



OST High School Community of Practice

October 2026



City of
Philadelphia

OST TEAM-BUILDING ICEBREAKER

Mic Check! OST Edition: Create a Chant. Bring the Energy!

THE CHALLENGE

Your Zone has **2 minutes** to create an original OST chant that can be used at major events, provider gatherings, and celebrations!



*2 Minutes to Create |
30 seconds to perform*

Make it catchy. Make it loud. Make it OST!



BONUS POINTS if your chant includes all three buzzwords:

- **COLLABORATE**
- **LEVEL UP**
- **EMPOWER**





Continuous Program Improvement



City of
Philadelphia



Welcome Dakin Hewlett

Member Success Manager – hello insight





Why Hello Insight

Career & College Readiness

- Measure growth in areas like Communication, Collaboration, Adaptive Mindset, Critical Thinking, and Creativity.
- Measure growth in areas like Goal Orientation, College Outlook, or Social Skills.
- Providers gain the data you need to tell your story, improve your programming, and, most importantly, help young people thrive as colleagues, employees, college students, and future leaders.



CPI Continued

Reminders

- ✓ MORPh logins
- ✓ CPI scorecards
- ✓ Specialized sites – SAYO-Y
 - ✓ Cityspan attendance
 - ✓ Cityspan enrollment
 - ✓ The Dash

Dates to Remember

- ✓ Pre HI – 10/19-10/30
- ✓ APT-Os begin – 11/2
- ✓ Pre SAYO-Y – 11/2-11/13
 - ✓ Fall Institute – 11/16



From Space To Experience

Intentional Programming for High School OST



City of
Philadelphia

What Makes Programming Intentional?

The Shift: From Space to Experience



ACTIVITY AVAILABLE

(Traditional Approach)

We provide the space, supplies, or activity... and hope students engage.



COMMON CHALLENGES:

- ✗ Fills time, not purpose
- ✗ Limited student choice
- ✗ Low participation
- ✗ Missed leadership opportunities
- ✗ May not meet all developmental needs

*It's not just what we have...
it's what we do with it.*



INTENTIONAL EXPERIENCE

(Our Approach)

We design experiences that are purposeful, student-centered, and connected to real life.



WHAT THIS LOOKS LIKE:

- ✓ Students have a choice
- ✓ Activities have a purpose
- ✓ Staff know their roles
- ✓ Space and materials are organized
- ✓ Supports student growth, leadership, and engagement

*Same resources.
Greater impact.*

The Shift



THE SAME CORE ELEMENTS

No matter the size, setting, or model.



Student
Voice



Skill
Building



Belonging &
Connection



Future
Readiness

*It's not about
more space...
it's about more purpose.*

The Guiding Question

“How can we transform the space, time, and resources we already have into meaningful experiences that support high school students' interests, development, leadership, and engagement?”

The 30-Minute Training Flow

- 1 3 min Opening: One Space, Many Possibilities
- 2 5 min The Shift: From Space to Experience
- 3 10 min Experience the Model
- 4 7 min Adapt It to Your Reality
- 5 5 min Reflection and Commitment

Small changes. Big impact.

One Goal, Three Realities

Each Zone Can Look Different Depending on Your Setting



School Based

One classroom, cafeteria, or multipurpose room that may need to serve several purposes.



Specialized

Programs operating only a few days a week, with a focused curriculum or specific service model.

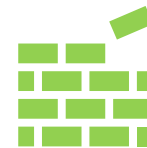


Community

Larger facilities, multiple rooms, and the potential to offer several activities simultaneously.



The Four Flexible Zones



Zone 1: CREATE

Creative expression and production

Art supplies, design challenges, media planning, or a quick project students can work on independently or collaboratively.



Zone 2: EXPLORE & BUILD

STEM, career exploration, and problem-solving

A design prompt, puzzle, career scenario, or hands-on challenge.



Zone 3: CONNECT & LEAD

Youth voice, leadership, & belonging.

Conversation prompts, a group decision-making challenge, or a student-led planning activity.



Zone 4: FOCUS & RESET

Academic support, reflection, & wellness.

A quieter workspace, reflection prompt, independent task, or calming activity.

Same Activity, Different Space



The Activity: Youth-Led Community Improvement Challenge – Students identify a need in their school or community, develop a solution, and share their ideas.

School Based

**One room. Flexible furniture.
Shared resources.**

HOW IT LOOKS:

- Classroom layout with defined activity areas.
- Flexible seating (tables, floor, corners).
- Shared supplies and tech.

STAFF ROLES:

- Facilitate rotations or group work.
- Keep flow & transitions smooth.
- Reinforce learning and engagement.

Specialized

**Focused curriculum. Specific days.
Deeper Engagement.**

HOW IT LOOKS:

- Integrate the activity into your EXISTING curriculum.
- Use roles (researcher, presenter, etc.)
- Add a reflection or next steps.

