

# **Freshman Focus**

Lebanon High School







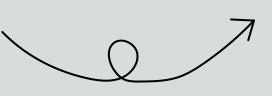
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## **Session** Outcomes

- Attendees will understand how we developed a required class for freshman to help them transition from middle school to high school.
- Attendees will be given examples of the curriculum and social skills lessons designed to support the social-emotional needs of freshman students.







#### **Session Description**

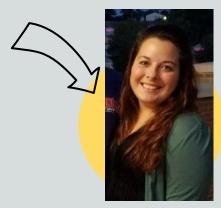
This session provides implementation examples of the Freshman Focus course at Lebanon High School. This course was designed specifically to help freshman students as they transition from middle school to high school. The session leaders will give examples of how they use this course to provide students with practical support in the areas of time management, organization, study skills, and school-wide expectations. The course also supplies students with social-emotional lessons to help them as they navigate the waters of high school.





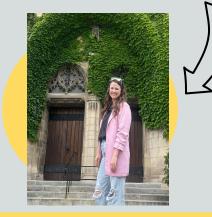


#### **Presenters**



#### Jordan Campbell

Spanish & Freshman Focus Teacher



#### **Ashley Bateman**

College Prep, Freshman Focus Teacher, A+ Coordinator

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We will talk about why we have Freshman Focus at our school and how it is set up.

#### 02 How It Was Built

We will talk about how our Freshman Focus team created the curriculum.

#### 03 Semester 1 Goals

We will talk about how Semester 1 is focused on becoming a successful high school student.

#### 04 Semester 2 Goals

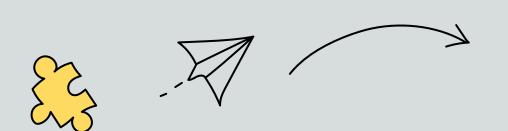
We will also talk how Semester 2 is focused on career pathways and skills.

#### 05 The WHOLE Student

We will talk about how the course focuses on the WHOLE student and their success during AND after high school.

#### 06 Round Table

Everyone will talk about common struggles with freshmen and how these can be integrated into a Freshman Focus course.









# Basics of Freshman Focus.





Why we have Freshman Focus at our school and how it is set up.









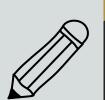
#### Why Have a Freshman Focus Class?

#### **Academies = Setting the Stage**

Our school is moving towards academies.

Part of that process is setting the stage for students as freshmen.

- How to be a successful student
- How to transition from middle school to high school
- Explore careers that will help them choose their future pathways







#### SOME PBS FACTS ABOUT OUR STUDENTS

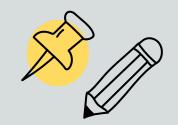


1 or More F's

93%

Average Daily Attendance **32%** 

Have Received Referrals







## Basics of the Class

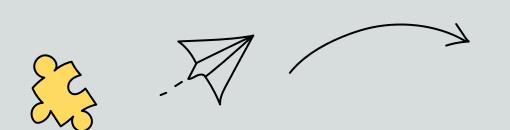
- Required for all freshmen
- Year-long class
- Graded
- .25 credits towards graduation earned each semester

- 90-minutes every other day
- Daily lesson with journaling
- 20-30 minutes of study group time each class period

Freshman Focus is an automatic intervention for students and is a way to be proactive in helping plan for their future as a student and beyond!



<u>slidesmania.com</u>











How our Freshman Focus team created the curriculum.

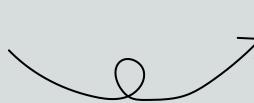










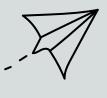




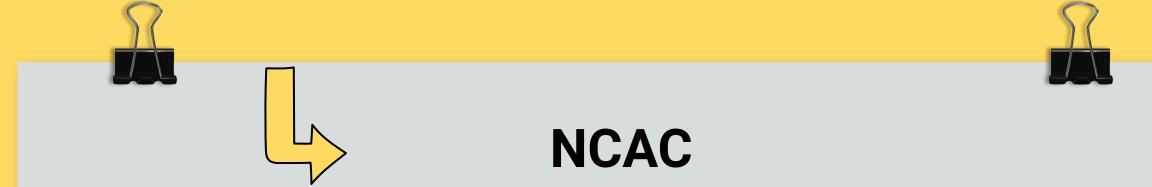




- NCAC
- Hillcrest High School
- SREB
- Xello
- Josten's Renaissance
- WhyTry website







- National Career Academy Coalition
- Organization that provides resources and support for career academies
- Units topics were shared





