

Planning and Processing Time

- 1) Get-acquainted / bonding activities – with each other or in smaller groups
 - a. Takes new students (or ones you don't know well) on a walk to Aggie Ice Cream (you can never have enough ice cream). While walking, they talk about your schools traditions, things they like and dislike about your school and what they would like to see change.
 - b. Scavenger Hunt (we can help!)
- 2) Several schools have different groups that make up their Student Government team. For the first planning session, meet in their separate groups and make goals, plans, and discuss what each group's responsibilities are.
 - a. Create a mission statement for the year – make sure you refer back to it throughout the year.
 - b. Design shirts for different activities during the year.
- 3) *Prepare for Dance Battle* – while we know most schools come very prepared, can also use this time to fine tune / practice
- 4) *Round Table Discussion* - Discuss what they learned and ideas from other schools during the Round Tables that they can incorporate into our school activities.
- 5) *Poster Planning* - Plan what posters you'd like to make during the poster session on Tuesday/Wednesday. We usually give you time to make 3 - 4. We give them back so you already have a jump start on posters you can use when school starts.
- 6) *Evaluate the Spirit Bowl* – what worked, what didn't. Discuss what your group learned about what went well that you want to make sure you do in assemblies, pep rallies, etc.
- 7) Alta during one session has all the students write something nice about each member of their team. The advisor then collects the lists and types all the nice things on a scrapbook style paper and the new list is returned to the student the first day of school. The purpose is so that each student has a list of nice thing about them so that during the year when they are tired and feeling overwhelmed, they can look at the list and know that they are loved. This idea is also mentioned in a *Dear Abby* article you may want to read: <http://news.google.com/newspapers?nid=1320&dat=20011227&id=c-BWAAAAIBAJ&sjid=DOwDAAAIBAJ&pg=6829,6033735>
- 8) Take pictures of individuals and groups that you can use at your school.
- 9) Make sure students have some sort of calendar (Get them from Jostens or print some simple ones) and begin to calendar main events.
- 10) Start planning some of your big events – use this time so the school year isn't quite as crazy.
- 11) Many use this time to have their administrators come up and get to know the students outside of the school. This makes them more approachable and can start building those youth / adult partnerships.

12) Get with other schools and plan Multi-school events – great time to start working with those schools near you

13) *Specialized Training* – there are some topics we don't cover, feel free to use this time to do that training – we can also help you with this if you let us know