



NEWS RELEASE

Contact: Randy Matheson | Executive Director
Community Relations | 425.204.2345 |
randy.matheson@rentonschools.us
www.rentonschools.us



Renton High School taken over by Washington State University

WSU staff, students, alumni give Renton High students a day-long taste of college life

Nov. 24, 2009— Renton High School students today attended classes taught by professors, students and alumni from Washington State University as part of the university's Imagine U @ WSU outreach program that provides high school students opportunities to engage with university faculty to experience college first-hand.

Nearly 45 WSU faculty, staff, students, and alumni spent the day at Renton High providing juniors and some senior students



with hands-on instruction, interactive discussions on fields of research, and presentations on how to prepare for college.

Renton High students chose three classes to attend depending on their level of interest, including nursing and health care, chemistry, earth science, speech and hearing, sports and entertainment, city planning and management, and more. The day also included presentations on admissions and financial aid, and a Family Night dinner for families to learn how to assist and support students in their journey to college.

Students and staff at both schools were very positive and excited about the opportunities the day provided. Renton High principal Damien Pattenaude, a WSU graduate, said the day's event is just part of the school's focus on providing more opportunity for Renton High graduates.

Renton High School hopes to make the visit an annual event to continue to open doors of opportunity for students. Last year, 81 percent of Renton High seniors graduated on time; 95 percent of those students planned to attend a post-secondary school.

“ Our partnership with Washington State University is focused on helping Renton High School achieve its mission statement of graduating each student college and career ready.”

—Damien Pattenaude,
Principal, Renton High School