STAFF ROLES:

- Support within the curriculum framework.
- Guide participation and collaboration.
- Recognize and celebrate progress.

Community

Multiple activities. More movement. More choice.

HOW IT LOOKS:

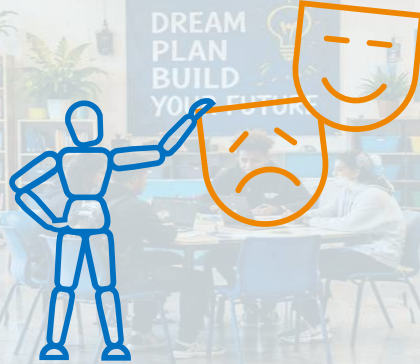
- Multiple stations (research, create)
- Small groups or individual work.
- Open space for movement and collaboration.

STAFF ROLES:

- Facilitate and guide.
- Support access to resources.
- Encourage student choice & leadership.



Explore the Space: Find Your Experience



- **Explore:** Move around the room and notice the different activity areas.
- **Choose:** Visit the area that interests you most or that you could see your students enjoying.
- **Consider:** What purpose could this space serve in your program?
- **Connect:** Think about how you could recreate this experience in your own setting.

Time	What Happens
1 Minute	Zones & Movement/Activity
2 Minutes	Providers walk around and explore.
2 Minutes	Participants choose an area and discuss how it could translate to their program.
1-2 Minutes	Share what you noticed.



GET IN THE ZONE!

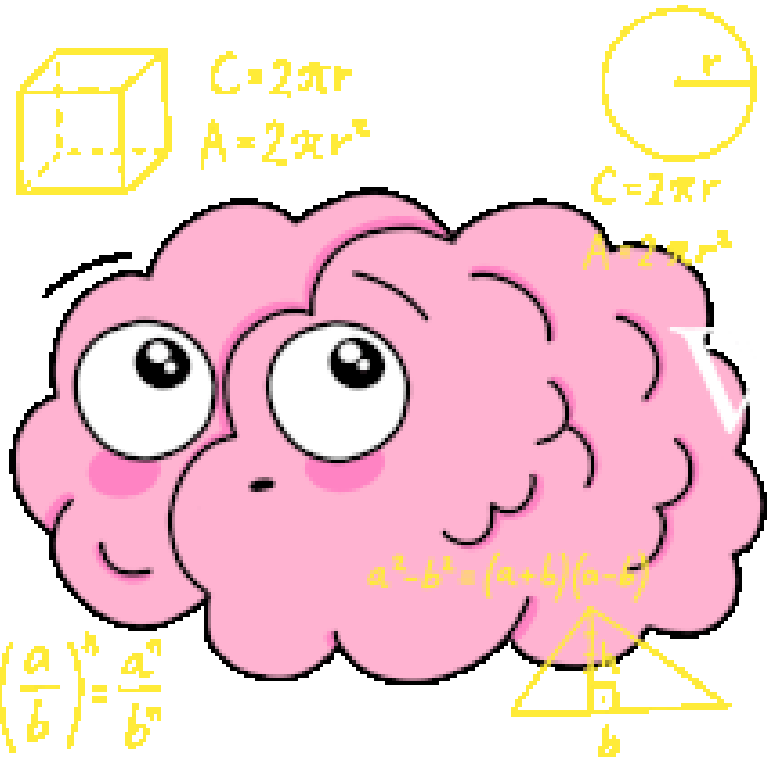


SHARING THOUGHTS

1. What strategies would you use for students to complete required surveys (SAYO & Hello Insight)?

2. How will you incorporate multiple activities in single rooms/spaces?

3. How will you empower your students?



ZONE 1

- EDISON-GENERAL
- THE ATTIC YOUTH CENTER-GENERAL CBO
- PICKETT - SPECIALIZED
- FRANKFORD - GENERAL
- MAMIE NICHOLS-GENERAL CBO
- WEST PHILADELPHIA- GENERAL
- GEORGE WASHINGTON-GENERAL

ZONE 4

- PARKWAY WEST - GENERAL
- ASIAN ARTS INITIATIVE: SPECIALIZED CBO
- RW BROWN-GENERAL CBO
- SOUTH PHILADELPHIA HS - GENERAL
- ROXBOROUGH - GENERAL
- THE U SCHOOL-GENERAL

ZONE 2

- SHANE VICTORINO BGC - GENERAL CBO
- CRANE COMMUNITY CENTER - GENERAL CBO
- KHSa-GENERAL
- HONICKMAN LEARNING CENTER - GENERAL CBO
- DOBBINS-GENERAL
- OLNEY-SPECIALIZED CBO

ZONE 3

- KCAPA - GENERAL
- MARTIN LUTHER KING-SPECIALIZED
- SAYRE - GENERAL
- KENSINGTON HS-SPECIALIZED
- TEMPLE-GENERAL CBO
- PENN TREATY-GENERAL

ZONE 5

- OVERBROOK-GENERAL
- SOUTH PHILLY BGC - GENERAL CBO
- YOACAP - GENERAL CBO
- STRAWBERRY MANSION-GENERAL
- NORRIS SQUARE - GENERAL CBO
- SUMMER SEARCH-SPECIALIZED CBO





City of
Philadelphia

OST Provider Resource Link

For meeting links, presentation slides & more:

<https://philaocfost.phmc.org/>



Don't Forget the Newsletter!



