

# PBIS Family Night Bridging The Gap Between Home and School

## North Side Elementary

Central Dauphin  
School District

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Mrs. Susan Ososki, Assistant Principal  
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## Our Mission for Family Night.....

- To provide a safe environment for families to interact in a positive, engaging learning experience that promotes the use of our high 5 qualities in all endeavors.
- Prepared ~ Safe ~ Kind ~ Respectful ~ Responsible



## Family Involvement is supported by researcher John Hattie.....

- In his ground-breaking study "Visible Learning" he ranked 138 influences that are related to learning outcomes from very positive effects to very negative effects. More recently he has expanded to a list of 195 effects in *The Applicability of Visible Learning to Higher Education* (2015).
- Hattie found that the average effect size of all the interventions he studied was 0.40. Therefore he decided to judge the success of influences relative to this 'hinge point', in order to find an answer to the question "What works best in education?"

## According to John Hattie...



- He showed at least 2 influences with a hinge point greater than .40 that can bridge the gap between home and school:
- Having a positive, supportive home environment has a .52 effect size.
- Parental involvement in the schools has a .49 effect size.
- He found that the key to making a difference was making teaching and learning visible!

## **We believe, along with the research.....**

(A report from Southwest Educational Development Laboratory 2002 and John Hattie).

- When schools, families, and community groups work together to support learning, children tend to do better in school, stay in school longer, and like school more.”
- Regardless of family income or background, students with involved parents are more likely to:
  - Earn higher grades and test scores, and enroll in higher-level programs
  - Be promoted, pass their classes, and earn credits
  - Attend school regularly
  - Have better social skills, show improved behavior, and adapt well to school
  - Graduate and go on to postsecondary education

## **More support for Family Nights.....**

- When schools engage families in ways that improve learning and support parent involvement at home and school, students make greater gains.
- When schools build partnerships with families that respond to parent concerns, honor their contributions, and share decision-making responsibilities, they are able to sustain connections that are aimed at improving student achievement.



## Now that you know the importance where do you start?

- PBIS Team needs to **select a date**.
- We suggest a date near the **beginning** of the school year.
- Try to coordinate with a PTA/PTO function.
- Remember your goal is to teach your school wide expectations to the families in hopes that the expectations will be learned and integrated into family life – so the earlier in the year the better!
  - For the past 3 years our family night has been held in October during the week of our PTA book fair.
  - We have used the theme of the book fair to compliment with our PBIS activities.

## A date has been selected now what.....

- Organize and prepare to create and develop a meaningful family experience!
- PBIS Team members need to be involved!
- Some organizational items to consider:
  - How to advertise to students and families
  - Format of games/activities
  - Necessary materials and supplies
  - Staff needed to monitor activities and supervise
  - Expected costs
  - Schedule of events
  - Registration
  - Family reward/student prizes
  - Family checklist, map, guide for the evening
  - Refreshments



## Advertise.....



- Our goal is to have as many families attend as possible so we want to hook our students in school.
  - School announcements to broadcast the evening events
  - Students dress in theme related attire on that school day
  - Talk up the pizza and snacks
  - Stress prizes for completing the evening activities
  - Posters displaying the event
  - Involve the PTA and book fair theme/decorations
  - Reminder is sent to families through our global connect system
  - Teachers advertise through their weekly newsletters
  - Information is shared in the classroom
  - Teachers attend the nightly event



## Sample notification.....

### PBIS FAMILY PIRATE ADVENTURE



Thursday, October 6, 2016

5:30 ~ 7:30pm

North Side Elementary



COME PARTICIPATE IN FAMILY ACTIVITIES & GAMES AS YOU LEARN AND PRACTICE NORTH SIDE'S HIGH 5 QUALITIES!

#### HIGHLIGHTS:

- Free Slices of Pizza for all North Side Students - \$1.00 (free for everyone else. Chips and cookies will be available for \$0.50.
- Visit the Book Fair anytime throughout the night!
- Many different Family Activities and Games - LOTS of Free Family Fun!
- Move at your own pace! Travel to different sites throughout the building talking about and working on the different High 5 Qualities!
- Small prizes for all children who participate and a raffle for all families that finish the PBIS Family Pirate Adventure!

