Implementing Voice and Choice in College and Career Readiness

BY:

JAMIE ROTH – DIRECTOR OF YOUTH PROGRAMS

NINA LOPEZ – EDUCATION COORDINATOR

Agenda

- PODER Overview

- Program Quality

- Discovery Projects

- Career and College Readiness

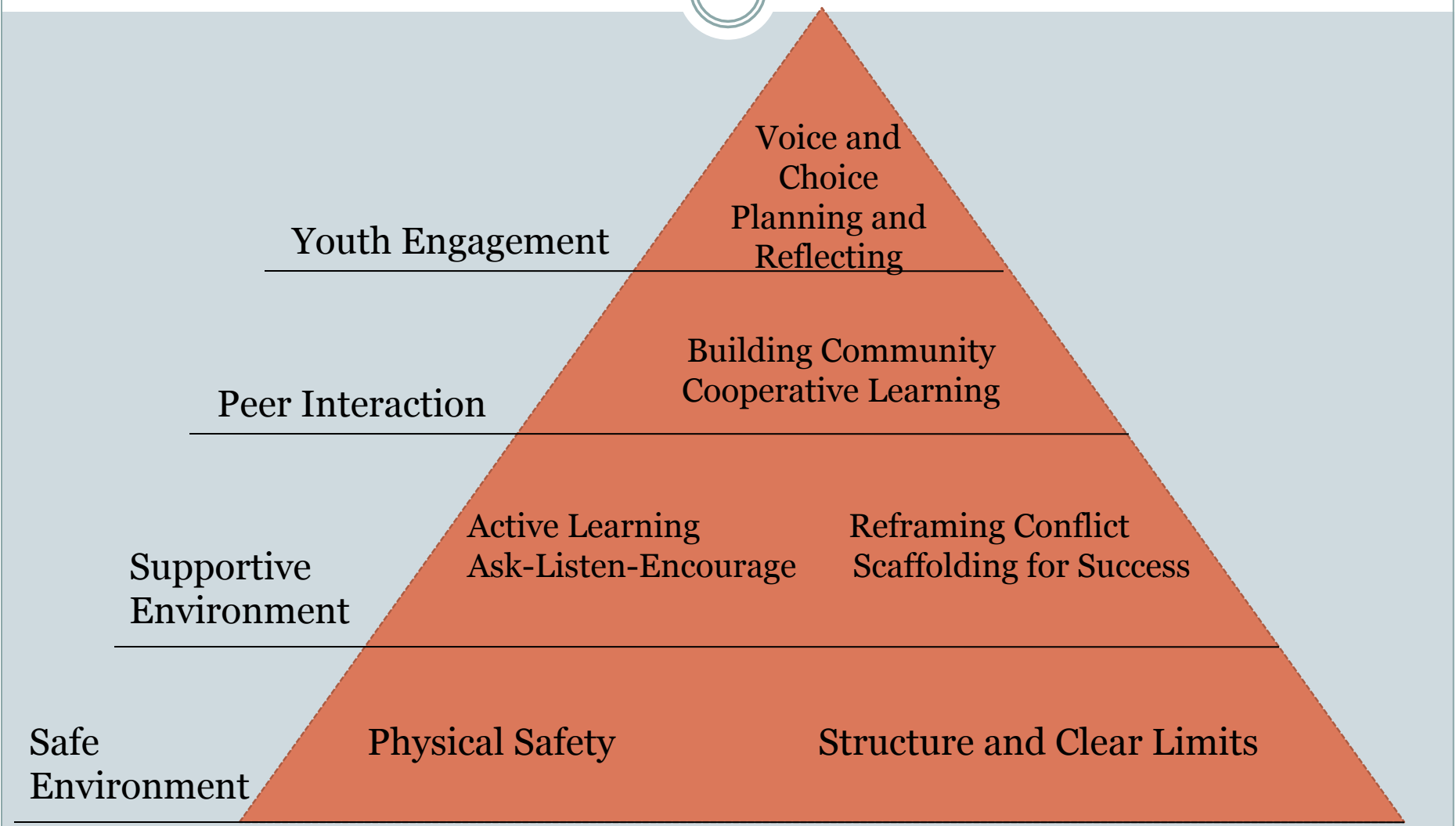- Structure and Examples

- Resources

PODER

- **PODER Vision**

  To promote a safe, stimulating environment which provides academic enrichment and community empowerment resulting in sustainable achievement.

