**Possible Topics for Question-and-Answer Interviews**

*Below are some ideas to consider when locating a source for a Q-and-A. With most of these suggestions, online news sites could create a Q-and-A section or use Q-and-As as standalone features or asidebars to supplement other coverage in your publication or broadcast.*

**Hard News**

1. Choose an athlete who performs a significant event in a prior match. (Example: a football player who catches the winning touchdown or a volleyball player who sets a game record for kills in a match). Q-and-A provides a chance to extend the coverage of the sports event.

2. Choose a random student who demonstrates a fashion trend and do an on-the-spot Q-and-A.

3. Use the Q-and-A to recognize student achievements such as a science fair winner, scholarship recipient or any other impressive individual recognitions.

4. Use Q-and-A to highlight performers in an upcoming theatrical or musical production.

5. Ask administrators to address school-related issues. Ask student leaders to do the same.

6. Do a Q-and-A with homecoming committee members to talk about upcoming events, decorations, pep rallies or voting for the court. Keep the questions focused on one element.

7. If a celebrity or person of major influence is coming to the community, get at least second-hand coverage by finding someone associated with the event or who is attending.

8. Choose a student or faculty member who is connected to a trending news event. Look for someone who has a geographical, cultural or biographical connection to current events at national and international levels.

9. Find faculty or community members who have personal memories historical moments for anniversary coverage (JFK assassination, Challenger explosion, 9/11 attack, other milestone events in your state or community).

10. In the case of obituary coverage, allow fellow students, faculty and community members to speak of the deceased.

**Soft News**

1. Use the Q-and-A as a way to review a movie, concert or event by talking to a student who attended. This is also a great way to review books, restaurants and products.

2. Plan a series of Q-and-A interviews based on seasonal themes such as upcoming sports seasons, holidays, multicultural week or prom.

3. Complete a series of new teacher interviews. Especially for online coverage, this is a great way to connect newer faculty to student readers.

4. Do a series of Q-and-As with a prominent member of school clubs and organizations. For online coverage, do a package of these interviews then schedule them for the following few weeks.

5. Cover foreign exchange students.

6. Use the Q-and-A to support multicultural coverage of students. Here is an opportunity to focus on cultural traditions and exploration.

7. At the end of the school year, look for faculty members who will retire.

8. For summer coverage, ask students and faculty to share travel experiences.

9. Connect with alumni currently in college, in the workforce or as they celebrate upcoming reunions.

10. Find students and faculty with interesting hobbies, celebrity connections, odd habits or owners of interesting artifacts.

11. Choose students with special connections to pets, family members with disabilities, volunteer organizations or other humanity-based connection.

12. Interview lesser-known staff members such as custodians, cafeteria workers and evening employees.