

STUDENT WOW

Round Table

Overview

This idea offers a wonderful opportunity to honor our students in a personal and meaningful way. Staff and students gather around the table in the dining area or other common area (living room, chapel, etc.) to share personal encouragements with a specific student. Scriptures may be shared, as well as memorable times that come to mind. The center can add a special coffee time and dessert, snacks, or charcuterie board. Round Table celebrations can be done for a new student welcome, birthday, phase promotion, graduation luncheon, etc. Any milestone can be celebrated in this heart-warming and personal manner.

Preparing for the Moment

Choose a date and time, announce to staff and students, and place it on the calendar! Delegate what needs to be prepared - coffee, dessert, etc. Remind everyone that they can choose a scripture that they will share with the student. Other creative ideas such as poems or even a song are great ways to make the student experience meaningful.

Staff Needed

Ideally, all staff and volunteers that are available. If it is a more memorable occasion, such as a graduation luncheon where staff, volunteers and family are present, encourage as many to attend as possible. Invite staff that are off shift.

Supplies Needed

Discuss during a staff meeting what will be needed and assign responsibilities to students and staff. For celebrations such as a birthday, graduation luncheon, etc, decorations may be added as well. Consider whether this celebration will be incorporated into a snack or lunch time - a simple coffee and dessert time will be exciting for students!

Budget

Center supplies can be used. Coffee/tea can be made in house. Added treats such as snacks, cakes, etc. can be made during student program free time or contributed by staff as an added option. If items are purchased, cost is dependent on the amount of beverages/food/people.



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Potential Partners

Aside from supplies and food that may be at the center, consider asking business partners to discount or donate items such as decorations, coffee, dessert and food items. Remember, when we invite our community partners to contribute to our WOW ministry moments, we are showing them how we go the extra mile to love and care for our students. Consider getting Churches, small groups, and individuals donating towards WOW moments.

Execution

This is a group celebration and so, "all hands on deck" is a great way to show unity and a shared value for the student being honored. Plan the day and time and set up the surprise. If it's not a surprise, that's ok. Your students will feel so incredibly special and loved with the intentionality of your gathering to celebrate them. Round tables communicate, "We see you, you are significant, and you belong!"