

TUESDAY, JULY 23

8:00 - 9:00 am **Registration**

9:00 am **Welcome & Ice Breakers**

What is Residential Life? Hint: It's more than just a place to sleep!

Led by Jackie O'Rourke

How do we define Residential Life Programs at our various schools? The dorms are more than merely a place for students to store their belongings, do their homework, and get some sleep. They are living laboratories for critical learning and development, and every challenge our students face is an opportunity ripe with growth potential if we can see Residential Life as skill-orientated. When dorm parents, student leaders, and even campus administrators approach residential living as skills-for-life education, all students are empowered to build resilience with guided and intentional support.

Break

Advisee Groups

Participants meet with their Advisee Group to discuss residential life programming, different lenses to consider as an entry-point to the work, and what elements of residential learning might not be as applicable in your setting.

Playing with the Problem

Led by Jackie O'Rourke

Working in groups, participants will be given a scenario to discuss before sharing possible approaches with the full group.

12:00 - 1:00 pm

Lunch

1:15 pm **Reconvene & Rotating Session Sign up**

Upon our return from lunch, please take a few moments to sign up for the following afternoon sessions before gathering for a larger group Q&A.

Small Group Topic Rotation: How Do We Build a Residential Community? (choose 3 of 5)

These brief small group sessions are intended to go deeper into the challenging circumstances of student discipline, student leadership, faculty development, and restorative practices as we focus on leveraging the residential program as a constant learning environment.

1) Student Discipline *Led by: Doug Dickson*

During this break out session, we will discuss the variety of ways schools work through disciplinary responses, the variety of responses schools utilize, and the ways schools communicate these responses to build community and to instill a sense of justice and fairness

2) Student Leadership *Led by: Jackie O'Rourke*

Each school has a unique student leadership program with ties to tradition along with newly emerging roles to meet the needs of today's students. In this open forum, we'll discuss several models and consider how your school might expand leadership opportunities without diluting the quality of the program.

3) Faculty Development & Leadership *Led by: Susan Hazell*

A cohesive, dynamic, positive and progressive residential life faculty is the backbone for a vibrant and healthy residential life program. Let's explore and discuss the key skill sets we wish to see and develop in residential life staff, best practices for residential faculty and their development, onboarding and ongoing training, mentorship programs, team building and leadership development.

4) Restorative Practices *Led by: José Ruiz*

Restorative justice is rooted in indigenous cultures and traditions and is an approach that focuses on healing relationships and harm caused by adverse behavior or actions. During this topic discussion, let's look at ways in which restorative practices can help build community and address challenges that will inevitably arise in residential settings.

5) Advising 101 Led by: Dan Morrissey

Haphazard advising can be hazardous to your students' well-being. By adopting a clear, intentional and coherent curriculum into which advisers can inject their own style and perspective, you can teach goal setting and achieve positive developmental outcomes. We'll explore the essential components of the kind of school-wide advising that can transform teacher-student relationships on your campus.

6. Managing Anxiety Led by: Robb Genetelli

As we endeavor to meet the myriad needs of our students does it feel like anxiety and anxiety related needs are creating a lot of new worry for school professionals? From learning challenges to navigating the complexity of adolescence, how has your program had to modify to meet the growing concerns anxiety brings to campus? The session will be an interactive opportunity for us to share best practices around managing anxiety within our schools.

Wrap up

Gather to share early take away's and address any lingering questions

6:00 - 9:00 pm **Reception & Dinner**

WEDNESDAY, JULY 24

7:00 - 9:00 am **Breakfast**

9:00 am **Advisory Groups**

Participants will meet with their Advisee Group to debrief yesterday's work and to open discussion on legal or boundary questions for today's work.

Legal & Boundary Issues

Led by David Wolowitz & Susan E. Schorr, McLane Middleton, P.A. and facilitated with Academy Faculty

This session will introduce current legal issues and share some best practices for boarding staff and faculty. This will be an interactive session that will allow participants to dive into and discuss legal issues and scenarios.

Break

Playing with the Problem

Working in groups, participants will be given a scenario to discuss before sharing possible approaches with the full group.

12:00 - 1:00 pm **Lunch**

1:15pm **Reconvene & Rotating Session Sign up**

Upon our return from lunch, please take a few moments to sign up for your afternoon sessions before connecting with your Advisory Group.

Advisory Groups

Participants will meet with their Advisee Group to extend the conversation regarding boundaries and legal issues.

Small Group Topic Rotation: How Do We Build a Residential Community? (choose 3 of 4)

These brief small group sessions are intended to build on today's theme of legal considerations in boarding school, focusing on technology use, substance abuse, risk management, and emergency response protocols.

1) Substance Abuse *Led by: Doug Dickson*

The world of substance use in our schools has changed significantly with the introduction and popularity of electronic nicotine delivery devices such as juuls and vapes. How are we currently responding to these new threats? How does it affect the use of other substances among our students? What are some best practice and policy suggestions?

2) Emergency Responses *Led by: Jackie O'Rourke*

Families trust schools and their employees to keep students safe. In this session, we will consider how both policy and practice inform your response to campus emergencies and review sample policies from TABS member schools. Bring your ideas and prepare to share: what's working well at your school now and what plans need updating so that your faculty, staff, and students are ready to face any crises?

3) Institutional Risk Management *Led by: Susan Hazell*

Risk management is top of mind for all schools and their boards, and boarding schools present some unique challenges not found in day schools. How do we mitigate risk with school trips, weekend/long weekend leaves, medical permissions/situations, guardians and permissions, travel such as taxis or Uber, language and cultural differences? How do we manage day vs boarding students/families in these situations? What systems do you have in place currently? What is working and where are the pitfalls?

4) Technology & Social Media *Led by: José Ruiz*

Wrap up

Gather for questions, take away's and preparation for tomorrow's Unconference

5:00-7:00 pm

Dinner in the Dining Hall

THURSDAY, JULY 25

7:00-8:00 am

Breakfast

9:00-am

Diversity

Led by José Ruiz

Have you heard one student make an offensive remark to another, whether intentional or not? Have you witnessed a microaggression at your school? As the adult and educator in the room, what did you do (or not do)? What would you do differently next time? Have you, as the educator, been the one who offended? How did you address your words or action? During this session we will explore our understanding of racial identities and bias as well as share approaches that we can use in our work to help create and support healthier better-balanced communities.

Healthy Living

Led by Susan Hazell

We know, from current research and statistics, that the students in our care are not getting enough sleep, and are suffering from increased anxiety and depression. What are some ways our schools can promote healthy habits, well-being and change how we look at failure - not just for our students, but for the adults in the community too? How do we lead by example, modeling the habits and behaviours that we want to inspire in our students so that they can thrive and be the best that they can be?



Residential Life Academy Agenda July 23-25, 2019

12:00-1:00 pm

Lunch

1:15pm

UnConference

This unconference will facilitate organic conversations and information addressing topics that participants would like to discuss further or that may have not been covered in earlier sessions. Participant generated topics will be collected throughout the workshop to then be organized and facilitated by the faculty team.

Final Thoughts

4:00pm

Conclusion of Workshop

Schedule subject to change

**The information provided in this workshop is for general information purposes only and should not be used as, or relied upon in place of, legal advice. Schools should work with their own attorneys for specific legal counsel regarding their circumstances and issues.*