

# Building a Family Dynamic

How to Make Connections in Your Classroom



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Activities

❑ 15th year in activities

❑ Proud CADA Camp Staff Member

# Who we are...

- Transition for 10-12 to 9-12
- 40 to 60+ kids
- 15th year in activities
- 6th year co-teaching
- Academic teachers
- Family dynamic is highly impacted





# What we believe...

- Disclaimer: we, like many care more about the people they are
- Recently we spend more time talking about their worth vs. expectation
- Events are important, but go better when they have a clear vision, purpose, and genuine worth.





# Quick and Dirty Tips

**\*\*You can modify these to use in any classroom**

- Get a uniform
- Develop daily routines
- Have class celebration norms
- Include all in chances to lead, not just officers



# ABOUT ME BOARD

- Introduce students to the classroom
- Get to know each student on a different level
  - Favorite:
    - Place
    - Teacher
    - Song
    - Friends
    - Movie
    - Quote
    - Dream job
    - Food
    - Color
    - TV show



# ENVELOPES

- Decorate manila envelope with name & personality
- Accessible bin with all students all the time
- Less “risky” way to give a:
  - compliment, thank-you, memory, etc.
- Short/long note, picture, etc.
- Make time weekly to complete
- During COVID, we moved to cubbies using shoe holders.





# COVID PEN PALS

- On a HYBRID schedule, we gave students a pen pal. Someone to have weekly communication with and get to know.
- Meant a ton. It has made coming back together mid year better.



# **SPEAKER SHOWCASE**

- Guests to speak on topic of “leadership” or anything relevant
- Invited:
  - School admin
  - District admin & School board
- Different paths: decision making, “ethics” in leadership, successful/failed experiences, vulnerability, rapport

# HELP THEM RECOGNIZE

- Have secret gift going around
- It can be a stuffed animal, small tote bag
- Have a list of students inside, to pass it to
- Make the passing public or secretive
- Have students make some sort of evidence to share.





# HELP THEM RECOGNIZE



# STUDENT LED START

- Open prompt - trusted to lead activity as they see best
  - Deeper self-reflection
  - Gratitude
  - Team building
  - Funny
  - Testimonial
- Video - written reflection or note - activity
- All officers required per semester - calendar sign-up
- Available to any others who'd like to

# TEACHER LED START

- Consider what the kids need
  - Think of tone and current situations/events
- Use videos and music to start conversation
- Let student take this time to learn from you
- Be vulnerable and share



# **SUMMERTIME & BONDING**

- CADA Camp - UCSB
- Lock-in/Late Night
  - Team building, goal setting, bonding/awareness
- Outings - invite admin too - golf course, bowling, picnic BBQ, etc
- Community has been very giving during these times.

# THE CHAIR

- Inspired by “Dead Poets Society”
  - “ I **stand** upon my desk to remind myself that we must constantly look at things in a different way”.
- Start with the desk. Do it in other parts of school
- Encourage students to take it other places
- Do it for visitors
- Accolades for leadership students are critical and important



# FINALS

- 3 Word Inspirations
  - Individual
  - Class Projects
- Mottos
- End of the Year Award

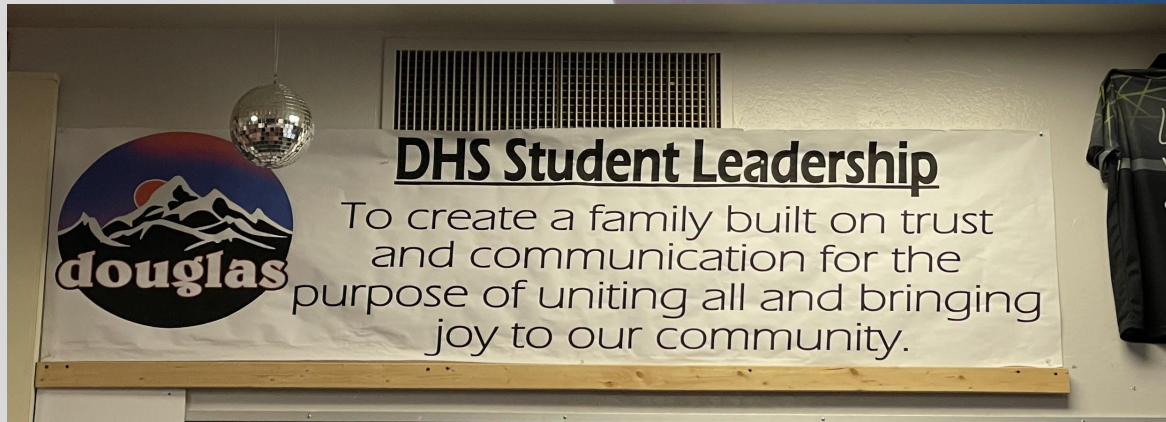


# FINALS



# CLASS VISION STATEMENT

- Set goals/values
- Student led
- Small group into large group
- Creates buy-in, ownership of goals for year
- Vote





# SENIOR RECOGNITION - COVID STYLE



# SENIOR RECOGNITION - *COVID STYLE*

## One Day, Day One

One day, the old desires of yesterday will come true.

One day, the hopes of today will come into view.

One day, the dreams of tomorrow will be the brightest that shine through.

One day, your beliefs will bring relief

And the doubts that lurked beneath will seem so brief,

When you find things that fill your soul and make you whole,

When you discover your greater role.

One day, you'll embrace the rain and storms because they'll make you grow.

The winds will blow, they'll change the flow; your thoughts no longer your foe.

So look ahead and watch, be utterly amazed.

Something new is growing to fill the coming days;

Something you'd not believe even if you were told,

Something we believe is more precious than gold.

But it all starts today. Right here and now is day one.

Begin anew, refresh the view as the dawning of the sun.

Shine light on the possibility; let the darkness of doubts fade.





# THE KEYS AS ADVISORS

- Don't ask anything of them you wouldn't ask of yourself or your colleagues
- Vulnerability, authenticity, honesty, realness of US
  - Learn, inspire, grow
- Tei Street "You can't teach what you don't know, and you can't lead where you won't go" ...don't be afraid of new
- Stop comparing
- Progress over perfection, significance over success, life over numbers, quality over quantity, see value over accolades
- See the light, be the light.



# THE KEYS AS ADVISORS





# Contact Me ANYTIME!

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