Partnering Up for Student Success

Governors State University
&
Crete Monee High School
HOW TO BEGIN

• Build A Relationship
• Propose The Plan
• *CMHS Belief* - We believed that all incoming students should have a positive environment in which to learn and thrive. Our mission was to create a welcoming school climate for all students, which maximized their potential for success.

— **GOALS**

• Improve the transition from middle to high school. Help students navigate the high school campus.
• Provide a greater sense of community and belonging. Build relationships between upperclassmen and freshmen.
• Foster respectful interactions between all groups of students; thereby reducing misunderstandings and conflicts.
• Increase school pride. Support each other through successes and struggles. Promote school unity.
• Create a safe learning environment. Increase students’ comfort with academic expectations and social relationships.
HOW TO BEGIN Cont’d

• Discuss the needs from both sides
  – How plan will be implemented
    • Criteria - Connection, relationships, behavior, attendance, activities, grades (history)

• Be Realistic

• Communication is Key!
MAPPING THE NEEDS

Need:
1) Create MOU
2) Determine workshop dates & space
3) Have a discussion w/ union
4) Determine GSU space on campus

Future?
1) Add more students
2) Expand to elem. & MS levels
3) Academic period during the day
4) Earn credit for participation
WHAT GSU BRINGS TO THE TABLE

STUDENTS

• College Preparedness Workshops
• College Pathways Exposure
  – Trade
  – 2+2+2
  – 2+4
  – Male Success Initiative Bridge Program
• Many, many, more resources
OUTCOMES

• What Went Well:
  – Location for the program
    • Location, location, location
  – Strong Administration Support
    • All building administrators participated - Principal, 3 A.P’s, 2 D.L’s, Sped. Coor., 4 Administrative Deans and 1 Non administrator Lead Counselor.
  - Served as Mentors -

Growth Mindset for Mentors
https://www.mindsetkit.org/growth-mindset-mentors

• Topic 1: What is a Growth Mindset?
• Topic 2: How Mentors Support Growth Mindset
• Topic 3: Key Strategy: Using Growth Mindset Language
• Topic 4: Key Strategy: Reframing Challenges, Failures, and Mistakes
IMPROVEMENTS

• Early Communication Plan for Students & Parents
  — *Students met with counselor, parent phone calls, letters sent home, school reach calls, mentors called home, principal phone calls*

• Program is Voluntary not Mandatory
  — Allows student ownership

• Student Accountability
  — *Next year have students create and mail home self reporting feedback cards*
FUTURE PLANS

• City of Chicago Education Tours
• Career Training
• “Day and the Life of a College Student” Event
  – (Day event on GSU Campus)
• Leadership Mentoring
  – Student to Student
    • GSU Student Leadership Shadowing
THANK YOU

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