



KAKEHASHI Project (United States)

Online Exchange for High School Students (Centennial High School, Fukuyama Municipal Jr. and Sr. High School) Report

1. Program Overview

【Objectives and Overview】 For this program, students taking Japanese classes at Centennial High School, a public high school in Nevada, U.S.A., and students from Fukuyama Municipal Junior and Senior High School in Hiroshima, Japan, introduced their schools to each other and engaged in themed small-group exchanges, strengthening their networks and promoting mutual understanding international exchange.

【Participants】 Total: 39 students from Centennial High School and Fukuyama Municipal Jr. and Sr. High School

(Breakdown) Centennial High School 19

Fukuyama Municipal Jr. and Sr. High School 20

【Location】 Hiroshima

【Schedule】

■ Online Exchange for High School Students: Nov. 15 (Fri), 2024

1. Opening remarks

2. Address

Mr. NAKAYAMA Daisuke, Researcher, North America Exchange Division, North American Affairs Bureau, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan

3. Introduction of Fukuyama Municipal Jr. and Sr. High School

4. Introduction of Centennial High School

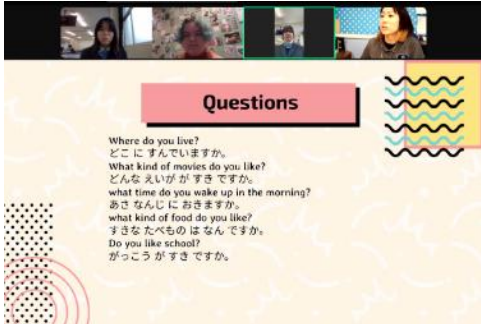
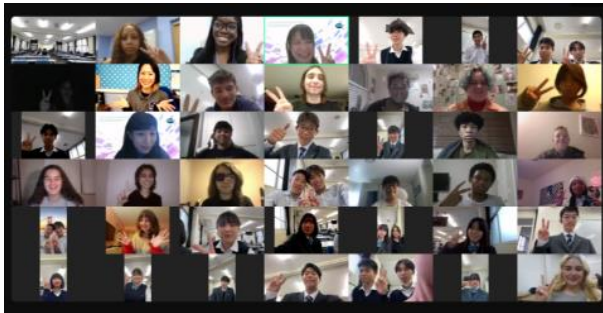
5. Exchange sessions in groups (15min x 3 rounds)

6. Speeches by each school representative

7. Commemorative photo

8. Closing remarks

2. Program Photos

	
【School Introduction】 Fukuyama Municipal Jr. and Sr. High School	Exchange sessions in groups
	
Exchange sessions in groups	Exchange sessions in groups
	
【School Representative Speech】 Centennial High School	Commemorative photo

3. Voices from the Participants (excerpt)

◆ High School Student (U.S.)

Something that left an impression on me this meeting was being able to exchange languages and seeing how their culture was.

◆ High School Student (U.S.)

I had fun talking to Japanese high school students and getting to know more about their lives! I liked how we were both able to connect over things like Anime and Movies.

◆ **High School Student (Japan)**

It was especially impressive to me that the participants had prepared slides for this event. I was also surprised at their determination and eagerness, as they tried their best to speak Japanese, which is a language that can be hard for even those of us who consider Japanese as their mother tongue. I had never properly spoken with people from overseas before, so I was worried about whether my English would be understood, but I think I was able to somehow communicate.

◆ **High School Student (Japan)**

I liked how the U.S. students asked us questions in Japanese, and how that when we couldn't understand their English, they kindly repeated themselves, making it very easy for us to communicate. It was a very meaningful time, and I am glad I could learn about the school life in the U.S. I was surprised to hear that Japanese anime, sweets, music, etc. are also popular in the U.S. I wanted to know more about after-school club activities in the U.S. It was a truly amazing experience.

4. Voices from the Receiving Parties (excerpt)

◆ **School Faculty (Japan)**

The students (of our school) first prepared for the event by making slides and preparing to speak in English, and it was a growing experience for them. Although our school has exchange schools in Australia and South Korea, opportunities to speak with students from the U.S. are limited, so the students were very excited. In the feedback session we held shortly after the program, the students said that while they were glad to have been able to communicate with the participants, there was room for improvement, so while pleased with their accomplishment, they also said they wished to work harder in the future.

5. Disseminations by the Participants (excerpt)

	
November 15, 2024 (Instagram) Kakehashi project from tonight	November 15, 2024 (Fukuyama Municipal Jr. and Sr. High School's website) November 15 (Fri) Today we participated in an online exchange with Centennial High School, a public high school in Las Vegas, Nevada, U.S.

Implementation Agency: Japan International Cooperation Center (JICE)