



**NIM**  
**CCS**  
New Mexico  
Coalition for  
Charter Schools

# School Organizational Systems that lead to Student Success

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## The Academy for Technology and the Classics Charter School Santa Fe

Champion Charter School Excellence  
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# SOS

## School Organizational Systems that lead to Student Success



### A Life Line for Principals



# The Academy for Technology and the Classics Charter School

Grades: 7 – 12

Students: 380

Teachers: 25      Counselors: 2

Socio-economically Disadvantaged: 44%



## A Life Line for Principals



# Strategic Initiatives

College Crew

Attendance Plan

Peer Tutoring / Mentoring

A Life Line for Principals



# ATC College Crew



- College Crew is a 7-12<sup>th</sup> grade college readiness program developed by ATC faculty and staff for ATC students.
- In College Crew, the teacher embodies mentorship and advocacy while offering college readiness skills, assessment, and training to his or her Crew.
- The College Crew curriculum is aligned with grade level goals as well as 6-year goals.

# ATC College Crew 6-Year Goals

## Community

- Every student has had at least one meaningful leadership experience at ATC.
- Students will have completed 40 community service hours each year, including but not limited to school clubs, grade level meetings, tutoring, and outside or inside-school volunteer opportunities.
- The College Crew process will involve parents and help them understand the parent role in preparing the students for college.
- For 6 years, the Crew Leader will be the primary mentor and advisor for their Crew members, serving as a liaison between parents, teachers, and other students.

# ATC College Crew 6-Year Goals

## Academic Literacy

- Students will have completed a toolbox of study techniques that will help them attain success on assessments.
- Students will have mastered the ability to handle any challenges that would adversely affect their attendance record and ability to always arrive to school/classes on time.
- Students will have mastered an organization system for their assignments.
- Students will maintain a GPA that is in concordance with the best of their ability and their long-term college goals.
- Students will be ready to advocate for their academic needs on college campuses.

# ATC College Crew 6-Year Goals

## Future Planning

- Students will develop and maintain an awareness of their own skills and interests in order to make an informed college choice.
- Students will thoroughly understand the college application process.
- Students will successfully complete 4 college applications.



# Attendance Policy

- Restricts the number of absences to 10 per semester. Excused and unexcused absences are treated the same.
- Parents may call in 5 absences/semester without documentation from a physician.
- Assignment to ER if failing courses or recent absences.
- Credit Loss / Credit Recovery when absences exceed 10 per semester.

# ALL HANDS ON DECK FOR LEARNING

## Attendance

- College Crew Teacher Responsibilities
  - Parent Contact for Attendance
    - 3 absences – 5 absences – 7 absences – 10 absences
    - Presentation to Parents
- Systems to Manage Attendance
  - Google Doc
  - Attendance folders
  - Parent Contact the day of the absence
- End of Semester Attendance Meeting
  - Credit Recovery Plans and Retention Meetings



# Preventing the Mutiny

## How to Get the Crew on Board

### How do teachers want to spend their time?

#### Proactive?

Developing positive relationships with parents and students

Full participation in classroom learning with a rich curriculum of student-centered, collaborative learning

Identifying family challenges early and often

Increasing academic performance and reducing student anxiety and behavior issues

Improving your summative evaluation scores

#### Reactive?

Uncomfortable and unproductive meetings that are too little, too late

Constantly shuffling tasks and materials to absent students and the disinclination to collaborative learning

Parents and students feeling disconnected and disenfranchised

Reduced academic performance which exacerbates students' learning anxieties

Summative evaluation suffers

# Peer Tutoring / Mentoring

- Identify 30 to 40 middle school students that are in need of assistance academically, socially, or emotionally.
- Match middle school students with selected upperclassmen who have applied for the position.
- Provide mentor training on organization, goal setting, time management, and growth mindset.
- Mentors are paid from Title One funds.
- Dedicated 90 minutes per week.

# Charting the Course



College Crew Leaders monitor students' grades and attendance weekly, if failing grades or attendance concerns exist then...

## Emergency Room

Students are assigned to tutoring rooms based on grade level

ER time is divided into two 45-minute sessions

Teachers supervise one session and have the other session for parent contact needs

For certain high need subjects, teachers have "intensive" sessions to support specific skill acquisition in a small group setting

Peer Mentors provide direct 1:1 or 1:2 support for underclassmen

## Early Release

**If not**, students are released from school 90 minutes early on Thursdays

Students are encouraged to use this time for community service

There is a study hall room available for students who do not have transportation at 2:30

Juniors and Seniors have academic enrichment sessions available, much like a college academic lab or tutoring center

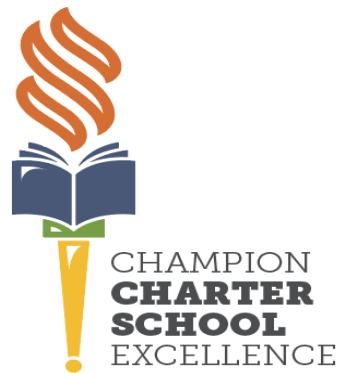
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