



CHART YOUR FUTURE

By: Clare Balow

Carlton High School, along with the Northeast Minnesota Office of Job Training, presented the first **Chart Your Future** event at Carlton High School on Wednesday, January 18th, 2017! Deb Saunders, Carlton High School Counselor, along with Clare Balow, Career Counselor with the Northeast Minnesota Office of Job Training, developed and initiated the first Mock Interview Day at the school.

Seniors prepared for the activity by developing a professional resume and attending an Interview Skills class. A variety of professionals from the community volunteered their time on an interview panel and each student participated in a 30 minute interview and feedback session. Throughout the day four panels of three professionals met with seniors and saw a lot of nervous students going in to the interviews and positive young adults coming out of the interviews.

“Did you stack our student group?” One of the professionals commented, “Because every one of these students was delightful to get to know.” Many Carlton seniors were offered actual jobs and connections within the community for the future.

“I have been hired for two different jobs, but never had an interview like that before,” said one senior. *“That was a professional interview and I feel like I really learned something.”*

Evaluations came back positive from the employers who participated in the interviewing process. Some of their comments included:

"I hope you can continue; this was a great experience for the students."

"It was uplifting to meet these kids. They were very impressive."

"The best part of the day was interacting with students! As we get older it's easy to not 'see kids.' Sitting down and talking to them was a joy!"

"It was really nice to work with the other people on my panel. We all learned about different businesses and services in the community. We all learned about different aspects of the interviewing process. And of course it was great to work with the young people."

The success of Chart Your Future will hopefully bring us all back together next year to make this an annual event!



