Week of Welcome

Corissa Stobing and Efa Huckaby
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
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day 1</th>
<th>3 lessons (Be Safe, Be Responsible, Have Integrity) Free BBQ Lunch Carnival (Build Community)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Day 2</td>
<td>Morning Rotations: Grade-Level Meetings, Passport to Success, Teambuilding, Warrior Way in the Classroom Afternoon: Periods 1,3,5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Day 3</td>
<td>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</td>
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<td>Day 4</td>
<td>Regular Schedule All classes begin with assigned ice-breaker/team building activities</td>
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First Day of WOW

Three lessons: Be Safe, Be Responsible, Have Integrity
Free BBQ Lunch
Carnival (Build Community)
Free Food
Bounce Houses and Henna Tattoos
Jouster
Second Day of WOW

Morning Rotations:
  Grade-Level Meetings
  Passport to Success
  Teambuilding
  Warrior Way in the Classroom

Afternoon: Modified Block Schedule
Teambuilding
Passport 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
Keynote Speaker

KEVIN LAUE
Fourth Day of WOW

Regular Schedule
All classes begin with assigned ice-breaker/team building activities
Teacher Lunch- Lawn Chair Friday!
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?
Find all of our resources and more at
Thank you!

Corissa Stobing and Efa Huckaby