B11 - Starting with Freshmen

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Key Words: High School, Tier I, Systems Alignment, Transition
Session Outline

- Why Freshmen?
- More PBIS!
- 4 Key Practices to Consider
- Great Examples
Why Freshmen: FACT or FICTION??

• Research indicates that students are twice as likely to fail a class in 9th grade than in any other grade.

• In a large multi-school study, 15% of students performing in the top quartile of their 8th grade class were found to be off track by the end of their 9th grade year.

• The national SWIS dataset demonstrates that 9th grade behavioral infractions in high schools across the country dramatically outnumber those of students in the upper grades.

• Lower attendance during the first 30 days of 9th grade is a stronger indicator that a student will drop out than any other 8th grade predictor, including test scores, other indicators of academic achievement, and age.

• Students who fall behind in 9th grade have a graduation rate 30% lower than that of student who are able to stay on track during the 9th grade year.
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9TH GRADE IS A CRITICAL YEAR
ALL STUDENTS STRUGGLE
ACADEMIC AND BEHAVIORAL
Fact or Fiction References


Protective Factors

- Connection to school
- Understand key knowledge and skills
- Positive relationships with teachers and staff
- Positive relationships with older peers
Amplify PBIS for 9\textsuperscript{th} Graders!

The fundamental purpose of PBIS is to make schools more effective, efficient & equitable learning environments.

FOR 9\textsuperscript{TH} GRADE....

- INCREASE CONSISTENCY ACROSS CLASSROOMS
- INCREASE ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS
- INCREASE TEACHING
Consistency: It’s About the Adults
Acknowledgement & Teaching Systems

- Increased frequency of teaching
- Increased variety, frequency, intensity of acknowledgements
Cienega High School
Freshman Supports

• Vail School District
  • 12,000+ Students & 19 Traditional Schools

• Cienega High School
  • 2112 Students, 570 Freshmen
  • 28% Free & Reduced Lunch
  • > 1% English Language Learners
  • 59% White, 31% Hispanic, 6% African-American, 3% Asian, 1% American Indian
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Freshman Supports

**Consistency**
- Freshman Academy
- Freshman Academy staff
- Common classroom practices
- Expectations for teachers
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Freshman Supports

Consistency
• Responsibility Teaching Classroom (RTC)
  • Restorative classroom practice

What happened?
What were you thinking about at the time?
What have you thought about since?
Who was affected?
What needs to be done to make it right?
Effective 9th Grade Practices

- Increase Consistency
- Monitor Data
- Teach
- Provide Peer Support
Use Data Based Decision Making

“The single most efficient process for achieving a valued outcome in a complex system is to define, measure and report progress toward achieving that outcome on a regular cycle.”

McIntosh, et al., 2014
Gilbert, 1978
Set Goals and Monitor Progress

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>15-16 Goal</th>
<th>15-16 Year End</th>
<th>16-17 Goal</th>
<th>16-17 Year End</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>GPA</strong></td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>2.49</td>
<td>2.5</td>
<td>2.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Honor Roll</strong></td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>28%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>On Track (6+ Credits)</strong></td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>72%</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>81%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Attendance</strong></td>
<td>92%</td>
<td>86%</td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>93%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>16-17 Goal</th>
<th>16-17 Year End</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>GPA above 2.5</strong></td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>70%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>On Track (6+ Credits)</strong></td>
<td>85%</td>
<td>86%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Attendance 90% or better</strong></td>
<td>90%</td>
<td>75% (overall attendance was 92%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Data Goals: Communication is Essential!

**FLT language**
- 85% of 9th graders at 90% or higher attendance
- 85% of 9th graders with zero F grades
- 90% of 9th graders on track to graduation

**Student & family language**
- 90% attendance ("max 8 days" or "fewer than 5")
- Passing grades in all classes
- 6+ credits

“A student who is just 10 minutes late each day misses 30 hours of teaching and learning over the course of the school year. A student who is absent from school 1½ days each month on average from kindergarten through high school loses a YEAR of education.”