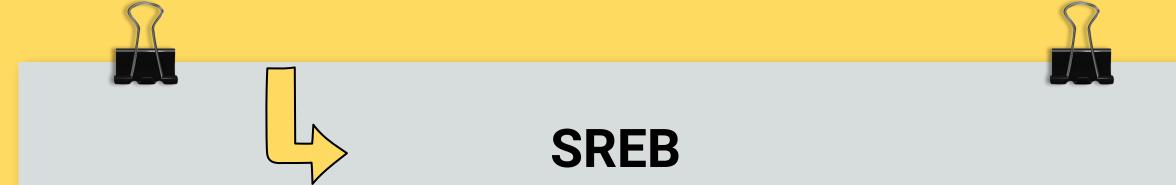


## Hillcrest High School

- Springfield, Missouri
- Informational school visit
- Shared list of topics







- Southern Regional Education Board homeroom/advisory resources
- Previous resource used in advisory classes in the past at LHS
- https://www.sreb.org/





## Xello

- College and career readiness software program
- <u>Scope & Sequence</u>

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Personality St			Matchmaker 🥥 Personality Style 🤡 Mission Complete 🥥 Learning Style Skills Lab	Careers Schools Majors Opportunities Saved Options	My Goals and Plans Course Planner	
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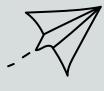


## Josten's Renaissance

- Harbor character development videos
- Youtube playlist of videos
- Subscription to Josten's Renaissance includes lessons to go with videos









## WhyTry Website

- Tools to tackle social-emotional/mental health wellness while building relationships
- https://whytry.org/whytry-program/









#### **Curriculum Work**







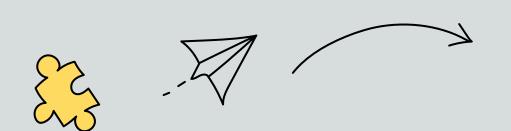
#### Teachers

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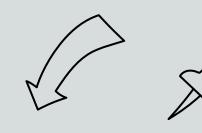
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# Semester 1 Goals: Successful Student.

Our focus on creating successful students.

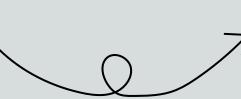
















## Semester One Goals

- Transitioning from Middle School to High School and PBS Goals
- Organization and Study Skills
- Interpersonal Communication & Building Relationships
- Begin Career Exploration







# Example of Sem 1 Daily Lessons

- Lesson 1: Freshman Orientation
- <u>Lesson 11</u>: Transitioning to High School
- <u>Lesson 21</u>: Building and Maintaining Relationships





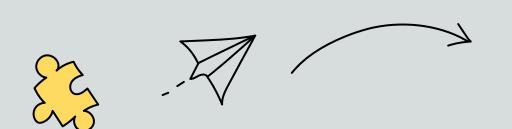




# **Success Story**.







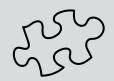






# Semester 2 Goals: Career Pathways.

Our focus on career pathways and soft skills for the future.

















## Semester Two Goals

- Career Exploration
- Guest Speakers
- Soft Skills for Careers
  - Applications
  - $\circ$  Interviews
  - Cover Letters
  - Business Letters, Emails, Memos, etc.