- **Statement of Purpose**

  The mission of the PODER Program is to assist in increasing student achievement and educational attainment while providing activities for family participation.

High/Scope Educational Research Foundation 2007

Youth Engagement

Voice and
Choice
Planning and
Reflecting

Peer Interaction

Building Community
Cooperative Learning

Supportive
Environment

Active Learning
Ask-Listen-Encourage

Reframing Conflict
Scaffolding for Success

Safe
Environment

Physical Safety

Structure and Clear Limits

*The Center For Youth Program Quality

Program Quality: Voice and Choice

Why Provide Voice and Choice?

1. Motivation and behavior

2. Ownership in learning

3. Development of personal skills

4. Participation of adults and communities

Program Quality: Voice and Choice

Voice and Choice Guidelines

1. Provide choices about how youth spend their time

2. Involve youth in deciding what to offer

3. Give youth chances to make real decisions about the program's operation

4. Provide opportunities for leadership

Discovery Projects

What are Discovery Projects?

1. Long-term project-based activities

2. Choices based on youth interests

3. Combination of research, writing and interactive activity, along with a related field trip

4. Final showcase or production to demonstrate new skills

Discovery Projects

Why use Discovery Projects?

1. Promote positive youth development

2. Expose youth to new cultures, hobbies, career, and education pathways, etc.

3. Help students develop Illinois Learning and Core Standards in an applied setting

4. Build a new skill set and confidence

PODER: Sample Schedule

Sample Day: Discovery Projects		
Check – In		
Homework Academic Tutorial		
Urban Gardening	Architecture	Culinary Passport
Reflection and Dismissal		

Career and College Readiness

How do Discovery Projects include Career and College Readiness?

1. Guest Speakers
2. Field Trips
3. Research Projects
4. Presentations on Career and Education Pathways
5. Individualized Career and Education Planning
6. Employability Assessment

Career and College Readiness Employability Assessment

Fundamentals	Appearance/ Hygiene, Timeliness, Oratory/ Speaking
Work Ethic/ Character	Attitude, Accountability/Integrity, Self Control, Ambition/ Initiative
Problem Solving	Supervision, Procedure/ Rule Following, Problem Solving Approach, Information Management
Inter-personal	Verbal Communication, Active Listening, Feedback, Teamwork
Computer	Computer Literacy

Employability Assessment Scorecard

CPS | CWIC EMPLOYABILITY ASSESSMENT			
FUNDAMENTAL	YES or NO		
Appearance/Hygiene			
Timeliness			
Oratory/Speaking			
	1 – Below Standard/ Expectation	2 – Meets Standard/ Expectation	3 – Exceeds Standard/ Expectation
WORK ETHIC / CHARACTER			
Attitude			
Accountability/Integrity			
Self Control			
Ambition/Initiative			
PROBLEM SOLVING			
Supervision			
Procedure/Rule Following			
Problem Solving Approach			
Information Management			
INTERPERSONAL			
Verbal Communication			
Active Listening			
Feedback			
Teamwork >2 people			
COMPUTER			
Computer Literacy			

CHICAGO WORKFORCE
INVESTMENT COUNCIL

Discovery Projects
Structure and Examples

Week 1	Discovery Project Fair Introduction and Hook
Week 2	Presentation
Week 3	Project Goals and Outcomes
Week 4	Guided Application
Week 5	Individual Application
Week 6	Parent Showcase Reflection

Resources

- Youth Program Quality Improvement (YPQI)
  - Chicago Allies For Youth Success
- Illinois WorkNet
- Beyond the Bell – Learning Points Associates (AIR-American Institutes of Research)
- Chicago Cook Workforce Partnership
- Employability Assessment – City of Chicago

Thank you!

- Jamie Roth – Director of Education Programs

  jroth@centralstatesser.org

  773 542 9030 Ext. 1257

- Nina Lopez – Education Coordinator

  nlopez@centralstatesser.org

  773 542 9030 Ext. 1251

Central States SER promotes economic self-sufficiency and upward mobility for low-income community residents through education and employment.