

# **Anti-Bullying Presentation Cleveland Hill UFSD**

**University at Buffalo**

**Symposium on the Prevention of  
Bullying Abuse and School  
Violence**

**April 27, 2010**

# Cleveland Hill District Background

- **First ring suburban school district in Cheektowaga, NY (one campus)**
- **Total enrollment - 1538 (Pre-K-12)**
  - 37% minority
- **Free/Reduced lunch - 51%**
- **Graduation rate - 83% (District) 87% (HS)**

# Elementary School

- **PBIS – Be respectful, responsible, safe and do your best**
- **Character trait of the month assembly - students perform “skits”**
- **Monthly character awards - BUG (Being Unusually Good)**
- **Expectation assembly (Fall, Spring, June)**
- **Partnership with WNY United - Conflict resolution and skill development**
- **Diversity Week**

# Middle School

- **200 Club - PBIS**
- **Peer Resolution (peace contracts)**
- **6th Grade “Team Day” - all day team building and anti-bullying program (Fall)**
- **7th and 8th grade Health and wellness program coordinated with PE and SSC - unit on anti-bullying**
- **Targeted boy and girl support groups**

# High School

- Freshman Mentor Program
- Student Support Center - Boys and Girls groups (healthy relationships, accountability)
- LINC
- Safe School Helpline
- Guest Speakers
- Attendance Committee - 160,000 students a day skip school in fear of intimidation. (Nat. Ed. Ass.)
- Positive Relationships!
- PBIS - Punctuality
- Code of Conduct - Firm, Fair, Consistent

# Freshman Mentor Program

## Why?

- **Nationally**
  - 1 in 7 students are bullied. (NASP)
  - Only commonality of violence-prone students was that they were harassed by peers. (Nat. Threat Assessment Center)
  - Freshman have the highest failure rate of any grade level
- **Cleveland Hill**
  - Traditionally Freshman have the highest discipline and failure rates.
    - » 671 discipline referrals in 07-08
    - » 13% freshman failing 2 or more classes in 08-09 and 07-08

# Freshman Mentor Program

- **Goals**
  - Help freshman make a smooth transition into high school.
  - Work with freshman to develop a sense of purpose, pride and belonging.
  - Develop a bond between the upperclassmen and underclassmen.

# Program Highlights

- **Freshman Welcome Day - Week before school starts -**
- **“Fresh” Start Day**
  - first week of school, freshman, mentors and their teachers go out to Camp Ska-Na-Ko-San for team building activities
- **Monthly formal meeting on topics such as respect, organization and time management**
- **Required one hour a week contact with their freshman**
- **Community Day - March**



# The Mentors

- **Juniors and Seniors**
- **Must be academically and behaviorally eligible**
- **Must complete an application that includes an essay, teacher recommendation and an interview.**
- **Must attend two separate trainings**

# The Mentors

- **Trainings are conducted by school counselors and teachers**
- **First training is at Camp Ska-Na-Ko-San**
  - The faculty advisors use this opportunity to help the mentors build a support system among themselves and the faculty advisors. Also to start crafting the messages we want to convey to the new group of freshman.
- **The second training happens in the summer.**
  - All mentors are trained on leadership skills, confidentiality issues and role-playing. A huge piece of it is self-reflective.

# The Mentors

- **Each Mentor is assigned a faculty advisor (6)**
- **We pair the freshman and mentors using the following:**
  - » **Personality mosaic**
  - » **We ask for 8th grade team input**
  - » **MS Administration input**
  - » **Final review by faculty advisors before school starts and throughout the first couple of months of school (changes have been made during the year)**
- **1st year had 46 mentors. 2010-2011 we will have 86!**

