

## CedarCreek Students Schedule, Rhythm, & Pace

Vision- To provide clarity on CedarCreek Students schedule, rhythm, & pace in order to build momentum based on relationship driven ministry.

Goal- Emphasize relationship driven ministry over event-based ministry.

- We believe the most important role in CC Students is that of the Group Leader.
- We believe relationship driven ministry is more important than event-based ministry for several reasons:
  - Event driven ministry-
    - o Focused on the short-term.
    - o Focused on drawing students for big events and is driven by “what is the next big thing.”
    - o Focused on a couple hours a week.
  - Relationship driven ministry-
    - o Focused on the long-term.
    - o Focused on supporting and emphasizing the relationship between students and Group Leaders.
    - o Uses “big things” (i.e.- giveaways, food, big games) to support the relationship and help students feel like they matter.
    - o Focused on all 7 days of the week.

Monthly CC Student Staff Focuses:

July-

- Primary Focus- Fusion Camp
- Secondary Focus- Finalize planning for Fall Semester
- Third Focus- Serve Day

August-

- Primary Focus- Recruit & Train DT/Group Leaders
- Secondary Focus- Plan & Execute Fall Launch
- Third Focus- Go Where They Are

September-

- Primary Focus- Student Nights
- Secondary Focus- Training leaders in Go Where They Are

October-

- Primary Focus- Student Nights
- Secondary Focus- Begin planning for Winter/Spring Semester

November-

- Primary Focus- Student Nights
- Secondary Focus- Finalize Planning for Winter/Spring Semester

#### December-

- Primary Focus- Student Nights
- Secondary Focus- Christmas
- Third Focus- Santa Bowl

#### January-

- Primary Focus- Student Nights
- Secondary Focus- Training/Developing new DT/Group Leaders

#### February-

- Primary Focus- Student Nights
- Secondary Focus- Training/Developing DT

#### March-

- Primary Focus- Student Nights
- Secondary Focus- Fusion Camp & BigStuf Registrations

#### April-

- Primary Focus- Student Nights
- Secondary Focus- Easter

#### May-

- Primary Focus- Student Nights
- Secondary Focus- Senior Celebration/Transition

#### June-

- Primary Focus- BigStuf (Execute) & Fusion Camp (Admin)
- Secondary Focus- Begin planning for Fall Semester
- Third Focus- Go Where They Are

#### Ongoing-

- Fall/Spring/Summer Group Semester- SLG

#### Ways/Areas to increase momentum-

1. Student Nights-
  - a. School year
    - i. School events (i.e.- football games, musicals) are key opportunities to:
      1. Go Where They Are- Be in the community with students.
      2. Strategically promote- Sponsor a "White out" game, etc.

- ii. Easter time
  - iii. Fusion Camp & BigStuf registration deadlines
- b. Summer-
  - i. BigStuf
    - 1. This will create excitement among High School students
  - ii. Fusion Camp
    - 1. Fusion Camp gives you a great pool of students (and parents) to be in contact with and ensure your leaders are following up with leading up to the Fall Launch
- c. Implement a pace to our Student Night programming/curriculum
  - i. See notes below.
  - ii. VIP visits
    - 1. Separate doc with specifics available.
- 2. Leadership Development
  - a. SLG is going during the Fall/Spring/Summer group semester & those students are going to be the catalyst for momentum within CC Students.
- 3. Strategically use PTO
  - a. Due to the rhythm of Student Ministry aligning with ebbs & flows of the school year calendar and Student Nights being during the school year with Camps in the summer, there are natural “breaks” in the calendar that allow Student Directors optimal times for PTO/vacation.
  - b. There are times where it is best for a Student director to be “all-in,” such as the 35 Student Nights or camp weeks.
  - c. Great times to take PTO/vacation include:
    - i. The beginning of June or the end of July
      - 1. Those times include planning, admin, recruiting leaders, and Go Where They Are which all have flexibility
    - ii. Week of Thanksgiving
      - 1. There is no Student Night the Wednesday before Thanksgiving
    - iii. Week between Christmas and New Years
    - iv. Week of Spring Break

#### CedarCreek Student Night Programming pace:

- Purpose – Develop trust through predictable environments and experiences that support use of Orange strategy/curriculum.

#### Week 1: Welcome New Students

- Hope is for new students to discover CC Students is a place where they belong.
- Focus on new people being welcomed, student groups and very inclusive.
- Give-aways, door prizes, etc. would happen here.
- Name tags print off for all students

#### Week 2: Support Group Leader Influence

- Focus is on intentional Student group conversations through guided icebreakers, team-building exercises, or opportunities for groups to connect in a deeper, more meaningful way.
- Group Leaders planning something special for their Group (special snack, special activity)

#### Week 3: Break Down Walls (through big fun)

- Focus is on student engagement with a goal of allowing them to drop their guard and embrace the Student Night experience.
- Big “tribe” competitions/activity, theme nights, or a more hype experience on these nights help student’s identity as part of the larger group.
- Focus is on students intentionally engaging with their faith and feeling compelled to invite their friends to experience what they’re a part of. A reflective night with an element of worship, prayer, communion, reflection card, or some other experiential element for students to internalize the message.

#### Week 4: Grow Spiritual Depth

- Focus is on students intentionally engaging with their faith and feeling compelled to invite their friends to experience what they’re a part of.
- A reflective night with an element of worship, prayer, communion, reflection card, or some other experiential element for students to internalize the message.

#### FAQ’s

##### **Where is Middle School Weekend Service on here?**

For 2020 there are no planned changes for Middle School Weekend service. We will evaluate the Middle School Weekend service in 2021.

We are committed to providing opportunities for Students to connect with other Students and Group Leaders at weekend services. We are in conversation about how we can make this happen while also being the most strategic we can be in creating momentum.

##### **What outside organizations have influenced the schedule & pace?**

Orange and Life Church have both been big influences on the Student Team as we’ve discussed, dreamed, and prayed about this plan.

##### **What is a VIP visit?**

A VIP visit is when someone who has influence among High School students (i.e.- Ben Snyder) is invited to a Student Night to leverage that influence to enhance the experience for High School students.

##### **Why is there a pace?**

- The pace sees CC Students from the student experience.
- The pace is a framework to guide CC Student programming.
- The pace creates and maximizes global momentum across

CC Student Night gatherings by creating collective anticipation.

- The pace affects experiential elements, such as stage games, group times, bring-in nights, post-message response nights, social media communication, etc.
- The pace is a strategic, shared mental awareness by all CC Student staff and DreamTeam of the win for each Student gathering.
- This pace isn't scientific but it is highly strategic.  
We agree it's probably better to apply a strategy for student engagement. It's one way we're doing student ministry on purpose.
- The pace, for this year, spans over the course of four weeks. It starts by building deep relationships, then builds anticipation for a huge battle night, and it ends with guards dropped enough to hear poignant gospel truth that leads to a call to action.

**Does the Student Pace line up with the Spiritual Journey language?**

It absolutely could. We will be exploring this further in Action Step 5 as we work through strategies to improve our curriculum.

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