Philadelphia Teen Opportunities & OST Resources

[Apply FREE to COLLEGE!!!](#)

[PhillyGoes2College](#)

[Food Allergy Research Grant - AAP](#)

[Future Forward: An Entrepreneurship Symposium Focusing on Communities of Color](#)

Community Health Partnership Clinic

TEEN TAKEOVER

Own Your Health. Own Your Future.

FREE DRIVER'S PERMIT PHYSICALS

Sunday, November 1st 2026
11am-1pm

Community of Compassion CDC
6150 Cedar Ave. Phila, PA 19143

Driver's Permit Physicals are available for:

- ✓ Youth turning 16 in 6mths - 21 yrs old
- ✓ Guardian must be present if under 18

LUNCH PROVIDED

Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

PENNSYLVANIA STATE SYSTEM of HIGHER EDUCATION

College Fair

Wednesday, November 4, 2026
4:00 PM to 7:00 PM

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF PHILADELPHIA
School District of Philadelphia Building
440 N. Broad Street (in the Atrium)
Philadelphia, PA 19130

MEET WITH REPRESENTATIVES FROM ALL 10 STATE SYSTEM UNIVERSITIES!

Students will have an opportunity to:

- Speak with admissions counselors about programs at the universities.
- Submit an application for an instant decision.
- Learn about the importance of higher education and the affordability of attending a State System university.
- Explore our campuses virtually!

www.pashe.edu/collegefair

STATE SYSTEM of Higher Education

Community Health Partnership Clinic

TEEN TAKEOVER

Own Your Health. Own Your Future.

Sunday, November 1st 2026
11am-1pm

Community of Compassion CDC
6150 Cedar Ave. Phila, PA 19143

Join Us For:

- Free Driver's Permit Physicals (Age: 16-21yrs)
- College and Career Resources
- Flu Vaccines
- Youth Wellness Resources
- Giveaways and MORE!

LUNCH PROVIDED

Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

City of Philadelphia
Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual Disability Services

Take a Break

Caring for a child with behavioral health needs can be demanding.

October - June

Respite Mini Grants

You choose who provides care while you take a much-needed break. Each grant reimburses up to 48 hours or \$300 to a friend or relative the parent or guardian chooses. This person must have state clearances.

LEARN MORE

Scan the QR code or visit [DBHIDS.org/children/respite](https://dbhids.org/children/respite)

Call 215-685-4746
Email: Respite@DBHIDS.org
Visit: [DBHIDS.org/children/respite](https://dbhids.org/children/respite)

Children in foster care are not eligible.

City of Philadelphia
DBHIDS
Department of Behavioral Health and Intellectual Disability Services
DBHIDS.ORG

FREE TUTORING FOR ALL GRADES & SUBJECTS

- GRADES 1ST - 6TH MONDAY & WEDNESDAY 4:00 - 6:00PM
- GRADES 7TH - 12TH TUESDAY & THURSDAY 4:00 - 6:00PM
- STATE CERTIFIED TEACHERS

STUDENTS MUST ATTEND A PHILADELPHIA PUBLIC OR PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL

FOUNDER & DIRECTOR
VERONICA J. JOYNER

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED!

CONTACT US

Phone Number: 215-923-4880
Email: info@mcscs.org

447 N. BROAD ST. PHILADELPHIA, PA 19123

ADVANCED CLASSES AVAILABLE FOR STUDENTS

- LAW
- MEDICAL
- COMPUTER
- ROBOTICS
- FORENSICS
- PHOTOGRAPHY
- AFRICAN-AMERICAN HISTORY
- MENTORING FOR BOYS & GIRLS
- CHESS
- DRAMA
- ENGINEERING
- PIANO/KB



October News You Don't Want to Miss!

10/19: SYC Only: Committee of Seventy @ PHMC 9-1PM

10/20: OST C2L HS New Site Director Training (Virtual)

11/2: Debit Card Pick Up Week (Dates/Times-TBA)

11/4: KPI Stipend Due (October Activities)

11/12: OST HS COP (Virtual)

11/13: November Stipend Pay Date (See C2L SY27 Manual)

Don't forget Office Hours: Every Thursday, 11-12pm

BREAKING NEWS

Questions | Comments | Concerns