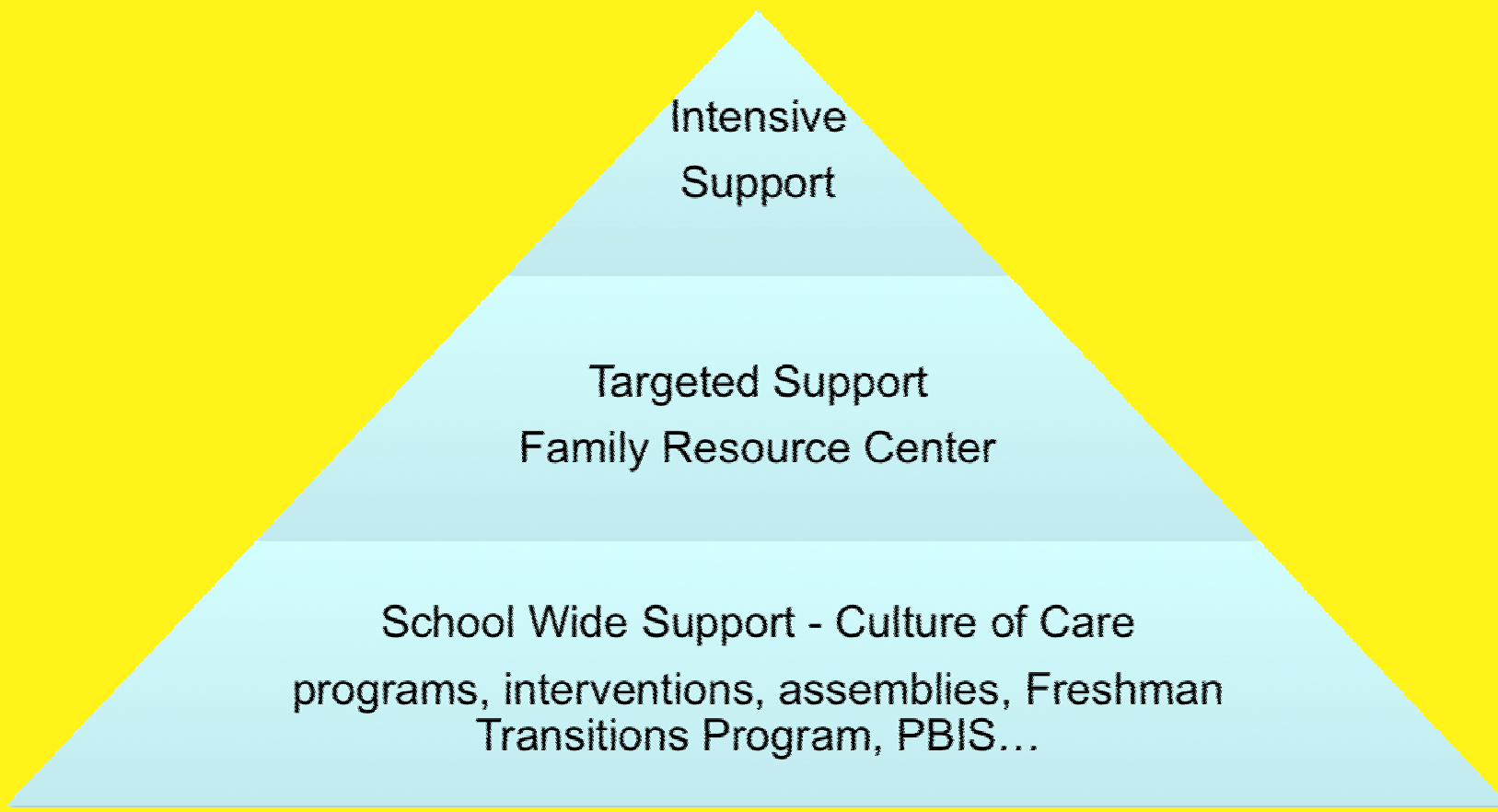
# Results

- **Current 09-10 school year**
  - 184 freshman discipline referrals this year
  - 73% drop since the start of the program
  - Noticeable increase in freshman participation in extra-curricular activities. (Record numbers)
  - 8% current Freshman failing 2 or more classes

# FMP Future

- **The third year is the first year.**
- **Mentor ownership - the faculty advisors are committed to having the mentors drive the direction of the program**
- **Identity - what do we stand for?**
- **EAGLE - teachable**
- **FMP is a piece of what will be an evolving comprehensive Freshman Transition Program**
- **Students take ownership of their school culture**

# Future – Continual Alignment



Intensive  
Support

Targeted Support  
Family Resource Center

School Wide Support - Culture of Care  
programs, interventions, assemblies, Freshman  
Transitions Program, PBIS...

# Contact Information

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