



**SHARE YOUR STORY
EQUITY AND ACCESS FOR HIGH QUALITY CAREER PATHWAYS**

Oklahoma State Department of Education New Skills for Youth Academic Affairs and Planning

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Best Practice

The Del Quest student mentoring program matches Del City High School Juniors with mentors from the business world for job shadowing, coaching of soft skills, and dining in a professional setting. The students spend three days and two overnight stays planning their futures and learning ways to reach their goals from legislators, business owners, school administrators, youth workers, and others. The community partners include the Del City Chamber of Commerce, church leaders, hotel owners, military personnel, school leaders, Rose State College, and local businesses.

Purpose

To help students develop a vision of themselves in a future career, and then to help them develop the soft skills and academic pathways that will lead them to success in a chosen career field.

Grade Level(s)

High School Juniors are selected for the Del Quest program each year. The relationships between mentors and mentees last for years to come.

Expected Results

Students learn how to greet, introduce themselves, and present business cards in a professional setting. They visit the State Capitol to learn aspects of state government. They are led through many activities to develop leadership skills, financial responsibility, effective resumes, and to leave a responsible digital footprint should future employers look into their social media accounts.

Evidence of Success

Surveys from students and business partners and feedback given to the Chamber Board are good

