements.

Students researched a variety of properties for different materials including copper, graphite, aluminum, stainless steel, and diamonds. They determined electrical and thermal conductivity, density, hardness, and, of course, the cost of each material.

Following the research phase, students then examined what materials would be best suited for different functions, from building a plane to drilling into rock.

Students also examined the cost of recycling and made some conclusions as to whether the benefits of recycling were worth the cost.

Ms. Bowen's students completed an experiment through which they turned copper pennies into "gold" pennies. Students took a look at the metals used in the manufacturing of pennies and other U.S. coins. Using small amounts of zinc, they changed the color of the penny from its traditional bronze color to a gold finish.



This multistep lesson incorporated Signature themes at several points, from the determination of materials cost to the way in which U.S. currency is made. Understanding the cost associated with various materials will help students understand how value is assigned and how economic choices are made.

Additionally, the cost/benefit analysis of recycling gave students a practical look at the impact of a commonly held practice as it relates to their community.

Ms. Bowen hit on all of our School Improvement Plan goals

as well. Students were completing an inquiry-based activity which included a number of different sources for students to examine and evaluate.



Literacy implications were clearly evident in the variety of articles available for students, and students were actively engaged throughout the course of the lesson. Sophomore Aniyah Capers (pictured) said that she enjoyed seeing the change in the penny as they completed the experiment. She also said that she understands "why certain materials are more popular than others. No one could build a plane out of diamonds!"

Doing something Signature related in your class? Contact Joshua White, Signature Program Facilitator, and be recognized for the great work you are doing creating relevance and practicality with your content!



Programs of Choice