Why are we here?

- · Not the money!
- Not the fame!
- · Not even the acknowledgment!
- It's all about the kids!



Why a House System?

- A house system is a team building strategy that embodies the development of smaller groups within a large group.
- House Systems were developed in public schools in England and Wales between SOI-600 A.D.
- The English house system promoted the use of house names, colors, and crests
 that reflected a notion of shared identity within a school environment. The house
 system also relied heavily on a point system to reward students for positive
 behaviors and contributions to the school environment.
- In the late 1960's the house system caught the attention of the United States Office
 of Education.

Academic Excellence + 7% Reading & +5% Math Proficiency

"Since implementing the House System, our students' test scores have shown consistent growth in core subjects." - District Evaluation, 2020



25% More Homework Completion

"Students are more motivated to complete assignments when their academic efforts earn house points." - Middle School Principal







20% More Students Feel They Belong

"The House System has transformed our school culture into one of pride, belonging, and respect." – Counselor

Increased Inclusion & Support

"Houses encourage collaboration among diverse student groups and provide targeted support for struggling learners." – Inclusion Coordinator

Enhanced Staff-Student Relationships



"Staff being involved in house activities, heads of house and tutors play a key role in building relationships and providing individualized attention."

Program Coordinator

Family/Community Engagement Family Participation Up 30%

"House events have brought families into the school more often, strengthening home-school

connections." — Family Liaison
Regular Communication

"Families receive updates on house standings and student achievements, increasing involvement and support." – Parent Engagement Lead



Students Support Systems



- Houses connect students with peer tutors, mentors, and staff advocates.
- Early identification of academic or social needs through house leader check-ins.
- Communication with parents through the app.

| End of Year Survey | Strongly | | Anna | Strongly | |
|--|----------|----------|-------|----------|--|
| | Disagree | Disagree | Agree | Agree | |
| I enjoy being on a team. | 4% | 4% | 14% | 76% | |
| I want to come to school everyday | 10% | 20% | 33% | 38% | |
| I feel great when I get a point. | 4% | 0% | 20% | 76% | |
| I make bettter choices for my team | 10% | 4% | 38% | 47% | |
| I work hard to gain points for my team | 14% | 0% | 23% | 62% | |
| I love to see kids who are on my team | 4% | 10% | 23% | 62% | |
| I feel like I belong on my ream | 20% | 10% | 14% | 57% | |
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Discipline referrals by year at Preston Area School 2015-2020

| School Year | Average Daily Membership | Total Students Referrd to Admin | Students Referred Multiple Times | Total Referrals |
|-------------|-----------------------------|---------------------------------|--|--------------------|
| 2015-2016 | 180 | 32 | 13 | 66 |
| 2016-2017 | 174 | 25 | 7 | 37 |
| 2017-2018 | 168 | 24 | 11 | 44 |
| 2018-2019 | 162 | 23 | 7 | 35 |
| 2019-2020 | 164 | 13 | 3 | 16 |

Healthy Competition in the RCA House System Core Concept

• Competition is framed as team-based and positive — students earn points for academic achievement, good behavior, attendance, acts of kindness, and leadership.

Focus is on self-improvement and contribution to the house, not beating others.

- Psychology of Competition studies show team-based competition increases engagement and motivation by up to 45% when paired with recognition and goal setting (Deci & Ryan, 2020).
- Schools using RCA-style systems report:
 - o 15-30% drop in discipline referrals (students hold each other accountable)
 - 0 18-25% higher engagement in class activities
 - · Increased cross-grade friendships and support networks



Is doing nothing better?