

# ***HERDING CATS!***

***Or How One SBHC Learned to  
TAG and Release Youth Advocacy  
Using the Net***

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***Jay Skriletz, Sean Cavanaugh, and Jesse Clark  
“No Relationships to Disclose”***

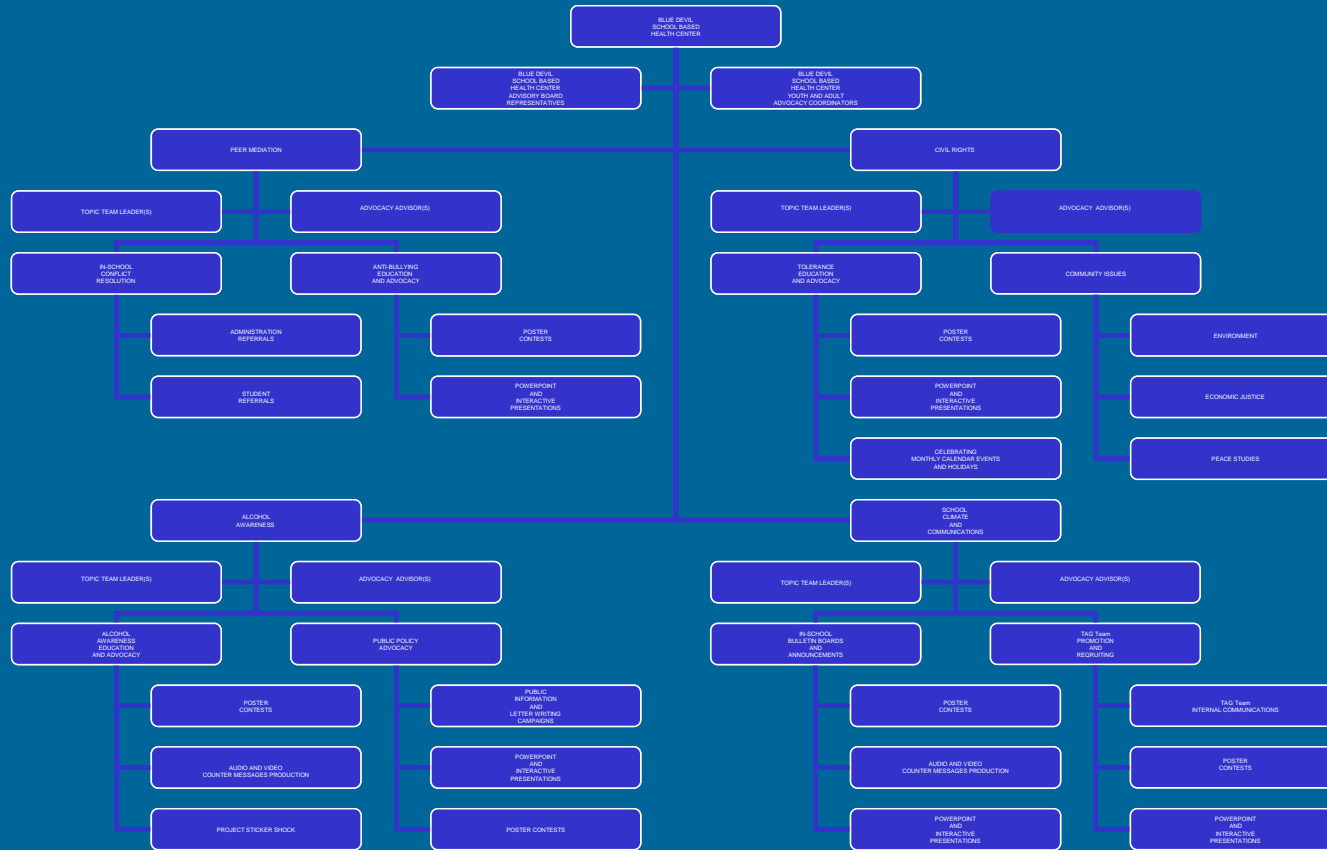


# *Blue Devil School-Based Health Center*



- Calais Middle/High School enrollment = 379
- Blue Devil SBHC enrollment = 251 or 66%
- TAG Team members (who've contributed to at least one project) = 40 or 11%
- Teen Advocacy Group—the TAG Team—believes  
**Lots of Challenges To Be Met**  
*plus many Ways To Meet Them*  
***equals* BIG PARTICIPATION!**