-Supt. Welcome Letter 2017-2018
Cienega High School
Freshman Supports

Data
• F report and attendance report every 3 weeks
• Referral data reports starting Q2
• 8th grade standardized test scores & grades – Math Lab
• Benchmarks
• Survey results
• Top Cats
### Copper Level Q2
- Homework Pass
- 5% Grade Increase on Quiz or Test
- 75 Cents Off a Coffee Cat Drink
- Tardy Removal or Pass to Courtyard During PAWS
- 2 Entries into a Drawing

### Navy Level Q2
- Homework Pass
- 5% Grade Increase on Quiz or Test
- 5 Minutes Early to Lunch or Pass to Courtyard During PAWS
- 1 Entry into a Drawing

### Platinum Level Q2
- Homework Pass
- Tardy Removal or Pass to Courtyard During PAWS
- 5 Minutes Early to Lunch or Pass to Courtyard During PAWS
- $5 Off Any Apparel Purchase at CHS Bookstore
- Free Admission to All Home Games
- Free Drink at the Coffee Cat
- 5% Grade Increase on Quiz or Test
- $20 Credit at CHS Bookstore
- 3 Entries into a Drawing
Effective 9th Grade Practices

- Increase Consistency
- Provide Peer Support
- Teach
- Monitor Data
Teaching Freshmen
“How to Do School”

• Identify content
• Link to Schoolwide Expectations
• Teach brief lessons
• Smallest change to yield greatest impact
• Relevant for ALL students
Freshmen Expectations

- Define
- Teach
- Reinforce
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Freshman Supports

Teaching
• Parent Boot Camp

Schedule
8:00 Parent Check-In in the Student Union
8:05 High School 101 Presented by Dean Nourse
8:35 Cat Frat
8:45 Parents released for sessions
8:50-9:55 Session #1: safeTALK
   Presented by Eric Boxley and Rebecca Carrier in the Student Union.

10:00-10:30 Session #2: Vaping & Social Media Awareness
   Presented by Deputy Farmer in the Band Room

10:35-11:05 Session #3: Commitment to Success
   Presented by Colette Alvarado, Sheri Mitzel, Sylvia Lewandowski, and Dainah Graham in the Black Box.

11:10-11:40 Session #4: High Tech, High Expectations
   Presented by Technology Team Members in the Library

11:45-12:15 Session #5: Commitment 2 Graduate
   Presented by John Tritz in the NJROTC Room

12:20-12:45 OPTIONAL SESSION: Athletic Information
   Presented by Whitney Holland in the Black Box
Teaching
• Freshman Foundations

**Q1**
Ice Breaking & Team Building (~1 week)
CHS 101 – Welcome to your high school (~2 weeks)
Online Survival (~1 week)
Self-Awareness (~2 weeks)
Self-Management (~2 weeks)
Academic Success (~1 week)

**Q2**
Responsible Decision Making (~3 weeks)
Online Etiquette (~3 weeks)
Social Awareness (~2 weeks)

**Q3**
Relationship Skills (~4 weeks)
Group Dynamics (~2 weeks)
Conflict Resolution (~3 weeks)

**Q4**
Leadership (~3.5 weeks)
Service Leadership (~3.5 weeks)
Life Beyond High School (~1.5 weeks)
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Freshman Supports

**Teaching**
- Code of Conduct/Dress Code
- Health Class Freshman Year
- Link Crew and Freshman Assemblies
- PBIS Videos
  - [CAT Video](#)
Effective 9th Grade Practices

- Increase Consistency
- Provide Peer Support
- Teach
- Monitor Data
Why Peer Support?

- Freshmen are striving for autonomy, especially from adults (Daddis, 2008; 2011; Russell & Bakken, 2002).

- Engagement can be enhanced through positive relationships with older peers (Dennison, 2000; Karcher, 2005).

- Peer mentors 1-2 yrs older than mentees facilitate social and academic development; these peers understand the rules and develop positive strategies to overcome issues or problems (DuBois, Holloway, Valentine & Cooper, 2002; Gensemer, 2000; Karcher, Nakkula, & Harris, 2005).
Peer Support Tasks
Selection & Placement
Training
Ongoing support
Roles & Responsibilities
Cienega High School
Freshman Supports

Peer Support
• Open House Link Crew Tours
• Link Crew Freshman Orientation
• Link Crew Classroom lessons/activities
  • What’s Your Logo/Slogan/Legacy?, Resiliency, Teamwork, Communication, Fear, Focus, Active Listening
• Link Crew Events
  • Freshman Fiesta, Freshman Tailgate, Halloween, Turkey Trot, Coco-N-Cram
Contact

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