

Teen Advisory Minutes - September 19th, 2022

Attendance: 28 people

Quickly discussed:

- past teen advisory setup
 - Teen advisory meets each month on a Monday night
 - Everyone who attends gets volunteer credit for being at the meeting
 - In the past we've selected a new monthly book display theme at each meeting, voted on new books to buy, and brainstormed ideas for events
 - I want this year to be one where y'all really run things, especially since I'll be out in the new year and another librarian is going to be helping support the teen advisory in the spring
- Knowledge gained by speaking to other teen librarians
 - One is that summer volunteers have to have participated in teen advisory in some way over the course of the year, like attend meetings or help out with projects
 - Summer volunteering always has an overwhelming number of applicants so this would be a way to encourage continuity in volunteering and ownership of the
 - Another is to have a sort of leadership board that runs the meetings, with assistance from the librarian (me)
 - Another is to have a Snack Ambassador whose job is to decide snack selections for the meetings
 - And they gave me some ideas for projects that their teen advisory groups have worked on or have managed

Worked on brainstorming posters:

- Buying new books:
 - Christian fiction books
 - Set a maximum price per book purchase
- Snack ambassador
 - Candy corn, chewy bars, sugar cookies, have water available
 - Have an allergy/food restriction list! (lots of upvotes)
 - Vote on different options
 - Created a "tiered" list
 - Sign up sheet for bringing snacks
- Social media
 - Book recommendations

- Tiktok, youtube (shorts), snap, reddit, bereal, facebook, imessage, gmail, likee, instagram, twitter, whatsapp
- Displays
 - Rotate every season
 - Rotate monthly (lots of upvotes for this)
 - Rotate every time we meet
 - People should plan displays and vote on books during meetings
 - New books based on genre/author, new releases, season themes
 - Theme library decor around book displays
 - Have a calendar for rotations
 - Work in groups
- Event planning
 - DJ party
- Requirements for teen advisory/volunteers
 - Must be in shrewsbury public schools or homeschooled
 - Must contribute in most meetings
 - Grades 5+ current requirement because we want only mature teenagers not kids
← note: maybe not age requirements because that is rude!
 - If you're going to miss a meeting, email to let people know
 - Have to be here for at least 75% of meetings
- Leadership board
 - Have an election for leaders
 - Choose by voting
 - We should have at least 3 (or any odd number) of people leading
 - Maybe like how people act
 - Group of people, maybe 5, to be pres, vice pres, secretary, treasurer, maybe co-presidents
 - Officers should propose ideas, others should have final vote
 - We should just introduce ourselves and play ice breakers to warm up
 - Arrange fundraisers (e.g. for new books)
 - Appoint people as leaders and materials and food people
 - Start with people who have experience with teen advisory
 - Rotate leaders - summer officers should be first rotation
 - Have volunteers who work here help new people

- Assist people
- Host or plan activities
- Applications required, 3-4 leaders, rotates every year, must be in grades 6-8
- Different leaders for groups
- Fundraising
 - Lemonade stand, bake sale, book sale, raffles
 - Table at expos
- Friday crafternoons
 - Seasonal/holiday themes
 - Shrinky-dinks
 - Book themed crafts
 - Make crafts according to the national animal
 - Crafts about endangered plants/animals
 - Origami
 - Crafts corresponding to monthly display theme
 - Make decor for book displays
 - Foreign crafts: Japan, China/Taiwan, German, Mexican, South American, French, Indian, etc
 - Let people vote for a craft out of a few options
- Decorating Teen Room
 - Wall for sticky notes, there is a weekly prompt and we write our ideas
 - Weekly riddle, first person to solve gets a prize
 - Decorations based off of popular books such as Twilight or Harry Potter. Library staff can dress up according to theme
 - Halloween theme - bats, pumpkins, ghosts, etc
 - Holiday themes
 - Aesthetic
 - Candles
 - Hearts of course
 - Holidays parties for teen advisory
 - Get rid of creepy painter
 - Winter theme or summer/spring theme
 - A little christmas tree
 - Seasonal window clings and/or window painting

- Diverse/foreign themes: Japanese, German, Latin, Oceania, etc
- Easter theme with Christianity not just bunnies and candy
- A big holiday-a-day calendar
- Art displays
 - Art made by local teens
 - Art contest
 - People can sign up to make art to display around the room
 - Halloween graveyard of forgotten books (sculpture or inflatables)

Next meeting is October 17th!