

“THE WALKABOUT”

Rationale

The school walkabout has two purposes:

- To determine what the school needs to provide a positive environment for the students
 - In other words, it will determine what the goal or focus of your activity will be
- It will provide a “before picture” (how your school was before your activity) and allow you to compare it to the “after picture” (how your school is during and after your activity).
 - This will allow you to see how your activity/activities made a difference.

What is a Walkabout?

This means you will use pictures to look at your school’s physical and social environment. What you see or don’t see will help you determine what area would be beneficial to focus on for your activity to make it a more positive environment for the students.

Materials Required:

- School Walkabout Steps
- School Walkabout Checklist (Before)
- Camera
- Pen
- Clip Board

“THE WALKABOUT”

Steps of a school walkabout:

AT THE BEGINNING OF PLANNING:

Step 1: Look at what the current situation is in your school

- Take pictures around the school (see list of pictures to take in the Checklists)

Step 2: Look at:

- What is important to your school
- What your school’s strengths are (what does it already have)
- What are your school needs (what is missing that would make it a better place)
- Physical environment
- Social environment

Step 3: What are the areas where there needs to be improvements?

- Look at the areas that were missing in your evaluation

Step 4: From these areas of need you have identified, you can choose which one you want to focus on as your goal and brainstorm some ideas for activities that will promote a positive and healthy environment in your school.

- How can we change the physical environment to show that we value mental health and wellness in your schools? Some examples:
- Posters, banners, murals that have positive quotes, encouraging sayings etc.
- Areas where students and staff can go and take time to rest
- How can we create a social environment that promotes mental health and wellness? Some examples:
- Staff and students engage in friendly conversations outside of the learning spaces (before, during and after school hours)
- Calling everyone by their name
- Cross-graded instructional activates and unplanned activates are intentional and planned

“THE WALKABOUT”

****Goal: For students to feel a sense of belonging, connectedness, fulfillment and safety.****

DAY OF EVENT AND AFTER EVENT:

Step 1: Day of event take more pictures/observe for the area that you are focusing on (ie: if it was to make the walls clean, friendly and inviting you can take a picture of the walls you changed and write down observations of people’s reactions)

Step 2: At some point after the event (1 week or 1 month later) take some more pictures/observations.

Step 3: On the checklist compare the before and after pictures/observations.

- Was there any change?
- If so what change do you see and observe?

“THE WALKABOUT”

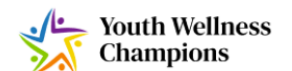
Date(s) BEFORE Pictures Taken:

Date(s) AFTER Pictures Taken:

Date(s) BEFORE Observations Made:

Date(s) AFTER Observations Made:

✓ once you have picture	BEFORE ACTIVITY					AFTER ACTIVITY	
	Physical Environment	Does it look Sanitary, Clean, healthy?	Does it look safe and accessible?	Does it promote student connectedness?	Does this area look valued to the school?	Has this area changed? Y or N	If yes to change, how has it changed?
	Building:	entrance					
		hallways					
		gym					
		bathrooms					
		classrooms					
		offices					
		cafeteria					
		library					
		Other:					
	Grounds:	Outside area/fields, trees, gardens					
	Equipment:	Sports/Gym Equipment					
		art					
		music					
		science					
		other					



“THE WALKABOUT”

	Symbols or Signs	Schools Values						
		School Rules						
		Artwork						
		Student work						
	Other:							
	Other:							
	Other:							
	Other:							