

LEADING LEADERS THROUGH LEADERSHIP: A Resource Guide for Activity Advisors

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PowerPoint presentation available:

<https://sites.google.com/a/ewcsd.org/mrssmolinsky/asb-links-resources>

BI-WEEKLY LEADERSHIP WORKSHOPS

Mini lessons that aim to teach your students leadership and activity-planning basics. Teaching these skills through a mini-workshop model keeps your students excited and engaged and will give your students the necessary foundations for becoming great student leaders.

THE LEADER IN YOU

Activities geared toward discovering what type of leader your students are. Multiple intelligence and modality testing are always great places to start!

LEADERSHIP ROLES

Understanding their role as a leader and their duties and responsibilities as a student council representative.

ROBERT RULES OF ORDER

Learning the proper method of conducting meetings effectively is key!

LONG-TERM PLANNING

Taking the time to look at the year ahead is extremely important and can help make the rest of the year run smoothly.

ACTIVITY BASICS

Teaching your students about the basics of planning successful events using the "Well-Prepared, Safe, Fun, Memorable" model.

ETIQUETTE

Outlining the basics for serving as student leaders on your campus should include a campus tour, rules on how to enter classrooms, and thank you's, among other things.

POSTER-MAKING

Finding ways for your students to create posters students will actually look at. Start by asking students to bring in a sheet of paper with an A-Z single sheet print-out of their favorite font and keep in a poster-making binder. You should share unique sample posters to serve as inspiration as well.

ADVERTISING

Targeting your school's audience using a variety of means is an ideal way to market any event on your campus. Encourage students to think 'outside the box' with their advertising tactics such as using chalk on the floor, adding flyers to the ceiling, and becoming walking billboards.

BALLOON ART

Sharing ideas for using balloons creatively for decorating and advertising purposes. Teach students how to make balloon arches, centerpieces, and figures using a myriad of balloon art combinations.

PUBLIC-SPEAKING

Instructing students on proper methods of not only speaking on the microphone, but preparing what to say and how to say it is necessary for effective communication during campus events.

THANK YOU NOTES

Showing students the proper format for writing meaningful and memorable thank you notes is a skill they will be grateful for! The notes should always be personal, specific, heart-felt, and classy.

APPRECIATION

Thinking about creative ways to show gratitude for all that people have done for your group is a major way to ensure that people will continue to support what you do. From menial to monumental tasks, no act should go unnoticed.

BI-WEEKLY TEAM-BUILDERS

Bi-weekly class activities that help bring your group of leaders together. You will quickly learn when these will be a necessary addition – so it's best to plan ahead! As issues develop, you may want to make your officers in charge of planning activities that will help the group tackle current problems like forming cliques, not following through, or talking excessively.

GETTING TO KNOW ONE ANOTHER

“Quick Fact Exchange”

What To Do: Create a set of 12 flashcards with quick fact questions on them like, “What’s your favorite color,?” (Other topics may include some of these other favorites: animal, food, subject, song, theme park, soda, etc.) Students sit in a circle and each gets the chance to answer the question as it is read aloud.

Lesson: You may start to see some commonalities with other team members and start to build relationships.

LISTENING TO OFFICERS

“Follow Your Leader”

What To Do: Have your officers set up an obstacle course (hula hoops, rope, chairs, and other tangible items work great) and split the class up into different teams according to the number of officers you have. Each officer will talk their blindfolded team members through the obstacle course.

Lesson: Listen to your officers as they will lead you in the right direction.

BUILDING UP TRUST

“It’s Complimentary!”

What To Do: Split the class into two, labeling one set of students the “A’s” and the other the “B’s”. Have all A’s make a line side-by-side and have B’s stand in front of the A’s. A’s are to remain stationary. B’s will compliment the person across from them on anything they can think of (from superficial to the deeper things they may have never mentioned before). A’s respond with a sincere thank you. Bell is rung and B’s move to the right to be in front of the next person in line.

CELEBRATING DIFFERENCES

“If the Shoe Fits...

Wear it with Pride!”

What To Do: Students organize themselves according to shoe style similarities, styles are related to leadership abilities; break into new groups with different similarities.

Lesson: You all bring something different to the group, yet you share strong connections in leadership.

POSITIVE ENVIRONMENT

“Play Ball”

What To Do: Take your students out to the field or blacktop to play a game (flag football, basketball, soccer, etc.). Have them get into a line and number them off “1 and 2” so that you have two groups.

Lesson: Friendly competition of a low-key sort generates fun and a sense of community through building positive interactions with one another.

PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT

“Hula Hoop

Loop-the-Loop “

What You Do: Students hold hands in circle, each person gets hula hoop over him/herself without letting go; do it a few times to get faster and faster.

