

DFHS Compact Committee Meeting #3
Tuesday January 29th, 2019 12:10 PM Room 309 HS

Members in Attendance:

Committee Leader: Connor Cohn

Teachers:

1. Megan Lois
2. Maria Addona
3. Terrence Brennan

Parents:

1. Jennifer Polimeno

Students:

1. Elizabeth Valentin
2. Raquel Addona
3. Sacha Cottineau
4. Will Birnbaum
5. Rebecca Baron

What does it mean to have a sense of belonging to a school or community?

Committee Input:

- Feeling valued and respected
- Having something to do and people to work with
- Feeling supported

Definition of school belonging: The feeling of being valued and respected in the school building. You feel engaged and important to the activities and success of the school.

Peer Leader Program: Committee identified two different ways to set this up:

-Students apply as first semester juniors. Those accepted get matched with 8th graders during the second semester. They work with the 8th graders during the second semester of that year AND first semester of the senior year (those 8th graders freshman year of HS)

OR

-Students apply as first semester sophomores. Those accepted get matched with 8th graders during the second semester. They work with 8th graders during the second semester of that year and the following two years. (Creates a two year relationship)

“Start With Hello” Campaign. - A more active / positive spin on stomp out bullying campaign.

Start with hello

Something concrete we can do for a week in the High School / Middle School this year. It may drive more participation than an anti-bullying campaign

School Events → Concrete Ideas

#1 Grade level field trips. -> Start with Met Field Trip and NYC Field trip for freshman and seniors for 2018-2019 school year. Try and institute 10th and 11th grade field trips for 2019-2020.

#2 Institute a spirit week and pep rally for winter and spring sports:

#3 -Completely revamp / change Senior Academy Awards Show IB Films during Academy Awards

- Have students announce their plans for next year
- Pre-taped faculty skits or commercials
- Cut down on senior superlatives. Or use video / increased teacher participation for presenting awards.

Committee goals for today:

Teachers / Staff: Take a look at the five suggestions above and start looking at logistical opportunities / challenges for each.

Students / Parents: Of the five ideas above what would drive the most community engagement and what would generate the widest array of students and community participation.

Ex:

- Make "Start with hello" a town wide initiative as opposed to only in the school.
- Grade level field trips are probably the most inclusive / get the most involved.
- How many students involved in peer leader program? What consequences if they don't fulfill obligations?