- Responsible - Respectful - Safe - Prepared - Kind

## Help wanted..... *Help Wanted*

- The size of your event will be determined by how much support and interest you have from your staff.
- During our Tier 1 planning meetings, staff share ideas and determine what games/activities should be held and which ones they are willing to commit to hosting.
- Each game/activity should be centered around the family working together and using your school high 5 qualities to complete the task.
- Common areas of the school that is used for activities include:
  - Art room, Library, Hallway, and Selected Classrooms. The Gymnasium is used for the Book Fair and the Cafeteria is used as our dining area for pizza and snacks.
- Once there is enough staff to facilitate a game/activity around the building, a sign up sheet is placed in the office for extra staff to help at the registration table, in the cafeteria to serve pizza and drinks, to run errands and to help set up and clean up at the end of the evening.
- Staff that attend and volunteer in any capacity are given a jeans pass to use at their discretion!

## Planning sheet.....

Activity/Explanation	High 5 Quality	Teacher/Staff	Location
Walk the Plank Game	Respectful and Caring	Tina Mitchell	Room 22
High 5 Symbol Contest	All of them	Amanda Brown Jessa Singer, Sarah Yardine, R	Art Room
Pirate Ship Writing Challenge	All of them	Jill Whisenand Sam Strick	Library
Pirate Photo Booth	Respectful	Jill Maloni Danielle French	Computer Lab
Pirate Dances/Zones of Regulation	Zones of Regulation	Tecia Perry Brim McLaughlin	Room 7
Pirate Yoga, Breaks and Sevens Activities	Sevens and High 5s	Ali Diller Rachel Marshall	North 22 and 29
Pirate Name and Flag & Walk the Plank Activity	All of them	Jess Robinson Richard Yeager	End of 3rd and 4th Grade Hallway
Prepared Pirate Book	Prepared	Amanda Koonerance Christina Zabady	Room 11
Buried Treasure and Parrot Craft	All of them	Lois Norton	5th Grade Hallway
Book Fair	High 5 School Significance	PTA	GYM
Pizza in the Cafes	Responsible and Respectful (Students)	Various Teachers	Cafeteria

## The Cost.....



- There is some expense that you will incur when hosting a family night. This cost is budgeted for each year when we plan out our monthly rewards and yearly activities.
- The pizza is a major expense, however when families bought additional slices, and snacks, it really covered the total cost of the food. Although there is an expense it is well worth it to have food!
- Obviously the more items that can be donated or made the less costly it will become. Possibly a staff dress down day with a monetary or food donation would be helpful. Whatever the cost, we find this evening to be very beneficial and necessary to invite our families to school and teach them how we use the high 5's at school and at home!

## Evening schedule.....



- Our event was planned from 5:30 – 7:30pm which allowed time for families to have dinner together, rotate through the stations, visit the book fair, interact with other families, and visit their school building.
- At the conclusion of the evening the families that completed at least 5 activities deposit their raffle tickets into a drawing. A few tickets are pulled and the families are given a gift card or prize. All students receive a small prize for their attendance and participation.
- At our pirate night students selected a prize from our treasure chest that was filled with pirate tattoos, bead necklaces, gold coins and other theme related trinkets.

## Materials/Supplies.....



- As the staff brainstormed what games/activities would be held, a list was compiled of all necessary materials and supplies. During our discussion, staff offered to donate items they had or make them if possible.
- Some materials had to be purchased. A staff dress down day was held to supplement the expense of purchased items.
- Oriental trading supplied many items for student rewards and gift cards were donated for family rewards.
- Staff dressed in pirate themed attire and helped students find appropriate clothing to wear as well!

## Games/Activities.....



- Because our school teaches and expects our students to follow the **High 5** qualities we always have a minimum of 5 different stations for the families to visit.
- At each station they work as a family to complete a task or engage in activity that compliments the **high 5** qualities.
- Some examples from our pirate night include.....
  - Family writing project-on each sail of a large pirate ship the families write how their crew keep their ship sailing straight by following each high five quality at home.
  - Pirate families showed how to be **safe** while digging for buried treasure in the sand!
  - Families were **prepared** to participate after they discovered their family pirate name and decorated their flag to be flown around the school!
  - Families demonstrated **responsible** and **respectful** manners while eating and talking in pirate language in the ship's galley, also known as our school cafeteria!
  - Families were **kind** to all as they navigated through the evening events!



## Sample Directions for an Activity



Your crew has just landed on a deserted island. You stumble across a sand dune where you hope there is buried treasure. Use your hands to dig up.....

