Leadership Development & Community Engagement

Mr Sandman, Room 217

Utica High School

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“Lead From the Front”

**Course Description**:

Through reading, researching and school related projects; students will develop the necessary knowledge, attitudes, and skills to fulfill leadership opportunities in the school setting. Students will study leadership, effectiveness; assess their individual leadership styles and skills; and establish personal goals and understanding of leadership effectiveness. An emphasis will be placed on developing effective communication skills, habits characteristic of effective teens, and group skills including team building, conflict resolution, and stress management. Students will be asked to participate in group projects that benefit others in order to apply effective decision-making, communication, and critical thinking.

**Overall Goal:**

This course is designed to increase self-awareness, provide tools to use in every situation, and maximize individual potential. After going through this course, students will have increased confidence, awareness, & ability to deal with and handle adversity in all situations.

**How to Maximize your Potential in this Class**:

READ!!! Complete all assigned readings and give proper time for reflection. It is important that you read and prepare for this class. Create a routine and set aside time to read. You will become the best version of yourself if you invest time in yourself. ROI on this will be huge.

Get comfortable, being uncomfortable. You will be forced to step outside of your comfort zone. Get used to handling all that comes with doing that. You will come out better and stronger, just do the work.

**Required Materials:**

- 3 Ring Binder with Paper

- Pen/Pencils

- iPadCharged

- Text/Reading Materials

**Reading List** *(Anticipated)*

1. The Energy Bus, Jon Gordon
2. Lead For God’s Sake
3. R-Factor Trainings

3. 7 Habits of Highly Effective People, Stephen Covey

4. How to Win Friends & Influence People, Dale Carnegie

5. 21 Irrefutable Laws of Leadership, John Maxwell

6. The Carpenter, Jon Gordon

7. Numerous Articles

8. Current Events

**Grading**:

1. **Completion of Reading Assignments**

* There will be various reading and writing assignments & listening to podcasts. It is imperative that you read what you are supposed to read. Be ready to discuss class material.

1. **Friday Follow Assignments**:

* Students will research and find different social media accounts, email accounts, or any motivational videos that deserve to be shared and followed. Students will discuss the benefits of their choices as well as follow accounts from their peers.

1. **Community Service Requirement (10 hours):**

* Students will need to complete & document 10 hours of various community service projects. There will be numerous activities available through the school and we will partake in some as a class. Students will need to use designated form and have it signed and approved.

*“You don’t have to be great to serve, but you have to serve to be great”*

* All hours will count toward UHS required community service

1. **Thursday Thank You**:

* Written communication once a week to a different family member, student, staff or community member expressing thanks for support or providing thoughtful encouragement for an upcoming challenge or event. (You may not repeat to whom you send the communication, but you can send additional.) You must turn in a copy of the original note each week for credit.

1. **Class Assignments**:

* We will complete various reading and writing assignments. It is important to turn in all material on time with a great deal of thought and effort put into the assignments. This class is for your benefit!!! Take the time to sharpen the saw.

1. **Book Reading**

- Vastly important to keep up on your reading. We will read Jon Gordon’s *Energy Bus* as well as other books as they come available. Don’t get left behind by not reading and taking advantage of class time.

1. **Live Twitter Chats**

- We will utilize twitter as a discussion tool. On specific dates, I will post questions where you will need to respond with answers. More details as we get closer to our first chat.

**Twitter**:

1. Get an account, add @BaseballUtica

2. Use #UHSLeadership for all class discussions, events, & functions.

3. Build excitement- we want this to grow, not stay in a bubble.

4. Inspire others & want them to grow as individuals, circles, class, school, & community.

**Speaker Series:**

* We will have a weekly Successful Speaker Series where a leader will either come in and speak or will zoom & speak to the class with their ideas of what leadership means to them
* Students will be required to come up with a series of questions to ask throughout the presentation

**Pay it Forward Project**

* As a class students will work together to head up a project/ fundraiser to execute to help raise funds to help future classes have access to leadership courses/ speakers/ events, etc.

**Leadership Term Project**

* Students will pick a term that relates to leadership & create a presentation revolving around that term including examples & how other students can apply that term to become a better leader

**Random Act of Kindness Week**

* Students will utilize twitter & will lead the charge towards a random act of kindness to spread throughout the school district to bring cheer & joy to those around us!

**Detach this page from the syllabus and turn in**

I have read and understood ALL of the above policies in Mr. Sandman’s Leadership Development class and syllabus.

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Student Name Parent/Guardian Name

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