

Time Capsule

Objective

This activity really has two objectives: one for the beginning of the year and one for the end. The initial objective is for the freshmen to set goals for themselves and become more comfortable with one another. The long-term objective is for the freshmen to track their progress and accomplishments and to see how much they've changed!

Materials

Each freshmen and all TA's should bring in an object that represents them at this point in time. The object needs to be fairly small so that it can fit in the box. Someone in the TA should bring in a large shoebox. Also, there should be enough copies of the questionnaire for everyone.

Procedure

Each TA member should fill out the questionnaire and it should be placed in the box. The questionnaires should be kept private! Next, each TA member should explain what item he or she brought in and why he or she feels it is representative. Once the whole class has gone through this procedure, the box should be sealed up and "buried" in the room. The capsule should be opened up on one of the last days of school. The opening of the box can be turned into a game (where the class tries to remember which object is paired up with which person) or discussion as to how the meaning of the objects has changed after a year.

Helpful Hints

There are a lot of different twists to that can be put on this activity. Artistic TA's may enjoy decorating the box as a class. Make sure to mark the date on the box! Instead of the questionnaire (or in addition to it), the freshmen might enjoy writing themselves a short letter. Photographs do not make good objects for individual members to bring in, but it might be fun to put a class photograph into the box.

Time Capsule

1. Name:
2. Date:
3. Who are your best friends?
4. What is your favorite class this year?
5. What is your favorite song right now?
6. What are you scared of?
7. Set 2 goals for yourself (one of these should be something you can reach by the end of freshman year).
8. What have you liked about EHS the most so far?
9. What do you think final exams will be like?
10. What are you most looking forward to?
11. What is something interesting that happened to you this past week?