- A North Side pirate has a kind heart, find a red heart shaped jewel
- 1 purple diamond jewel, a pirate's favorite shape!
- 1 gold coin that sunnies a high 5 quality
- A pirate's earring, also used to hold together papers
- A golden high 5, since North Side pirates always follow the high 5's!
- Pirates like to wear jewelry, find 1 ring!
- A periscope to look through, almost like a telescope that a pirate uses to look through to see ships and land
- An object found in the night sky that pirates use to guide their ships.
- Find the sea creature that would make a meal of a ship mate that has just walked the plank

Collect your treasure in the measuring cup and show the captains of your island your bounty. Once you get their nod of approval and stamp, take the treasures back to the dunes and bury them for the next crew.

Now it's time to get off this stranded island and move on with your crew!

## It's time for Family Night! Registration.....



- Families enter the school lobby and are greeted by staff dressed in theme related attire.
- The hallways, and all areas of the school are decorated to match the theme.
- At the registration tables, families sign in. We document their child's name, number attending, and teacher's name.
- Students are given a raffle ticket for a free slice of pizza and a brochure, or map that is used to guide the families through the events.

## Brochure, map, guide...



- When families sign in they are handed a brochure, map or a guide that will help them navigate around the school to where the events are being held.
- In the brochure we list the high 5 qualities, and a description of each activity.
- As the families rotate through each of the stations their brochure is stamped and their product that was completed is displayed around the school.
- When all 5 stations are completed, they return to the registration table to show that their brochure has been stamped and a raffle ticket is entered in the family name for a prize.
- At the conclusion of the evening a few tickets are pulled and a gift card and/or prize is given to the family.

## Sample brochure.....

Welcome to  
North Side PBS  
Pirate Family Adventure



High 5  
Preparation - What  
Completed - Safe  
- Prepared



A special thank you to all the families  
for attending and to the North Side Crew  
for all your wonderful ADVENTURE!

Directions for your Pirate Family  
Adventure.....



- Look for a red X to mark the spot at each corner of the location on the treasure map. You must complete at least 5 different family activities to make your coffee. Be sure to keep your crew together and get your map stamped when you finish.
- Take your stamped treasure map to the registration table. At the registration table, complete a ticket with your name and phone number. Deposit the ticket in our pirate hat for a chance to win our coffee. Good luck today!

Use your treasure map and sail  
away to these locations!



- A red X is in the gymnasium, enter if you dare!
- Place drinks and snacks in the ship's galley.
- Dig for buried treasure across the 1st grade hallway.
- Discover your family's pirate treasure and decorate your pirate flag.
- Describe how your crew keeps your ship sailing straight when you see the high 5's at home!
- Practice some pirate yoga and remembered with objects that pirates use to stay in the green zone.

## Refreshments.....



- Upon registration a ticket is given for each student to receive a free slice of pizza and most families will purchase additional slices.
- Our cafeteria is set up with tables, a drink station, a place to purchase cookies and snacks and is decorated with theme related items.
- Families are greeted by staff that distribute the pizza, drinks and also sell the cookies and snacks.
- We feel it is **necessary** to include food at this event! It encourages families to gather at school for their dinner, engage with other families, and participate in our planned activities.

## Other Opportunities to Support Family Involvement.....

- Back To School Night
- Parent conferences
- Giving Tree-Holiday gift giving
- Clothing Closet
- School Store
- Kindergarten registration
- Behavior matrix
- Welcome letter at the beginning of the year
- Classroom parties
- Classroom volunteers



## Let's work together!



- You will be given an opportunity to meet with others to discuss ideas/challenges to the categories listed on your planning sheet in regards to hosting a PBIS Family Night.
- When everyone is finished collaborating, we will share out some of the ideas/challenges that were discussed.
- There is a reward for those that participate!

## A final thought.....

**Great things  
are done by a  
series of small  
things brought  
together.**

*Vincent Van Gogh*



# PBIS Family Night Planning Sheet

<b>Possible Themes</b>	<b>Hook</b>
<b>Advertise</b>	<b>Activities</b>
<b>Challenges</b>	<b>Finances/Cost</b>

Keep in mind.....

- Research supports the correlation between parent involvement and student success! It is worth it!
- Although it is a wonderful opportunity for families to participate in activities with their child at school, its **purpose** is to teach the families about your PBIS school wide behavioral expectations!