# How It Looks, Formally...



# So, Let's have a Meeting...

<b>Can't— Church</b>	<b>Can't— Practice 2-4:30</b>	<b>Can't— Student Council</b>	<b>Can't— Advisor unavail'bl</b>	<b>Can't— Game away</b>	<b>Can't— Practice 2-4:30</b>	<b>Can't— Fishing with Dad</b>
<b>Can't— Chores at home</b>	<b>Can't— Practice 2-4:30</b>	<b>Can't— Student Council</b>	<b>Can't— Home game</b>	<b>Can't— Nat. Hon. Soc.</b>	<b>Can't— Work</b>	<b>Can't— Advisor unavail'bl</b>
<b>Can't— Family birthday</b>	<b>Can't— Practice 2-4:30</b>	<b>Can't— Game away</b>	<b>Can't— Home game</b>	<b>Can't— Practice 2-4:30</b>	<b>Can't— Work</b>	<b>Can't— Bottle drive</b>
<b>OK. Say, 3:30- 5:00?</b>	<b>Can't— Dentist appoint.</b>	<b>Can't— Student Council</b>	<b>Can't— Practice 2-4:30</b>	<b>OK. Say, 2:00 to 2:20?</b>	<b>Can't— Game away</b>	<b>Can't— Camping trip</b>

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**Okaaaaay.....**

# **“Busy Students, Joe and Jim, Schedule a Meeting” Game**

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- **Take a Soft Toy, Color Tag and Circle Up**

- **1/3 Have “Projects” Use Poufs**

**Say: “let’s do a project.”**

- **1/3 Has “Time” Use “Squish Balls ”**

**Say: “OK, let’s meet.”**

- **1/3 Has “Conflicts” Use “One-Eyes”**

**Say: “Sorry, I can’t.”**

**Meetings are in the center: “Long Neck Geeks”**

# How It Looks, Really...



Alcohol Awareness



Peer Leadership Training



SBHC Advocacy



Youth Adult Partnerships



Cultural Awareness Celebrations



Tolerance Education



Alcohol Awareness



# The Whole Is Greater Than the Sum of the Parts



- Peer Mediation—Where it All Began
- Civil Rights Team—Student Recommitment
- Alcohol Awareness—Youths' 1<sup>st</sup> Concern
- Healthy Choices—Promoting Wellness
- Communications—For the 21<sup>st</sup> Century

*A Healthy, Supportive, and Inclusive*

*School Climate*

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# To Begin...

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- **Understand Active Students Have Conflicts**
- **Accept the Differences in Student Goals**
- **Keep Expectations High**
- **Prepare for Success**
- **Keep Communications Open and Personal**
- **Maximize Productivity With Effective Tools**

# The Doodle

iBrowse

CommandButton1

# Our Big Poll

iBrowse

CommandButton1

# To Play in the Moodle

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- <http://www.mevl.net>
- Search Courses for “TAG”
- Username: student 1, student 2, etc.
- All Passwords are: moodle

# Our Moodle

iBrowse

CommandButton1

# The Moodle

iBrowse

CommandButton1

# Skype

iBrowse

CommandButton1

# Oovoo

iBrowse

CommandButton1

**WizIQ**

**iBrowse**

CommandButton1

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# What We've Found

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- **Technology Can Be Alienating**
- **Elements of Technology Engage Uniquely**
- **Face-Time Accomplishes Multiple Goals**
  - **Clarifying**
  - **Energizing**
  - **Bonding**
  - **Building**
- **Youth Want to Help Change for the Better**

# When it Works...



# **The Challenge is Constant**

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- **Our World's a Work In Progress**
- **Our Participation in it Grows**
- **Practice Makes Better (If Not Perfect)**
- **Always Learning More About:**
  - **Our World**
  - **Ourselves**
  - **Our Collaborators**
  - **Our Competition**

# Finding Our Best Sides

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## ■ Learning Styles:

- Organizers—Preparation
- Actors—Action
- Planners—Logic
- Socializ-ers—Relationship

## ■ Barriers:

- Grade-ism—Irony of Ironies
- Cliques—Friends Before Team
- Fear—Of Failure, Even Success...
- Identity—Our Ideas Are Not Ourselves

# Our Goals...

- **Continue the Cool Stuff**
  - **Telling Truth: Cross-Cultural Education**
  - **It's Elementary: Peer Mentoring**
  - **Green Lab: Living the Circle of Life**
- **Fix the Rough Stuff**
  - **Communication/Cooperation vs. Contradiction/Competition**
- **Find the Next Stuff**
  - **We Know It's Out There**



## Our Best Technical Advisor

iBrowse

CommandButton1

# **We're Not Alone...**

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- **Ashoka and Youth Venture**
- **Americorps**
- **Seniorcorps**
- **Student Council**
- **City Council**
- **NGOs**
- **Neighbors**

# Other Sites

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- <http://www.facebook.com>
- <http://www.twitter.com>
- <http://www.chipin.com>
- [www.virtualclassroom.org/](http://www.virtualclassroom.org/)
- <http://www.adobe.com/education/elearning/hed.html>

# Links for Those W/O IBrowse

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- <http://www.doodle.com>
- <http://mevl.net> Search for "TAG" in courses Guest Key is "Blue Devil"
- <http://www.moodle.org>
- <http://www.moodle.com>
- <http://www.skype.com>
- <http://www.oovoo.com>
- <http://www.wiziq.com>
- <http://www.myan.org>
- <http://www.tdogsoftware.com>

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