Oyler High School hosts mock interviews; prepares students for the real world

CINCINNATI (WXIX) - A Cincinnati high school hosts mock interviews to prepare their students for the real world after high school.

Students were able to rotate through dozens of stations where they were put through a mock job interview.

“I wanted to try something new and outside of the box,” says Oyler High School 9th grade student Natoria Maxwell. “And this was a big opportunity for me and especially me being young trying to find a job.”

Natoria Maxwell is one of 40 students participating in mock interviews at the school.

Students spend several minutes with potential employers asking general interview questions to prepare them for a real world interview.

Most of the professionals were in person, but there was also a room setup for virtual interviews.

“I was told to make sure I have enough information, be calm, look nice and don’t get too much in my head,” says Maxwell.

This is the first year the high school hosted this event but they hope to make it annual.

“We are trying to prepare these students for life,” says Director of Media Communications Connor Kurek. “Not just for college, but for jobs after college.
Participants included the Cincinnati Recreation Commission, Great American Ballpark, the YMCA, Kroger, and FOX19’s Ashley Smith was asked to interview students in grades nine through 12 and prepare them for life after high school.

Junior Lamont Sargent says he hopes to be able to provide for his family someday.

“I’m hoping to gain some type of experience with building a better future with myself,” he says. “Coming from Price Hill there’s not a lot of people that make it out. So I’m hoping I can change the face of Price Hill.”

Kurek says teaching the students how to better communicate is one of the main goals during the mock interviews.

“The goal here is that we’re putting kids one step ahead of maybe what other students are experiencing,” Kurek continues. “To know how to interview and maybe land some summer jobs.”

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