

Requests to Help Ensure a Successful Student Assembly

To deliver the strongest possible experience for students, I ask that the following best practices be observed. These guidelines are based on my experience presenting in over 2,500 schools and are designed to maximize student engagement, respect, and overall impact.

1. Student Entry & Seating

Please have students enter and be seated as efficiently and orderly as possible. Staff guiding students into rows and encouraging them to move along significantly reduces seating time and preserves valuable program time.

2. Cell Phones & Headphones

Students should be asked to turn off and put away cell phones and remove earbuds or headphones prior to the start of the assembly.

3. Hats & Hoodies

Students should remove hats and hoodies worn on their heads, with appropriate exceptions for religious or cultural reasons.

4. Staff Engagement

During the presentation, staff are asked to refrain from working on unrelated tasks. Device use should be limited to supporting student needs or taking notes related to the assembly. Adult engagement sets the tone for student behavior and communicates the importance of the message.

5. Early Departures

Any staff or students who need to leave early should be seated near exits and asked to exit quietly to minimize disruption.

6. Announcements

Please ensure no announcements are scheduled over the intercom during the presentation.

7. Environmental Distractions

Whenever possible, avoid scheduling nearby activities that may create noise or distractions (e.g., gym classes, hallway traffic, music).

8. Recording & Photography

Audio or video recording of the presentation is not permitted. Photography may take place during the final 15 minutes of the program, right after the short stand and stretch break, which is a more relaxed segment and less disruptive to the storytelling portion of the assembly.

Thank you for your partnership in creating a respectful and meaningful experience for students.