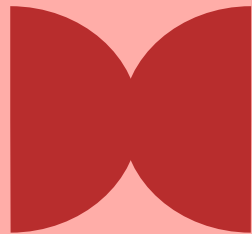


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The Jewish Future: Investing in Teen Leadership Development

Mixer

Red Skittle:

If you could eat any non-edible item, what would you eat and why?

Orange Skittle:

If you could live in a board game, which one would you live in?

Yellow Skittle:

Dill or sweet pickle?

Green Skittle:

What is your go-to pasta shape?

Purple Skittle:

If five of your fingers could produce a different liquid, what five liquids would they produce?

Developing a Board

- Schedule times to meet. Zoom, over coffee, etc.
- Meet teens where they're at
- Compile info, discuss with other staff/lay leaders who may be involved in those decisions

Built in Mentorship

- Teach teens that they can learn from each other
- Junior and Senior positions on the board, so Senior roles can mentor those in the Junior roles

Board Applications

- Use this as an opportunity to build skills
- Multiple pieces to the application, includes a written application, a resumé, and an interview. After all of these pieces are submitted, teens can resubmit their application with feedback they received in the interview.
- Blind applications, board members chosen by committee of teens not on/running for the board.

Ownership

- Look at the current program and pick a model that reflects your teens and THEIR program.
- Teens want to have responsibility. How do you support them in their roles?
- Give teens the opportunity to take ownership. You don't have to completely remove yourself from it, but think of yourself as a guide

7th and 8th Grade Leadership Council

Program Break Down:

20 Minutes - Lunch

50 Minutes - Skill Learning

20 Minutes - Council Meeting
(discuss upcoming youth group
events)

Program Overview:

Meets once a month to focus on a specific leadership skill to develop, ultimately ending in them creating and running their own program for our middle school youth group. Additionally, during meetings we will discuss upcoming events so they begin building ownership and investment in the youth group.

7th and 8th Grade Leadership Council

First Year Curriculum Topics:

Month 1 - What is Leadership? How to Ask for Help

Month 2- Ways to Lead

Month 3 - How to Program

Months 4 and 5 - Program Writing

Month 6 - Breakdown of Roles, Running their program

Second Year Curriculum Topics:

Month 1 - Welcome to Leadership

Month 2 - Leadership Models

Month 3 - Building a Program from Scratch

Month 4 - Built in Mentorship

Month 5 - The Final Countdown

Month 6 - How Do I Talk About This?

Adaptability

Ultimately, teens are working for ways to have resume building opportunities, and the sooner we give them those experiences, the more likely we are for teens to stay in our buildings.

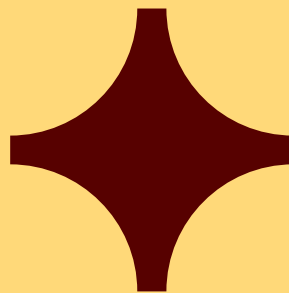
Perhaps your high school program would work better using a model similar to the middle school council previously discussed?

Could mentorship be built into both programs and have your high schoolers mentor your middle schoolers in leadership.

If you add to what you do by +1% every time you do it, you'll eventually increase your user experience significantly. That +1% can be incredibly meaningful to the people you work with and help them feel more included.

Breakout Groups

- What programs do you currently offer for your 6th, 7th, and 8th Grade?
- Do you have any leadership development programs?
- Is it a feasible task to create these programs in your space? What would it take to get it off the ground?
- Do you have buy-in from your community/clergy?
- What does your current 9-12 Grade youth group board look like?
- How can you bridge your middle and high school programs?
- Is there anything you can add +1% to right now?
- What can you do to increase the culture of belonging in your youth and teen programming?



Teen Testimonies

Julia - College Freshman

"Being president of the HUB board over the past two years has taught me that community connection is the key to spiritual and cultural connection; I've enjoyed every second of engaging with my fellow board members, HUB members, and mentors, but most importantly, they showed me the power of connection."

Andi - Rising 8th Grader

The hub 78 council was a great learning experience for me and all the other council members. I enjoyed learning about the behind the scenes of an event and I really enjoyed learning how to plan our own event. But my favorite thing about hub 78 council was the fact that not only did we get knowledge we got practice, experience, and guidance.

Ben - Rising Junior

"Over the last two years, being on board has helped me gain many leadership skills that I would not have gained anywhere else. I have also made many new friends through the board and going to events. Along with this, my confidence has grown and I feel like I am a part of a big great Temple Sinai community."

Abi - College Sophomore

"Having access to the HUB board structure has helped me immeasurably in terms of future leadership endeavors, from understanding structure of power to peer dynamics. More than that, my time on the board brought me closer to my Sinai friends and gave me more agency in determining the future of my synagogue youth, as well as access to NFTY as an organization."