

# Reminders for Student Leaders

*And their advisors*

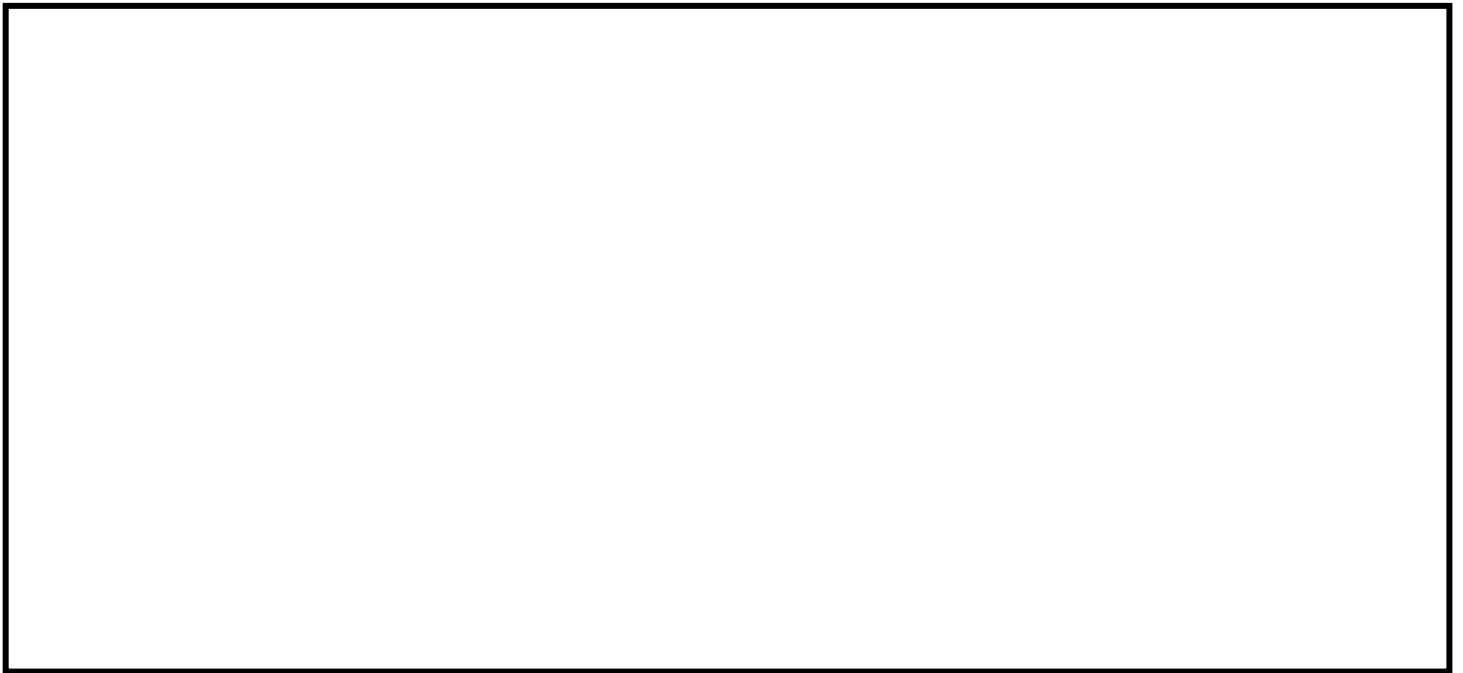
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# Thinking Outside the Room

## The Missing Piece

*Without reaching out to other groups, the puzzles can't be solved*

**Supplies:** 3 or more Children's puzzles; each puzzle in a separate bag w/1 or 2 pieces put into another puzzle bag

**Process:** Explain that there is no talking during the activity. Give each group a bag with the assignment to place the pieces face down on a surface. Each person will take a turn may turn over the puzzle piece and add it to the puzzle. Only the person whose turn is being taken may arrange or connect puzzle pieces. The game is over when everyone has completed the puzzles. NOTE: Participants will realize that there are incorrect pieces and/or pieces missing and have to negotiate.

**Debrief:** What did you need to do to complete your puzzle?  
How is this like student government?  
What is our reminder as student leaders from this activity?

## Insanity or Chaos?

*Working together is reaching out of the teams to form a larger team*

**Supplies:** 3-4 hula hoops spread out in the area; 30-40 balls or other objects in the center of the room

**Process:** Divide into groups with each beside a hula hoop; explain that each team is trying to place all the objects in its hoop; once you have all the objects you win; No tossing or throwing the objects; All objects must be out of the middle before you can remove them from other hoops; You cannot defend your team's hoop or balls. After 3 to 5 minutes, no group will be near winning and signal a pause; pause and ask the group to consider what they can learn from each other. If the groups do not begin to arrive at the answer; restate the rules; if asked, yes, the hoops can be moved. The only way to meet the goal is to stack all the hoops.

**Debrief:** What did you need to do to meet the challenge?  
How do we involve all groups for a win in student activities?  
What is our reminder as student leaders from this activity?



## Big Rocks

*Visual activity to focus on goals and objectives*

- Supplies:** Flip Chart & markers OR large jar, big rocks, small rocks, sugar, water
- Process:** Explain that event planning is lot like filling a jar. Demonstrate filling the jar (or draw the jar); add big rocks, small rocks, sugar and water.
- Debrief:** How is this about event planning?  
What are our big rocks?  
How will we insure we are focused on what's important...our big rocks?  
What is our reminder as student leaders from this activity?

## Zoom

*Everyone in the community has a piece of the picture*

- Supplies:** Zoom or Re-zoom (Istvan Banyai) cut and laminated.
- Process:** Explain each person will have a view of the landscape. When you receive your view hold it close to you so that others cannot see it. Your goal is to put the photos in sequence without showing your photo to anyone in the group. You may talk about your photo, describe your photo but you cannot show your photo.
- Debrief:** How did your group create the sequence?  
How is this like student government?  
How well did you hear the voices of everyone in completing the activity?  
What is our reminder as student leaders from this activity?

## Who's Missing from the Room?

*Visually create space for those not in the room*

- Supplies:** Name tent, stick figure or paper dolls;
- Process:** Explain that during discussions, we need to consider the opinions and input of those not in the room. Ask leaders to list who are stakeholders in the decisions being made? Create space at the table (complete with a chair) and label with tents, figures, etc.
- Debrief:** What did we are leaders insure these voices are heard?  
How do we involve these groups who are not here in our decision?  
What is our reminder as student leaders from this activity?



## Others Shoes

*Visually discuss opinions of other groups of students and/or stakeholders*

- Supplies:** Assorted pairs of shoes or pictures of shoes
- Process:** Handout shoes or pictures of shoes and ask each person to describe someone who would wear these shoes. Following the discussion, remind the group that while we have made some assumptions and perhaps stereotypes about different people by their shoes, it is important that we consider individuals who may be different from ourselves in decision making for a group. Assign each person a shoe and remind them that during the next session, planning, timing, that their goal is to be the person in those shoes.
- Debrief:** How can we be sure we are representing the total group of students?  
How do we involve these groups who are not here in our decision?  
What is our reminder as student leaders from this activity?

