

VNS Boot Camp 2015

DAY ONE – 8/18/15

10:00 a.m. Welcome (Helen)

A) Ice Breaker: Geronimo

B) Why are you at VNS --- Ken Robinson video; reasoning and rationale for being at VNS; Project-based philosophy and “World is an interesting place”

11:00 a.m. Advisory Intro and break to advisories (Niki)

1. (5-10 min) Overview of Advisory (including weekly individual meetings) – break to advisory
2. (30 min) Brainstorm project topic ideas as a group on chart paper (refer to project topics sheet in newsletter).
3. (5 min) Look at opposing viewpoints & other lists for other project topics – add ideas to list
4. (15 min) Return to large group – display and share lists (Niki)

12:00 p.m. Lunch in front area

12:30 p.m. What makes a good project topic & guided project overview (Steve)

1. Large Group Discussion – what to consider in choosing project topics; examples and pitfalls
2. Overview of steps of proposal process- good, better, best project questions; create topic list for PLP
3. Narrow to 3 project topic choices – initial research tips

1:00 p.m. Preliminary Research – find 2-3 overview articles for each topic - print, read, highlight

1:55 p.m. Snacks

2:00 p.m. Graphic Organizer and Research questions for best topic (Jen)

1. Create graphic organizer and question for chosen topic
2. Store info into project binder
3. Mentor/mentee survey

2:45 p.m. Advisory -- Intro to Journaling & Logging – log/journal in whole group (Jen & Helen)

HOMEWORK:

1. Complete library card application and get parent signature

DAY TWO – Boot Camp 8/19/15

10:00 a.m. Ice breaker with Mentors (Ball/Name Game?) – (Jen or Niki?)

10:30 a.m. Advisory -- Check-in (collect APL apps and check proposal draft signatures)

1. Instruction about binders, rationales, focus skills, standards
2. Read examples
3. Mentors help mentees set up binders and write rationales
4. Designate Binder for PLP – include project topic list

11:30 a.m. Lunch

12:00 p.m. Large group: Show Project Process Video – checklist overview (Niki)

12:15 p.m. Continue Proposal Writing
Work time with mentors (see Mentor Tasks)

2:30 Snack

2:45 p.m. Advisory (Mentors, too)
Logging & Journaling

Mentor tasks:

- **Create Project Binder**
- **Review questions and subtopics on graphic organizer sheets**
- **Write rationale**
- **Identify appropriate standards and add to rationale**
- **Fill in focus skills on the rubric and brainstorm criteria**
- **Revise/edit rationale and print final copy**
- **Organize project binder**



HOMEWORK:

- 1. Have parents look through project binder, read final draft of project proposal, and sign proposal form**

DAY THREE – 1st Day of School

- 10:00 a.m. Meet in Advisory**
Advisory Icebreaker/Intros
- 10:30 a.m. Community Bonding (newspaper shelters - Niki)**
- 11:30 a.m. Lunch**
- 12:15 p.m. Journaling – Letter to Advisor**
- 12:30 p.m. Set up desks, take pics, set up binders, brainstorm project ideas**
- 1:30 p.m. All School Meeting**
Intro David – tell a story/”hot seat”

Overview of 1st days/weeks of school – brief calendar items (youth options, chemistry, Lit, Service)

All-School field trip

Lunch options/Incentive modifications – new privilege paradigm (chair, music, unplugged days)
- 2:30 p.m. Proposals and Worktime**
Continue to set up desks, take pictures, set up binders, brainstorm projects

New Student Proposals

Project work time
- 4:15 p.m. Advisory (2 Truths and a Lie)**
- 5:00 p.m. Parent Overview: Start in Advisory**

All School meeting & Appetizer Snarfing