Lesson: It may be difficult, but it is possible!

COMMUNICATION WITHOUT DISCUSSION

“Line It Up...Quietly”

What To Do: Group gets organized by height without talking; then, try to get in order by birthday still without talking.

Lesson: Need to rely on other modes of communication so that you can get the message across.

OTHER TOPICS MAY INCLUDE:

TEAMWORK

“Together We Are Stronger”

BUILDING MOTIVATION

“How Do You Measure Success?”

MAKING POSITIVE CHOICES

“What Would You Do?”

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OTHER TIPS & SUGGESTIONS:

Over time, it is important to have your student officers take over the planning and implementation of team-building activities. Having weekly officer meetings for them to come up with overall class issues and activities to help combat them builds a stronger, more cohesive, group.

LEADERSHIP THOUGHTS FOR THE YEAR

Themed writing prompts geared toward harnessing the value of leadership throughout the school year and beyond! Assign monthly prompts as homework assignments due by the end of the first week of every month to encourage responsibility and continual reflection in leadership.

JANUARY

Cold-Hearted!:

Have you ever seen or experienced bullying? How do you tackle bullying issues taking place around you? What's your responsibility as a student leader?

FEBRUARY

Leaders Have Heart:

What are a few things you are passionate about? Why do you think you are interested in them? Why do you think some students don't seem to care about anything on campus?

MARCH

Feeling Lucky?:

Do you believe in superstition? What's something you consider your lucky charm? Why does believing in something like this give you hope?

APRIL

Rainy Days:

Do you ever feel like not getting out of bed? What types of things make you feel sad and down? What would make things easier for you when you feel this way?

MAY

Flowers and Smiles:

What's the most meaningful gift you've ever received? Why does it mean so much to you? What meaningful gift will you give to someone else?

JUNE

Your Future Ahead:

What do you hope to be when you grow up? What is your vision for next year? How can you start planning for these things now?

JULY

Newly Independent:

What are some events in your life that have made you feel independent? What's so nice about that feeling? How does being a strong leader grant you more freedom?

AUGUST

Sum, Sum, Summertime!:

What's your favorite thing to do when you have time off? What is a relaxing activity you do when you are feeling stressed out?

SEPTEMBER

Back-to-School

Goal-Setting Inventory: What are your goals in leadership? What are some areas you'd like to work on?

OCTOBER

Scary Situations:

What's the scariest thing that's ever happened to you? How did you know things just weren't right? What leadership skills did you use to get out of the situation?

NOVEMBER

Thank You, Kindly:

What are you thankful for? What are some things you consider blessings in your life?

DECEMBER

'Tis the Season of Giving:

What are some acts of kindness you can do? Which will you make your trademark (a yearly tradition)?

QUARTERLY LEADERSHIP PROJECTS

Leadership assignments aimed at making personal connections in creatively reflective ways. Students will enjoy seeing their work displayed and will treasure their masterpieces for years to come.

QUOTABLY INSPIRING

Students select an inspirational quote and create a poster to display in your classroom. Should be an artistic display using large fonts and images to convey meaning.

WHAT'S IN A NAME?

Students write out their name vertically down the page and come up with one leadership quality that begins with each of the letters. (LACY: L – listener, A – active, C – courageous, Y – yearning to lead)

ALL ABOUT ME

Students select words, phrases, and pictures that define who they are using a variety of resources including magazines, stickers, printed and hand-drawn images. May be arranged on a large puzzle piece, or within the letter “I”, or you may choose to make a phrase long enough to include one letter for every member of the team (for a class of 30, every student decorates one letter of the following phrase:
*WE ARE LEADERS
MAKING A DIFFERENCE!*).

COLOR ME A LEADER

Students choose a paint strip and use the paint colors to define who they are as leaders. They write a word or phrase artistically over each color variation and explain the connection on the back (may need to cover backside with a plain sheet of paper to cover up any printed writing on the paint strip). (PINK: “First Blush” – *SHY* when you first meet me, “Wild Pink” – have a *WILD SIDE*, “Red Radiance” – always happy and hope my *SHINE* helps others glow)

LENDING A HAND

Students trace around their hands and write something they do to help out at school, home, or within their community on each finger. (Help my little brother with homework. Grade papers for Mrs. Smith. Babysit my cousins. Coach younger kids in soccer.)

HIGHS & LOWS FOUND POETRY

Students search for positive and negative words or phrases in an old magazine and work to arrange them in a way that creates one negative and one positive found poem (using cutouts only, no words can be written in by hand). Poems are arranged side by side to show contrast of attitude, emotion, and behavior.