

# IMPACTING ACTION IDEAS for ANDY'S MAKING CARE CONTAGIOUS FUNSHOP

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## 1. If Care is Contagious, it starts with ME!

“What can I do?” is the question a leader must ask each moment. Minimize class time missed! Leadership is a 100%-time commitment! Do not be a hypocrite! Show care at the parties, stores, events and on the streets. The Disney 15 / 5 rule. At 15 feet, make eye contact and smile. At 5 feet, say a greeting. It's the “HI rule” – use it in the malls and the school halls. Hello today leads to knowing their name and their story tomorrow. Caring builds community!

A. Stress the importance of attending class and not abusing the privilege to get out of class. Discuss with your leaders how they can be leaders in the classroom, based on the experiences of teachers.

B. Besides the 15/5 rule or “Hi” rule, what can be done outside the school to show leadership?

C. Commit to the HI rule, bringing it up at almost every meeting and being a model of this rule yourself.

## 2. If you are there, show you CARE!

“If I don't do it, no one else will” We must listen, we must cheer, we need to be a great audience, we need to dress up & participate in events! If others follow your care ... great! If they don't, “oh well”! If you get “the look”, think “the look bounces off me!” Being known as spirited, fun & caring is a good rumour!

Remember Wal Mart - Be a Greeter! Take the time to thank people who participate in your activities. Door prizes – find unique ways to reward staff and students for participating. Handwritten thank you notes

A. Avoid the “clumping” of leaders at events, where they all sit near each other at assemblies, rallies and events. Spread out in groups of 3 to 10 to be a model of caring to those around them. Instead of complaining about the people sitting in the “back rows”, go sit with them!

B. Establish greeters for all leadership events. When designating tasks, ensure that someone is always doing this important task. Students who are “selling things”, take the time to thank those who purchase!

C. Stress before every event the importance of leaders talking to the participants at their events. Statements such as “thanks for coming out”, “are you having a good time?” “anything I can do for you?” “welcome, what is your name?” or “we are glad your here” should be spoken by every leader many times at each event!

D. Reward participation! On dress-up days at your school, give candy to all your leaders. When a leader observes a student who has dressed up, the leader then approaches the student, gives them the candy, and says, “thanks for participating!” What other ways can you reward involvement? At games, plays, and dances, all participants get a free ticket towards a draw for a prize.

## 3. AVOID, stepping on toes.

Keep the concerns of the staff and administration in mind when planning events. Save surprises for birthdays, not activities. Do not assume. Keep your advisor informed. Plan a staff appreciation event once a month! IDEAS:

A. This is easy ... have a staff appreciation event within two weeks of returning home from this workshop!

B. Establish a staff appreciation committee with your leaders. A minimum of one event a month! How can we recruit the other leaders on teams, clubs, and music to help do this? Assign each team and club a Friday to put food for free in the staff room and monthly surprises in the staff mailboxes. These groups can even come up with other “non-food” ideas.

C. Chat with your leaders about the way staff are informed about upcoming events at your school. How can they most effectively ensure that their updates are getting into the hands of the staff?

D. Put the word "assume" on a big poster in your leadership room, and then put a huge X through it! Do not let the statement "I assume they should know" be heard in your meetings!

#### **4. One Way Communication? NO! TWO-WAY Communication.**

Stop relying on posters, announcements, email and social media for promotion and communication – talk to people! It's the ultimate compliment you can give your classmates. "I would love to see you there!"

When people are negative to you, respond with "I would still like to see you there!" 90% of the no's you hear have nothing to do with you! Your number one challenge in promotion is the self-confidence of others.

The Power of the Three "I's": Invite, Include, and Initiate. Leaders must have the courage to initiate!

The Power of learning names. We are ALL bad at learning names. The best way to get better - ask for their name again!

A. From now on, end every leadership meeting with "lets talk it up out there" and/or ask your leaders "who's going to the event?" and have the group respond "everyone!" Every week your leaders need to be reminded!

B. When selling items or tickets, avoid just setting up a table and hope people will come and visit. Send out groups of leaders to the hallways and cafeteria and ask people if they are interested.

C. Talking to some students in the hallways or cafeteria can be intimidating when they are in their groups of friends. One way to help this is to encourage your leaders to chat it up with their schoolmates in the classroom just before the class starts or at the end. Can a once a month class-to-class promo visit be arranged?

D. The walking billboard! Put a billboard on a student or two and they walk around promoting the event. Give these people candy with a sign "ask me about the upcoming event and get free candy!" Get your class clown types to help!

#### **5. Care FAIR.**

Show equal respect and appreciation to all the teams, groups, and interests in your school. Recognize yearbook, congratulate the drama groups, hi-five your academic champions! Everyone at your school has a different definition of what a "championship" is ... so celebrate all your school's diversity of interests! IDEAS:

A. As you prepare for the next assembly or pep rally, ask some new groups to be involved that rarely or never participate. Ask for their ideas! Each time you have an assembly, ensure it reflects as wide a range of activities and students as possible. Yearbook could show a slide show of pictures they have taken. The choir can sing a current pop hit! Class clowns could do a skit poking fun at a rival school or dramatizing an upcoming dance.

B. Create a sports bulletin board that lists every team's schedule for the season. Put up scores and results. Encourage your leaders to follow their teams and ask athletes on a regular basis how the season is going.

C. When other groups run an event, encourage your leaders to attend. When your group runs an event, make a pitch to the leaders of other school groups to attend yours. Can you have a once a month meeting where a rep from each team, club, council, or charity briefly shares his or her plans for the upcoming month? This can help reduce overlapping events and stress the importance of supporting each other. I go to your event; you go to mine!

D. What other "walls of fame" can you create in your school? Do you celebrate academic champions, outstanding charity work, or music and drama productions? I love to see the posters of past school plays displayed in a hallway.

E. Recognize those that have perfect attendance across a month by having their names put in a raffle for a prize! Have a birthday bulletin board and send out birthday cards.

F. Create an "Oscar" type awards assembly/evening/cafeteria at lunch event where a wide range of students qualify for fun awards. Ideas: best smile, "character" car, original hair, most concert shirts ... Ask your student body to submit their ideas for categories and whom they would nominate. Do not put out a suggestion box - go around and ask people!