



PAL

Conference

Principals, Advisors,
Leaders

Goals: 1. to provide all the "key" players in school leadership an opportunity to plan together as a team under the guidance of a facilitator off school site. 2. To meet in "birds of a feather" group to discuss Student Council issues and effectiveness. 3. To showcase your state leadership programs for administrators.

Timing: Within the first month of school, a full day conference, every other year, and advertise and begin registration by April of the previous school year

Who: 4 student leaders, usually officers, advisor(s), principal or assistant principal with an invite to the superintendent to be guest of school council

Where: In PA we do 3 different sites: one West, one central and one East at a hotel/restaurant site

Cost: continental breakfast, lunch, facilitator costs, printing and supplies
Our conference is about \$50 with early bird paid registration \$5 less

Program: 1. Role of Executive Director and State Board Members (students and adults) is important to showcase state programs and initiatives

2. Team Building Activities with your principal or superintendent take on a whole new experience.

3. Birds of a Feather Groups - all participants grouped by their roles and given specific topics for discussion: building issues, school climate, funding, student voice etc. (recorded on laptops for sharing or on poster boards around the room.)

4. Processing of Activity (depends on size of large group and number of small groups) Very important part to do so all groups are heard in some way. Arrangements should be made to send discussion boards back to all schools for further ideas and thoughts.
5. **Facilitator:** role to do introductory speech/activities relying on theme they determine to be their strength; facilitates movement of groups and tasks; summarizes findings of groups; gives feedback based on talents and ties up the conference at the end of the day.
6. Lunch: eat as a school team for further discussion
7. Creating a School Action Plan: school teams work together to come up with school theme and activities each month to carry it out, or solutions to issues in building and action plan with solutions, timeline and assignments on responsibilities, or creating a school calendar of events, or new ideas on projects/programs that would work at "our" school and organize a plan.
8. Resources available to students and adults in your state, review of state website and short Q & A with facilitator, ED or whomever.
9. Evaluation and follow-up with schools, esp. to administration
10. Very successful program rated highly by all parties.

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