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# More Caps and Gowns Project



#MoreCapsAndGowns  
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# PROCESS

- Established Steering Committee
- Focus Groups: 17 sessions; nearly 400 people (students and adults)
- Hundreds of ideas generated and prioritized
- Literature (research) review





# FOCUS GROUP THEMES

- Adopt a school concept could be foundation to launch many ideas
- Both students and adults cited mentoring as important
- Clear need to infuse Search Institute's 40 Developmental Assets across community
- Both fun and "serious" ideas put forth





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# RECOMMENDATIONS

## #1

- **Implement “adopt a school” initiative**
  - **Middle school focus (grades 6-8)**
  - **Open to all public and private schools**
  - **Schools added 1-2 at a time**
- **Mobilize corps of volunteers to adopt each school**
  - **Establish mentoring relationships for youth with “off-track indicators”**
  - **Visit school on regular basis and interact with students based on their interests**
  - **Undertake additional activities with students to grow relationships**





# RECOMMENDATIONS

## #2

**Host special community events on a periodic basis, like:**

- **Sports Night(s):** kickball, softball, basketball or flag football, etc.
- **“Take Back the Night from Technology”** events
- **“Dogs in the Park”** event
- **Neighborhood scavenger hunt, block parties, or picnics in the park**
- **Musical jam sessions**
- **Multicultural meal nights**
- **Etc.**





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# RECOMMENDATIONS


## #3

**Develop and launch countywide campaign to infuse Search Institute's 40 Developmental Assets.**

**Involve:**

- **Corps of volunteers**
- **Parents, grandparents, caregivers**
- **Coaches**
- **Service Club members (Rotary, Kiwanis, Lions, etc.)**
- **Teachers and other youth workers**
- **Retirees**
- **Clergy**
- **Etc.**

**GradNation**  
AMERICA'S PROMISE ALLIANCE®  
COMMUNITY SUMMITS

Presented by 

# COMMUNITY ROLES

- **VOLUNTEERING**
  - **Core team of volunteers to organize and participate in each school area**
  - **Additional volunteers to participate in activities; mentor children, etc.**
- **Obtain clearances**
- **Plan and host community events**
- **Mentor children**
- **Participate in knowledge sharing**
- **Infuse “Asset Building” mindset**

