

Redeemer Christian High School Grade 12 Portfolio Interviews

Information for Students, Parents and Panelists

October 2018

Goals

1. To provide students with an opportunity to reflect on their accomplishments and the development of their gifts in accordance with the Redeemer Graduate Profile.
2. To provide the broader Redeemer community a forum to celebrate how God has worked in the lives of students during their high school years at Redeemer Christian High School.
3. To provide the school with feedback regarding its programs and the accomplishment of program goals.

The Structure of the Interview.

The portfolio interviews will take place during a school day in May, as scheduled by the school administration. During this day, each graduate will participate in one fifteen-minute interview with a panel made up of three or four members. Panelists will include one staff member, one board member, plus parent/s or other community members. The graduate may invite his/her parents to observe the interview if desired; otherwise, there is no other audience.

Each interview will include the following elements:

1. Portfolio
2. Presentation
3. Dialogue
4. Feedback
5. Prayer

1. **Portfolio:** The students should bring their three (3) chosen portfolio artifacts, each with a completed journal entry form attached, to the interview. Students will ensure that entries/artifacts are organized well. Interview panelists will not necessarily read them all, but panelists should be able to view the portfolio artifacts during the course of the interview. All portfolio items will be returned to the student at the end of the interview.
2. **Presentation:** The student will have about five minutes to deliver a prepared speech. This should open with a brief introduction, including their plans for the coming year. The heart of the presentation is sharing their three (3) portfolio artifacts. Students may use technology only if one of their artifacts requires it. The three selected artifacts should be chosen because they present: a significant learning accomplishment, an area of giftedness or interest, maturing in areas of our Graduate Profile, or a highlight of the student's journey through high school. The student should also reflect honestly about habits and experiences that were shaped by learning at Redeemer Christian High School. The student will submit a written copy of the speech at the end of the interview.
3. **Dialogue:** The portfolio panelists will engage the student in a ten-minute dialogue about the student's high school experience and their inclinations for further growth and service. The goal of the dialogue is not to provide "correct" answers, but to enable students to speak honestly. The conversation may be based on the sample questions provided on the next page, or may flow naturally from statements made during the presentation.
4. **Feedback:** The portfolio panelists will provide initial oral feedback to the student about the presentation, and about the other portfolio items. This is intended to be an encouraging experience. A brief written evaluation (see last page) of each interview will also be completed by the staff panelist, which will be received by students upon graduation. Two cards of encouragement are written: one non-staff panelist writes a card for the student; the staff panelist will complete a card for the parents/guardians of the student.
5. **Prayer:** one of the panelists will pray for the graduate before he/she is dismissed.

Sample panelist questions:

- What are you most proud of from your high school experience?
- What aspects of your Redeemer experience do you appreciate the most?
- Tell us about a challenge or difficulty you faced that you were able to overcome and grow from.
- What mark do you think you have left on Redeemer?
- What impact did the sixty (or more) hours of community service have on your life?
- How have you changed as a learner during your high school years?
- How has your education here impacted your faith?
- What do you think we should consider as we try to keep improving as a school?
- What are some ways in which you might consider using your gifts or interests to serve in God's world?

Additional Student Expectations

- Students are expected to wear their normal uniforms but are asked to pay special attention to their appearance.
- Students should shake hands with and introduce themselves to the panelists.
- Students should speak clearly and make eye contact with interviewers when responding to questions.
- Students should be prepared to answer the 'sample panelist questions'. While some jot notes might be helpful, memorized or overly rehearsed answers are not necessary.
- A student's background, i.e. family, church, elementary school, may be helpful to include in thoughts about his or her overall education.
- While students will make references to courses taken, this is not the forum for sharing negative impressions of teachers or classmates.
- Students are to organize their portfolios with accompanying journals into a binder. All portfolio pieces need to be included and be made available for viewing. Students will give their prepared speech notes to the panel when finished.
- Each panel as a group will complete the evaluation form below after interviews are completed. "Passing" the portfolio interview is a graduation requirement; therefore, if a student does not receive a passing grade, he or she will be asked to schedule another interview. If a student puts forth a reasonable effort according to expectations, he or she will certainly receive a pass.
- Students should enjoy the day. It is meant to be a celebration of our students, of their best work, and of God's goodness to his children. We hope that it will be a constructive day of reflection and dialogue that blesses students, panelists, and the whole Redeemer community.

Portfolio Presentation – Evaluation Criteria

Portfolio presentations will be evaluated according to the criteria below. It is a Redeemer Christian High School diploma requirement that a student receive a pass from the interview panel.

Student Appearance and Demeanor:		
	Acceptable	Student is dressed neatly and demonstrates interpersonal interview skills: greeting, hand shake, thanks, etc.
	Unacceptable	Student appears sloppy or pays little attention to interview demeanor.
Portfolio		
	Acceptable	Learning portfolio is complete and organized for sharing.
	Unacceptable	Learning portfolio is incomplete, disorganized, or sloppy.
Presentation		
	Acceptable	Presentation shows that the student is prepared, shows respect for the interview process, and the student has submitted a written copy of the speech.
	Unacceptable	Presentation indicates a lack of preparation, disregard for the interview process, or no submission of written copy of the speech.
Dialogue		
	Acceptable	Student engages in active and genuine dialogue.
	Unacceptable	Student is reluctant to engage in genuine dialogue.

Comments from Panelists (highlights, things to celebrate, input for the graduation committee):

Artifact Information	Grade	Course/Other	Description
Artifact #1			
Artifact #2			
Artifact #3			

Overall Recommendation of Panel: _____ Pass _____ Repeat Interview Recommended