

Justify Your Activities Program with Data

Involved students:

- are more successful
- are accepted
- have fewer discipline issues
- graduate

Show me the money

- Every student is worth \$5,786 per year
- 1% increased grad rate = \$57,860 (avg school)
- More attendees at paid events = \$\$\$

4 student lists

- Students with discipline problems
 - Students with attendance problems
 - Students with academic problems
 - Students that are not involved
- ✓ Remove students from the “not involved” list and you likely remove them from the other lists as well

What data should we collect?

- Who’s involved in activities? (clubs, performing arts, scholastic groups, service organizations, sports)
- Who’s attending/participating in school events? (club events, performing arts events, sporting events, dances, spirit days, etc)
- Student, staff, parent, community feedback
- Academic information (grades, test scores, AP classes)
- School attendance and discipline

Data collection plan

- Where are you now?
- What do you want to know?
- What is important?
- Use every method at your disposal
- Have a data collection plan

Best ways to collect data

- SIS system (grades, attendance, discipline, AP test data)
- 5-Star Students (activity and event participation)
- Student, staff, parent, community surveys

Putting it all together

- Calculate key metrics (% of students involved/not involved, % of students participating in activities and/or events, etc)
 - Create detailed reports by grade, individual, other student groupings
 - Gauge success of programs by analyzing survey results
 - Combine academic/SIS and student involvement data, look for insights and trends
 - Find and compare data with other school sites - district - county - state – national
- ✓ Establish a “baseline” for your measures of student involvement in activities

Who needs student involvement data?

- Activities/Student council advisors
- Counselors
- Site administrators
- District administrators/school board
- State administrators

Create an activities program **action plan**

- Recognize students and staff for participation (point system, privileges, rewards)
 - Set goals and measure
 - Be realistic
 - Know your student’s goals
 - Get buy in from students, faculty, administration, district
 - Have unique ideas
 - Don’t do this alone, use experts
- ✓ A successful action plan will justify your program

Resources and more information:

<http://5starstudents.com>

<http://www.advancededucationmeasurement.com/>

<http://alliance4studentactivities.org/letxequalsa/>

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