

YES Charter Academy

Implementation Plan for SPARRK! Behavior Matrix

PURPOSE:

It is the intention of the Council of Directors, Administration, Staff and Families of YES (collectively, YES) to promote positive behavior on the YES Campus. Further, it is the intention of YES that our students exhibit the following attributes while at YES and that YES graduates are known for these Attributes:

YES graduates are:

Environmental Stewards

Positive Team Members

Academic Masters

Responsible Citizens

Resourceful

Kind

The acronym SPARRK has been created from these Attributes to represent them in the Behavior Matrix.

The SPARRK Behavior Matrix lists out desirable behavior in the following areas of YES: Classroom, Hallway, Bathroom, Cafeteria, Playground, Bus.

In order for these Attributes and behaviors to become well known to all Staff, Students, and Families of YES, the following implementation plan will be followed.

1. PROFESSIONAL PRODUCTION OF THE SPARRK BEHAVIOR MATRIX

- The SPARRK Behavior Matrix (Matrix) will be professionally produced in large enough format so that it is easily seen, at least standard poster size, and larger for the Cafeteria and Playground.
- It will be produced in sufficient quantities that it may be displayed in each Classroom, Hallway, Bathroom, Cafeteria, on doors leading to the Playground (outside also - large format, outdoor material), Bus - as approved by the Bus Driver.
- The material used will be durable and attractive.
- This will be completed by April 15. 2016.

2. POSTING OF SPARRK BEHAVIOR MATRIX

- The Matrix will be posted in all areas of the school as noted above.
- It is intended that this will make this language familiar to all of the YES Community.
- This also makes it possible to refer to it when encouraging Students to behave positively.
- This will be completed by April 22. 2016.

3. PARENT EDUCATION

- The Matrix will be sent home with all YES Students so that Families become familiar with the language of SPARRK and can provide support for it at home.
- Along with the Matrix will be an explanation of its use at YES and the meanings of the attributes.
- The Matrix will be sent home upon adoption in April. 2016 and near the beginning of each school year.

4. STUDENT EDUCATION

- The Attributes and their meanings will be specifically taught to all Students at YES.
- A weekly quote or quotes which illustrates the Attribute of the Week is posted in each classroom and on the whiteboard in the Entryway.
- Administration will provide the weekly quote or will delegate this to a Staff person who will ensure the quote is distributed and is written in the Entryway. The first quote for the Attribute of Environmental Steward will be posted April 25, 2016.
- All of the following means for teaching the Attributes will be used:
 - a. Students use computers to research the Attribute of the Week and write a paragraph describing each of them.
 - b. Students use art to illustrate or represent each Attribute of the Week.
 - c. Teachers lead classroom discussions about the Attribute of the Week and/or the above-mentioned projects.
- Accompanying the teaching of the Attributes and their meanings, the SPARRK Behavior Matrix will be taught as follows:
 - a. Students include in their paragraph about the Attribute of the Week the specific behaviors of the Matrix as illustration and example of the Attribute.
 - b. Students use drama to act out both appropriate and inappropriate behavior for the Attribute of the Week.
- Each Attribute is taught in this way. They are taught each week for the 6 weeks remaining in the school year and at the beginning of the new year until they have all been taught.
- Samples of Student work and a short note from teachers is sent home so Families are aware of the Attribute of the Week and the Matrix behaviors that Students are learning about.
- Upon return from holidays such as Thanksgiving break, Winter Break, Spring Break, Teachers will remind the Students of the Attributes and Matrix so that expectations for behavior are clear.

5. REINFORCEMENT

- All Staff at YES will be familiar with the Attributes and Matrix by means of their being displayed as well as being reminded regularly by Administration and Council.
- All Staff at YES are responsible for reinforcing the expectations by verbally acknowledging Students who are exhibiting the Attributes and/or Matrix behaviors.
- Frequent positive acknowledgement is crucial for behaviors to be learned.
- Staff will endeavor to provide positive verbal acknowledgement to as many students as possible each day, minimum of 5.
- Students and Staff will be acknowledged in the awards assemblies using the language of the Attributes and the Matrix.
- Teachers will use the language of the Attributes and the Matrix in all areas of the YES campus to reinforce the expectations.
- Administration will use the language of the Attributes with Staff and Students
- The Council of Directors will use the language of the Attributes with Staff and Students
- Additional reinforcing prizes will be given at the assemblies with a quarterly prize of substantial value (eg. Mp3 player, headphones, gift certificates for food, etc.)
- Prize budget is \$375.00 quarterly.
- Reinforcing prizes are awarded based on drawings for each classroom from among Students who have demonstrated the Attributes and use the Matrix behaviors. The instance of demonstrating the Attributes is entered by the Students' Teachers or other Staff. Specific instances are listed so the prizes are tied to specific behaviors. For example, "Todd picked up trash from the playground". First prizes to be given _____
- Substantial quarterly prize is given based on a drawing which includes all Students who have demonstrated the Attributes and use the Matrix -from the whole school. First substantial prize to be given _____
- Students who have had some negative discipline in the previous period since the last assembly and prize are still eligible to participate if they have demonstrated the Attributes and Matrix positive behaviors as indicated by a specific instance.

- Students who have had a serious discipline issue such as suspension are not eligible for the substantial prize drawing.

6. REVIEW

- Implementation will be reviewed by the Council of Directors during the April 29th meeting.