

**Middle School Assembly
CURRICULUM FRAMEWORK**

Program Title: Positive Youth Development Program

Program Type: Video & Virtual Sessions

Occupational Area: Student Services

Grade Levels: 6th - 8th

Length: 20 minutes in Cafetorium or CCTV

Certification: N/A

Pre-Requisite: Must have attended MMT Assembly

Delivery Method: Video on YouTube or Periscope, then Q&A with Teachers

I. MAJOR CONCEPTS/CONTENT:

1. **Define positive youth development:** An approach or philosophy that guides communities in the way they organize services, provide support, and create opportunities so that all young people can develop to their full potential.
2. **Engage youth:** We have discussions for self-actualization and understanding the basics for personal growth.
3. **Eliminate any feelings of social toxicity and identify risk factors:** These factors sometimes include racism, poverty, sexual exploitation, health threats and lack of authority.
4. **Focus on positive outcomes:** We shift from preventing or fixing problems to creating positive outcomes such as competencies, connections and caring relationships, positive values and expectations, and meaningful participation. This also means that we use a strength-based approach.
5. **Youth voice/engagement:** We work *with* young people, not *for* them. We engage young people as partners, create youth-adult partnerships, and listen to their expertise and perspective.
6. **Long-term, developmentally appropriate involvement:** As a community we have to support young people throughout their development – about 20 years – while adjusting to their changing developmental needs. We also know that young people need extended exposure to programs and supportive adults to thrive.
7. **Universal/inclusive:** As a community we need to provide support and opportunities to all young people, not just to the “high risk,” targeted groups or the high achieving groups. This does not mean, however, that we cannot provide additional support to young people who face extra challenges.
8. **Community-based/collaborative:** Young people are interacting with a variety of social environments. For a positive youth development approach to succeed, non-traditional community sectors such as businesses, faith communities, and/or civic organizations need to be involved. Moreover, this implies that we have to work together collaboratively.

II. LABORATORY ACTIVITIES: Students can login to live Q&A with Potentialists that evening between 5-8pm EST on Periscope.

1. **SPECIAL NOTE:** Students will have an opportunity to ask questions regarding the lesson(s) with their teachers/instructors. This provides for a discussion that gives young people opportunities for meaningful engagement and overcoming the negative barriers.

III. **INTENDED OUTCOMES:** After successfully completing this course, the student will be able to:

- 01.0 Understand Leadership
- 02.0 Identify Human Trafficking Risk Factors
- 03.0 Understand the Importance of Civic Engagement
- 04.0 Know How to Protect Him/Herself on Social Media
- 05.0 Understand How to Give and Earn Respect
- 06.0 Identify the Dangers of Texting and Sexting
- 07.0 Establish a Positive Self-Image
- 08.0 Know the Importance of a Positive Attitude
- 09.0 Describe What Consequences Are
- 10.0 Understand How to Be Empathetic
- 11.0 Handle Social Exclusion
- 12.0 Describe the Dangers of Bullying (Cyber)