

WAC STUDENT LEADERSHIP CONFERENCE

September 12, 2012

Schools in attendance:

Central Valley
Ceres
Livingston

Los Banos
Patterson

Theme: Character Counts

Upon arrival, students were given, at random, 1 of 6 colored bracelets:

Red – Caring, Orange – Fairness, Green – Responsibility, Yellow – Respect, Purple – Citizenship,
Blue - Trustworthy

The bracelet color determined which breakout group the student was in; each group had discussion and brainstorming about what that issue meant to them as they related to school and athletics. Many students gave examples of actual situations they had found themselves in regarding that topic.

The tables or numbered items under each category are the issues, solutions, ideas that the students came up with during the group breakout sessions and that they would like each school to honor.

Influence: Being a positive example and taking the initiative to tell your team/fans to stop discouraging others.

Definition: Having and showing respect towards opposing team and opponents. There is a fine line between competitiveness and taking it too far.

PURPLE – SPORTSMANSHIP AS IT RELATES TO CITIZENSHIP

<i>Positive actions a host school can/should do</i>	<i>Actions a host school should avoid</i>
Welcome posters	Disrespectful “mean” posters
Shaking hands after a game	Showing off
Being encouraging	Disrespectful floats
Chain reaction of showing sportsmanship	Fights
Cheering for other teams	Disrespectful parents
Positive attitudes	“bring it on” mentality
Friendliness	Mascot fights

Examples/Explanation:

- Posters and floats should not depict the opposing team maimed, ridiculed, etc. For example, a poster or float depicting a behead dog or a slain crusader, or using verbiage to say the same thing would be an action that the students have said would be poor sportsmanship and should be avoided.
- No student expects opponents to root for the opposing team; but they do expect that there be no jeering, name-calling, or other derogatory remarks made by players, parents, spectators, etc.
- Mascot-on-mascot “pretend confrontations” incite negative behavior.

YELLOW – AUDIENCES AS IT RELATES TO RESPECT

1. Cheer – drama/fight started in audience.
2. Negative comments from audiences/fans
3. Negative coaches
4. Negative chants while winning.
5. Invasion of cheer section
6. No consequences for parents, negative fans, negative students

GREEN – FLOAT BUILDING/HOMECOMING AS IT RELATES TO RESPONSIBILITY

1. Show appreciation for floats
2. Don't allow other schools/classes to boo floats
3. Only boost your own school, not put down other school
4. Have the float help with school spirit

RED – HOSPITALITY AS IT RELATES TO CARING

1. Welcome posters for schools

2. Give other team captains a gift
3. Make sure the other team has water – each home school supply
4. Respect other schools locker rooms and team rooms – don't trash
5. Other fans write rude stuff on cars, and on posters that schools make
6. Don't steal stuff when in other school's locker rooms and classrooms

ORANGE – POSTERS AS IT RELATES TO FAIRNESS

1. Welcoming posters create respect
2. Support your own school not tear down other schools
3. Negative posters creates unstable environments, anger, disrespect, negative vibes, playing to hurt others.
4. Make posters with positive visual imagery not inappropriate images

BLUE – OTHER ISSUES AS IT RELATES TO TRUSTWORTHY

1. Bullying at snack bars and in bathrooms. People should be able to trust that no matter what school they are cheering for, they should be able to go to the snack bar or to the bathroom without being hassled.
2. Vandalism of other schools
3. Be for your team
4. Better understanding and communication needed between students and administration
5. Recognize all sports just not football

Each group reported out what they wrote on their poster.

2nd Step – Schools got together to discuss what they just heard and came up with key issues and how they might solve some of the issues.

List of issues/solutions:

1. Respect – Coaches to make sure all teams shake hands no matter what the outcome with positive comments. AD's and Admin to deal with this issue if it doesn't happen.
2. Provide water for other teams so that is not an issue. Every team should make sure this happens.
3. Have teams show respect for other schools by not trashing locker rooms, team rooms, or sidelines. It is the hope of the groups that fans will follow. Coaches should make sure this happens and if not, AD's and Administration deal with it. No vandalism of other schools.
4. Care about every injury – coaches teach teams how to be respectful.
5. Trash talking on field/court – coaches and Ad's work on this.
6. Posters – Positive for your school and Welcome posters – Activity Directors make sure ok.
7. Coaches and AD's help students be humble in victory in or defeat. Admin removes fans that don't follow correct cheers, etc.
8. Pride – Personality, Respectful, Integrity, Determination, Encouragement as a poster for all. If not followed by teams, coaches, fans, students – Admin/Athletic Directors/Activity Directors take care of. One consequence could be a formal apology over the PA system when schools come together if something happened in a contact before.
9. No cheating/lying/sabotaging. AD's take care of.
10. Let the players play, let the coaches coach, let the officials officiate. Have a Code of Conduct read before every game not matter what the sport.
11. No degrading comments about cheer, band, dance performers. If so, report to school officials.
12. Don't be afraid to speak up in a positive manner and let Admin know what is going on so it can be taken care of whether it be a fan, student, parent, etc.
13. After games, keep your heads up, no negative comments on the field or sidelines.

3rd Step – All students came together and Ken Sylvia made a poster as they presented from each school so that they could vote on each of the key points as to which was the most important. They talked about the following values: respect, trust, responsibility, pride, humility, sportsmanship, and fairness. They also talked about consequences but decided the Athletic Directors, Activity Directors, and Administration from each school would deal with the consequences. They did like formal apologies over the loud systems or in the form of letters to schools that violate the "Code of Conduct."

The following is what was decided and put on a poster that each school took back to their school signed by all that attended the conference. A poster was made for Central Catholic and Pacheco as well – the two schools that did not attend. The posters will be displayed at their schools as well as at athletic events.

CODE OF CONDUCT

1. Positive Posters – No put downs of other schools
(Make a Welcome poster for each school)
Activity Directors to make sure all posters displayed are positive about their own schools
2. Sportsmanship on the field and in the stands
Athletic Directors to make sure coaches and players show good sportsmanship.
Administration to make sure fans show good sportsmanship
3. P - Personality
R – Respect
I – Integrity
D – Determination
E – Encouragement

Activity Directors really enjoyed getting together and talking about issues, also and are talking about meeting once a quarter to stay on top of issues. Students seemed to have a good time and were productive. Students and Activity Directors discussed having a 2nd conference in the spring, and Los Banos volunteered to host.