**Lesson 15: My Fantasy College**

**Objective:** Students will brainstorm and create their fantasy colleges.

**Time Needed:** 25 minutes

**Vocabulary:**
Use instructional techniques such as a Word Wall or Vocabulary Bingo to teach the contextual meanings of the following vocabulary words. These techniques are described in more detail in the "Vocabulary Activities Teacher Guide."

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Word</th>
<th>Contextual Definition</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mascot</td>
<td>A person or thing that is used to represent or symbolize an organization such as a college</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Motto</td>
<td>A short phrase or sentence that expresses the beliefs guiding an institution such as a college</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural</td>
<td>A location that is in the countryside, not a town or city</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Suburban</td>
<td>A residential location that is set just outside of a densely populated city</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Urban</td>
<td>A location or setting that has the dense population of a city</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Launch: (2 minutes)**

**Opening Message / Question:**
We have been talking a lot about the benefits of college, and today, you will get the chance to create your own fantasy college.

- Even though you are in your first year of middle school, high school will be here sooner than you think. What would your FANTASY HIGH SCHOOL look like if you had the power to create it?

Write down their responses.

**Agenda: (22 minutes)**

**Large Group Activity**

**Review and Complete Handout:** (12 minutes)
When visualizing your fantasy high school, many of the things you mentioned were not just about academics or classes. College is the same way. It is not just all about the books. Although studying and learning are the main reasons you are in college, it is not the only thing you will need to consider when you get ready to choose a college. Let's take some time to think about your perfect, fantasy college!

Teacher Note: Give students the FFWD My Fantasy College handout and fill it out as a group by going line by line. Explain the different terminology and give them examples for words like, motto, which they might not know. The UC system uses the motto, Fiat Lux, which means, “Let there be light.” Encourage them to be creative. The name of their university could be anything. Some great examples could be SpongeBob University or Minecraft University.

**Small Group Activity:** (10 minutes)
After students have completed the FFWD My Fantasy College handout, ask them to discuss their answers in their small groups. Each person in the group should have a chance to present and explain his/her answers.
**Summary: (1 minute)**

**Closing Remarks:**
Now when someone asks you, "Where do you want to go to college?", you know some of the things you want to consider in order to pick a college that is right for you and answer, "I’m not sure where, but I know important things I want to consider when choosing my college."

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**Extension:**
Students can search on the Internet for existing university mottos and mascots. They can compare their motto and mascot.

**Materials:**
- Board or Chart Paper/Markers
- Copies of the *FFWD My Fantasy College* Handout
Fast Forward to College (FWD): 25 Minutes at a Time

My Fantasy College

Name: ___________________________ Date: _____________

Remember to be as creative as you want to be!

The name of my college: ____________________________________________________________

My college mascot: _________________________________________________________________

My college colors are: ______________________________________________________________

My college motto is: ________________________________________________________________

At my college, you can study: _________________________________________________________

________________________________________

________________________________________

My college is (circle one):

Public

Private

My college is (circle one): Small (5,000 and under) Medium (5,000-20,000) Large (20,000 +)

My college is (circle one):

Urban (in the middle of the city)

Suburban (outside of the city)

Rural (in the boonies)

At my college, they have (circle all that apply):

Sports

Student Clubs

Study Abroad

School Band

Tutoring

Counseling

Cafeterias/Restaurants

Libraries

Health Clinic

Dorms

Student Stores

Book Stores

Other: ___________________________ ___________________________ ___________________________

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