

# **Week of Welcome**

**Corissa Stobing and Efa Huckaby**

# Background Information

## **2013-14 School Year:**

Adult frustration over lack of student motivation, skills, appropriate behavior

Unprepared 9th graders

High % of credit recovery, migration to alternative ed

## **Spring 2014: Brainstorm session - What can we do as a school to help students be successful in high school?**

## **August 2014: First Day of School:**

mini 'high school refresher' course

no regular schedule

inspirational guest speaker

Link Crew for Freshmen, workshops for 10-12

Be Safe (online bullying)

Be Responsible (graduation/college entrance requirements)

Be Respectful (The Warrior Way - our behavior expectations)

# Why a Week Of Welcome?

Students who feel connected are more successful

Start of the school year:

- increasing relationships

- build culture

- supporting ALL of our students as they work towards their educational and personal goals

The First Day of School became Week of Welcome - four days of workshops, rotations and teambuilding activities.

# Planning and Prep Timeline

## **January - Bi-monthly committee meetings**

Build Schedule - what should be happening each of the four days?

Guest Speakers - How many? What days?

Community Building - how do we incorporate into all 4 days?

Write First Day Lessons

Book Guest Speaker

Design Teambuilding Activities

## **March - Staff requests their First Day lesson topic**

## **June - Staff training on First Day lesson, overview of whole week**

## **Summer - Final Touches (3 meetings total)**

Book Food Services

Write Day 2 and 3 Lessons

Write Day 4 Icebreaker Lessons

Assign student schedules

## **August - Re-train teachers on Day 1, full training on days 2 - 4**

# Week of Welcome Schedule

## Day 1

3 lessons (Be Safe, Be Responsible, Have Integrity)  
Free BBQ Lunch  
Carnival (Build Community)

## Day 2

Morning Rotations: Grade-Level Meetings, Passport to Success, Teambuilding, Warrior Way in the Classroom  
Afternoon: Periods 1,3,5

## Day 3

Morning Rotations: Computer Lab, Warrior Way in Common Areas, Student Services Overview  
Guest Speaker (½ the school at a time)  
Afternoon: Periods 2, 4, 6

## Day 4

Regular Schedule  
All classes begin with assigned ice-breaker/team building activities

# First Day of WOW

Three lessons: Be Safe, Be Responsible,  
Have Integrity  
Free BBQ Lunch  
Carnival (Build Community)

# Free Food



# Community



# Carnival





# Bounce Houses and Henna Tattoos





# Jousting



## Second Day of WOW

Morning Rotations:

Grade-Level Meetings

Passport to Success

Teambuilding

Warrior Way in the Classroom

Afternoon: Modified Block Schedule

# Teambuilding







# to success

## Third Day of WOW

Morning Rotations:

Computer Lab

Warrior Way in Common Areas

Student Services Overview

Keynote Speaker

Afternoon: Periods Block Schedule

# Warrior Way in Common Areas



Access to Homelink



# KEVIN LAUE



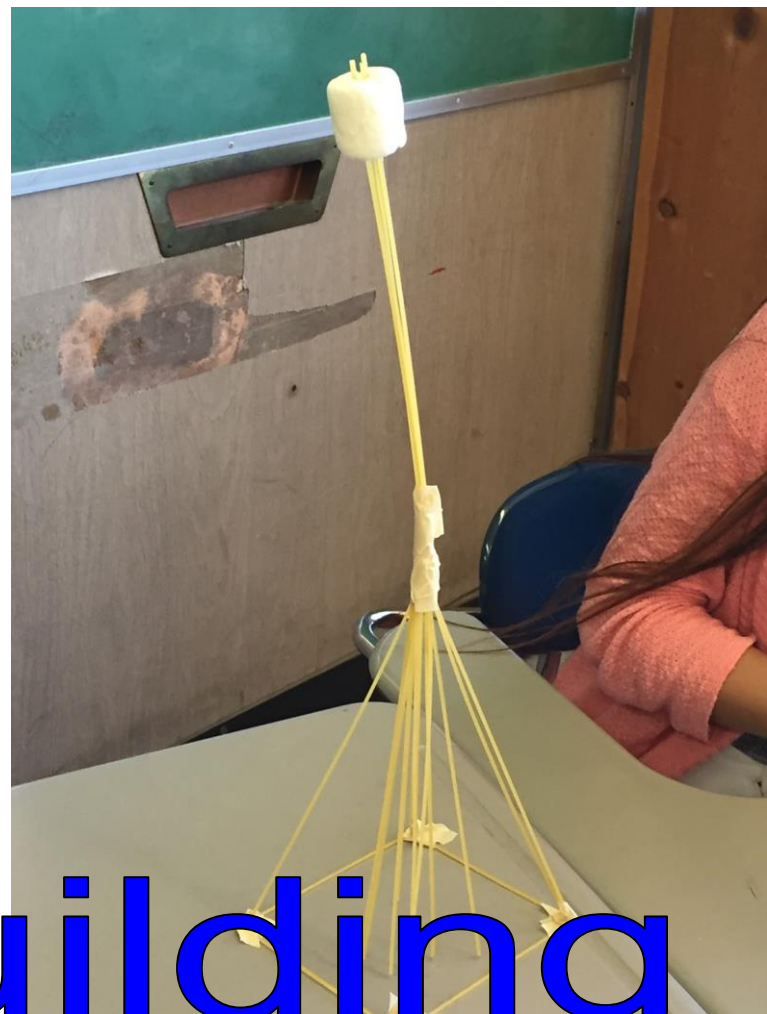
# Keynote Speaker

## Fourth Day of WOW

Regular Schedule

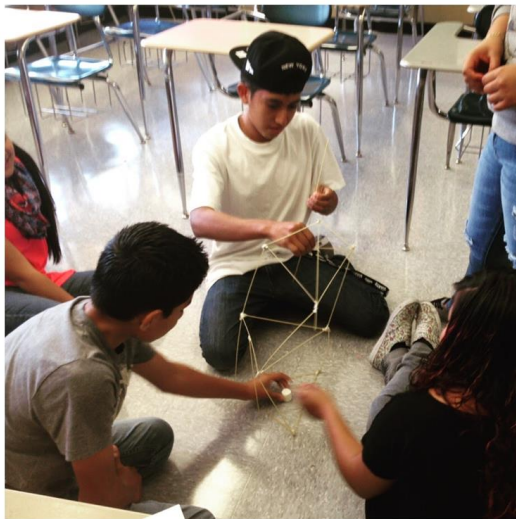
All classes begin with assigned ice-breaker/team building activities

Teacher Lunch- Lawn Chair Friday!



# Team Building







Lawn Chair Lunch

# Rotations

## **Be Safe:** Internet Safety

what to share, who's looking, how to keep yourself safe from oversharing

## **Be Responsible**

hand out/review planners

graduation/ a-g requirements

transcript bingo

goal setting

## **Have Integrity**

# Workshops

**Student Services Overview:** admin, librarian, college/career advisor, counselor, health van, clubs, sports, academies, etc.

**Passport to Success:** Josten's commitment to graduate activities

**Warrior Way in the Classroom:** behavior expectations for the classroom

**Warrior Way in Common Areas:** tour the school, behavior expectations in each area

**Computer Lab:** Students sign into district e-mail, google classroom, Homelink gradebook/attendance system

# 2nd Semester Follow Up

1st Day of 2nd Semester: Just like FDOS, no “real” classes

Keynote Speaker to speak on one of the WOW themes

Workshops:

- Transcript review - are you on track? review/adjust goals

- Warrior Way in the Classroom reboot (behavior expectations)

- Follow up to morning guest speaker topic

- College/Career preparation



# Lessons Learned

Prioritize things that need **district/community involvement** (keynote, community members at carnival, food)

**Keep staff in the loop** every step of the way. Surprises don't go over well but if they feel informed then they feel more involved

You need a **large, committed team**. Try to get representation from all departments and programs

Set **deadlines** along the way and hold the team accountable to them

**Questions?**

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**Find all of our resources and more at**  
**<http://www.bit.ly/cadaareaa>**

# Thank you!

**Corissa Stobing and Efa Huckaby**