



## Mountainland Region Youth Advisory Council: March Meeting Summary

Summary Prepared By: Seth Larson

On March 15, the Mountainland Region Youth Advisory Council (MYAC) held its third meeting, bringing together youth representatives from public high schools and charter schools from across the Mountainland region. After learning about the purpose of a council and serving the community in December, the council was able to learn more about region resources and prepare for an important event to be held later in the month.



### Morning Session: Visiting MTECH

This meeting was held at the Mountainland Technical College (MTECH) campus in Lehi. The council members were able to begin the day by taking a window tour of the campus's many programs. Students learned about the technical programs offered by MTech as well as the articulations between MTech and UVU, which allow MTech graduates to start at UVU with credits already in hand.

### Preparation for Paneling

The members of MYAC have been invited to participate in a panel at the region's annual Counselor Conference, which will be held on March 26<sup>th</sup>. At this panel, council members will first present about the student/counselor dynamic and then will field questions from the high school counselors in attendance.

To prepare for this event, council members first took a quiz about proper panel behavior. They discussed the answers and shared opinions on the best way to present themselves in a panel setting. They learned principles of professionalism, speech, and dress.



After discussing panel etiquette, council members were asked about their existing relationships with their own high school counselors. Council members discussed the positive and negative experiences they have had and made a small list of things they wish their counselors would know about the current student experience.

Following this, they gathered to discuss what they hoped to share with counselors. They talked about how important it is for students to know the “why” behind the classes they are signed up for. There was a heavy emphasis on career readiness, and how students need to understand how each class connects with the future they want. Council members discussed how counselors can better prepare students to participate in career and technical education courses and concurrent enrollment courses.

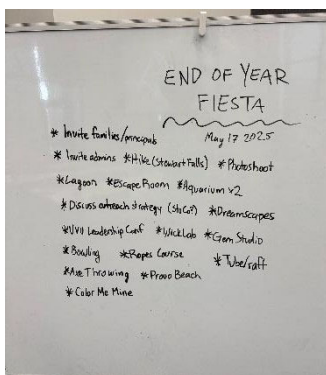
As part of this practice, council members established a few necessary skills they will need to master while on a panel: (1) How to handle when multiple panel members start talking at the same time, (2) How to clearly answer ambiguous questions, and (3) How to stay on topic when delivering an answer.



Council members also prepared small gift bags that could be raffled to counselors during the conference, which included MYAC swag and personalized thank-you notes from students. They also filmed a brief video that will be used in the slide deck for their panel presentation.

## Looking Ahead

In the final portion of the meeting, council members discussed outreach strategies they could use to gain more membership for the 2025-2026 school year. They discussed tabling at UVU leadership events, talking with their school administrators, and potentially creating social media.



The council also made plans for the final event of the 2024-2025 school year, where they will take an excursion for some final leadership training. They brainstormed excursion ideas and discussed the kind of training they hope to receive. As more youth representatives are brought on board, they will learn from the example of current council members about how to be honest, critical, and open as they share how the region can improve. The youth advisory council looks forward to the next meeting and excursion, which will be held on Saturday, May 17, 2025.



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