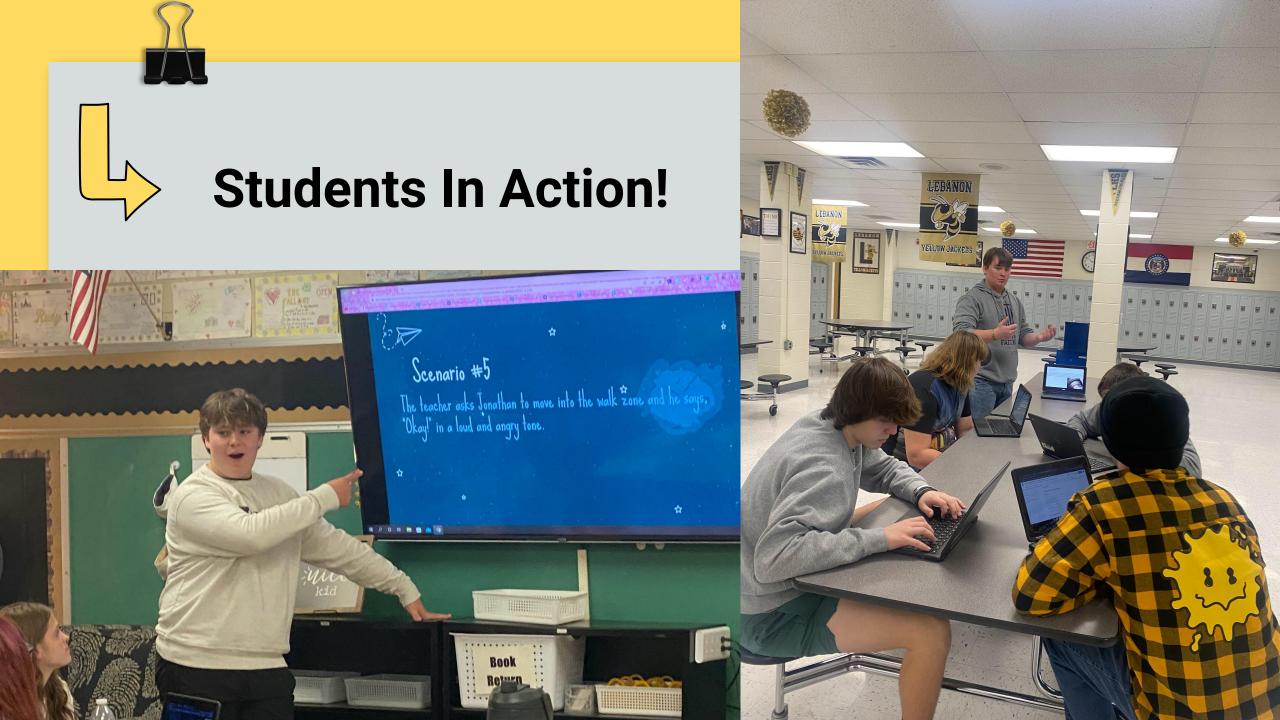


# Example of Sem 2 Daily Lessons

- Lesson 16: Career Research Project
- <u>Lesson 18</u>: Employability Skills
- <u>Lesson 20</u>: Finding a Job and Job Applications
- Lesson 27: Career & Lifestyle Costs (<u>Day 1</u> & <u>Day 2</u>)

















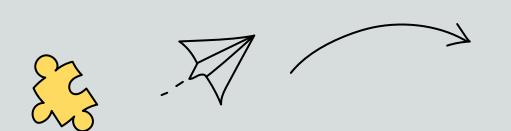


# Student

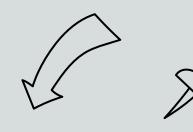
## **Success**

Story.





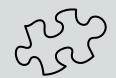






# The WHOLE Student: High School & Beyond

Our focus on building up students as people, students, and members of the community.









#### **WHOLE Student - WHOLE Year**

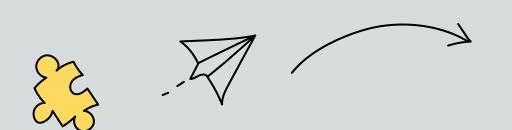
#### **Semester 1**

## • Who am I as an individual, a student, and as a member of my community

- What are my morals
- Who are my true friends
- How do I want people to view me
- What is my place here at LHS
- How can I be successful
- How can I be the best me

#### Semester 2

- What are my goals
- How can I get there
- What are some careers that interest me
- How can I learn more about career choices that are of high interest to me
- What steps do I need to take right now
- What classes, clubs, and experiences should I sign up for to work towards these goals





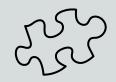








Common struggles and how to integrate them into a Freshman Focus course









# Year One Implementation Rough Spots

- Building on the go
- Making changes to fit our student population
- Finding new resources & presenters
- Taking student feedback into consideration
- Student buy-in on a pass/fail course









With your table group, discuss the following question. Be prepared to share your responses aloud.

What are some things that we didn't cover that you feel need to be addressed with freshmen?









With your table group, discuss the following question. Be prepared to share your responses aloud.

What are resources that you think could be used to improve the course?









With your table group, discuss the following question. Be prepared to share your responses aloud.

What ideas do you have for exploring careers beyond the computer screen?









With your table group, discuss the following question. Be prepared to share your responses aloud.

What ideas do you have for student buy-in and engagement?

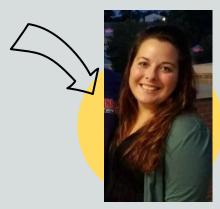








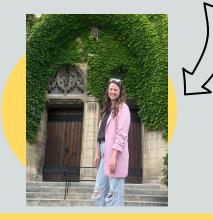
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Spanish & Freshman Focus Teacher

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