



John Stark

Regional High School

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JSRHS Students Get College Counselor Information on College Essays

Associate Director of Admission at Wellesley College Anna Young recently spent the day at John Stark Regional High School talking to juniors and seniors about the college admissions process from the point of view of college admission officers. Ms. Young also held a session for JSRHS teachers on how to write the most effective reference letter for their student's college applications.

Juniors and seniors at John Stark listened intently as Ms. Young read examples of both good and not so good, college essays and talked at length with students about what makes a good, reflective college essay. Ms. Young told students that essays don't need to be about how a student changed the world, but they need to write about something that changed their life by sharing their feelings and personal thoughts in their essay.

She also shared her winning secret to writing a good essay. She told students that when they think they are finished, print out two copies of their essay and give one copy to a mature adult to read silently. She then told them to read their essay out loud to the adult. "When you read your essay out loud, you will give it the tone and inflection you intended, something that might be missing in the written text," said Ms. Young.

"We truly appreciated the time Ms. Young spent with our faculty and students," said JSRHS Principal Christopher Corkery. "She shared invaluable insights validating much of what we do and offering several suggestions to focus and improve our college and career readiness work with students," he continued.