

Student Life Swap – Jennie Sivak & Chris Sewell Presentation Notes

It all started with students discussing how awesome it would be if they became dorm staff and how dorm staff would be

Content

- Concept & Purpose
 - Students become staff, staff becomes students (swap roles)
 - To educate students about staff roles
 - To educate staff about students' thoughts, feelings and perspectives
- Interview Committee
 - Consists of the following:
 - 2 primary staff (male/female)
 - 2 sbg officers
 - discuss criteria for selecting students
 - develop interview questions
 - WHAT U WANT TO BENEFIT
 - WHY YOU WANT TO BECOME PART OF STUDENT LIFE SWAP
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- Criteria
 - MSSD had 25 students interested to apply = 5 boys & 5 girls
 - Above 2.0 gpa
 - No serious violations
 - In good standing
 - Diversity
- Training (levels: level 1 only – not level 2 (school suspension), level 3 (home suspension, level 4 (expel))
 - Host training with 5 boys & 5 girls selected
 - Assign coverage, attendance and supervision
 - Report incidents (scenarios/role play)
 - Have authority to give minor consequences and go on campus patrol with their mentor (students have staff as mentors)
 - Boundaries:
 - No sharing personal feelings, information
 - No touching
 - Must remain objective and neutral with everyone
 - Consequences for failing to do duties
 - Written memo
 - Termination
 - Helps understand that there is due process for staff – it is just that staff do not share with students
 - Assign Mentors
 - Ready to help
 - Chain of command
- Preparation for the Event
- Debriefing

Student-Staff wears particular shirt.

Benefits:

- understand staff better
- empowerment
- opportunity to experience
- takes value in their role
- increase self esteem

Challenges:

- boundaries
- fun and play but not apply
- skills on how to deal with crisis
- supervision issues
- staff lose control
- abuse of power
- deal with FERPA issues

Scheduling & Training

- 2 days
- coverage scheduling
- study hour as student-staff personal break
- flexible bedtimes
- team building activities
- hand out t-shirts

Roles of Dorm Staff

- will not perform staff duties
- will be given several scenarios
- will be assigned to a room
- must follow all rules
- must switch to staff role for certain situations of incidents (level 2 – 4)

Student-Staff/Staff Debriefing

- Activities in bathrooms
- Staff discussions in public
- Increased energy among students with lack of activities
- Better understanding of staff/student roles
- Understanding of being more patient
- Desire for longer training time
- Understanding of staff as a “human” (too?!)
- Students as staff were more strict
- Accusation of power struggles among student-staff, which raise understanding of each other’s roles
- Accountability, liability, responsibility
- Understands the language and approach staff uses

SBG assembly