

VNS Boot Camp

DAY ONE

8:00 a.m. Welcome (Niki)

Ice Breaker: Geronimo

Watch VNS DVD: "The Project Process" ---follow-up discussion (David - Why do Projects? The world's an interesting place, answer your ?s)

9:00 a.m. Advisory

1. (5 min) Overview of Advisory (including weekly individual meetings) – break to advisory
2. (10 min) Brainstorm project topic ideas as a group on chart paper.
3. (5 min) Look at opposing viewpoints & other lists for other project topics – add ideas to list
4. (15 min) Discuss & choose project topic for guided project

9:45 a.m. Break/snack

10:00 a.m. Intro. to Proposal Form (Niki & Steve) *Mentor meeting in kitchen (HCH & JLKP& Mari)-Overview of Boot Camp, Start Proj Binder for Mentoring, Mari and defining Mentorship*

1. Overview of 3 steps of proposal process (read examples of good proposals-small groups)
2. Creating a thesis statement (3rd person voice, start with statement or question about your topic)
3. Handwrite rationale

11:00 p.m. Introduce Mentors to New Students

1. Construct project binders with Mentor

11:30 a.m. Lunch

12:10 p.m. Student project presentations (3 presentations)

12:40 p.m. Mentors join new students

1. Review and provide feedback on thesis and rationale
2. Instruct new students on choosing Standards and Focus Skills; add to rationale and rubric
 - a. Communication Skill = Writing a 5-paragraph essay
 - b. Focus Skill = Organizing the project binder
3. Finish rationale, standards & focus skills

1:10 p.m. Intro to Journaling & Logging – log/journal in whole group (Niki) (Mentors, too)

HOMEWORK: Obtain Parent Signature on Proposal

DAY TWO

8:00 a.m. Ice breaker (2 Truths and a Lie) - (Steve)

8:45 a.m. Advisory -- Check-in & daily goals

9:00 a.m. Hope Study (David)

9:30 a.m. Time Management & Setting Goals: 1st Year Plan (Steve)

1. Look at VNS school-year calendar

(6 week blocks, evaluation days, event nights, conferences)

2. Overview of credit requirements

3. Daily, weekly worktime hours

4. Checklist – overview

5. PLP – overview/Time management resources (planners, etc....)

10:00 a.m. Break/snack (*Mentors –intro to prelim goals*)

10:15 a.m. Preliminary Research (Mentors join students) (Jen)

1. Find and read general overview of topic (e.g., encyclopedia article)

2. Record Source card information on web

3. Create web

4. Select three main subtopics

5. Generate 3-4 questions per subtopic

11:30 a.m. Lunch

12:15 p.m. Continue Preliminary Research (with mentors)

1. Students locate/print minimum of 4 meaningful sources

(AASD Website Links, Books from VNS Library, EBSCO host)

2. Search under a variety of headings

1:15 p.m. Advisory (Mentors, too)

Logging & Journaling

Mentors (Jen and Helen)

9:00 “Knowing Yourself as a Mentor” – Mari

Write Rationales

DAY THREE

8:00 a.m. **Advisory with Assessment Teams – Steve & Jen/Niki & Helen**

1. (15 min) Create list of 'How to be a Successful VNS Student'
2. (20 min) Share lists with whole group; Compare to "How to be Successful at VNS" list from Binder;
Discuss old school vs. new school & control/responsibility

8:45 a.m. **Finish Proposal with Mentors (Mentors arrive at 9:00 & receive assignments)**

1. Type Rationale and include standards, focus skills & proper format
2. Revise/edit rationale (self & mentor); Make changes
3. Fill out Communication & Focus Skill benchmarks on Rubric
4. Check for project binder organization

9:45 a.m. **Get Snack**

10:00 a.m. **Demo: Proposal Meeting (2 advisors, mentor, new student) – Each project team**

10:20 a.m. **Proposal Meetings (1 student w/ 1 advisor and mentor)**

While waiting for their turns, students should:

1. Finalize Proposal Binder
2. Work with mentor to write their first LLL – use LLL format in VNS Binder

11:30 a.m. **Lunch**

Encourage new & veteran students to discuss – daily schedule, lunch procedures/options, personal tips for success, privileges, culture of working at VNS, other questions

12:15 p.m. **Finish Proposal meetings as needed; Finish revising/editing LLLs; Journal & Log**

12:45 p.m. **Bonding Activity w/ mentors: (Niki) _____**

1:15 p.m. **VNS Snowball Fight (whole group – up front) – New Students dismissed**

1:30 p.m. **Assign Mentors and Advisories**

Review Guided Project responsibilities with Mentors