

WHAT DOES A YOUTH FRONTIERS RETREAT LOOK LIKE?

We take a whole grade level of students away from the distractions of a normal school day for a retreat designed to give all students the chance to feel what school would be like if everyone was respected. But, how do we create a fun atmosphere where students can also learn to stand up for kindness, courage, respect and responsibility?

WELCOME

GOALS

PRESENTATION

SMALL GROUPS

SHARING

FOLLOW-UP

CHECK
IT OUT
!

WELCOME: We welcome students with loud music and high-energy activities that immediately **BREAK DOWN SOCIAL BARRIERS AMONG STUDENTS**. Our goal is to encourage students to take positive risks and have fun together.

GOALS:

- **ENHANCE SOCIAL-EMOTIONAL LEARNING** competencies like empathy and conflict resolution.
- **CONNECT** students to classmates, teachers and school.
- **CHALLENGE** students to act with kindness, courage and respect.
- **ENGAGE** learners of all styles and backgrounds.

PRESENTATION: Our Retreat Staff share personal stories centered on the values of the day. These stories often provide the “AHA” moment for students – with humor, authenticity and heart, while at the same time, challenging kids to make a difference in their life and **MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN THEIR SCHOOL**.

SMALL GROUPS: Three times throughout the day, students meet in small groups, led by high school or adult leaders, to talk about what they are learning and experiencing. We work with schools ahead of time to assign students to small groups that break them out of their usual cliques. These small-group conversations help students **PROCESS THE CHALLENGES** of living a life of character.

SHARING: This time gives students the chance to **STAND UP AND BE HEARD** by their peers – a chance they might not regularly get at school. They safely and publicly express how they will live out the values of kindness, courage, respect or responsibility in their school community.

FOLLOW-UP: Our impact doesn't end when the day does! After each retreat, we provide resources for educators to continue the messages of the retreat day back in the classroom. These complementary activities help extend the impact of our retreats to make each school a positive **COMMUNITY WHERE STUDENTS CAN THRIVE** socially, emotionally and academically.



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