La Chispa

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<tr>
<th>When</th>
<th>What</th>
<th>Mentor Role</th>
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| Before Your La Chispa | Preliminary organization                  | **Greetings!**
Below is some information that will provide an overview of the La Chispa workshop, some tasks to complete and your role as a high school mentor. La Chispa serves 2,000 Latinx middle level students and their advisers each year. Thank you for giving us your time and energy. YOU are the most important part of the La Chispa experience for the younger students!

So...here we go!

Visit [http://lacima.org/lachispa/](http://lacima.org/lachispa/) to:
- Watch the La Chispa mentor training videos (bottom of page)
- Sign up for your t-shirt size
- Read the student handouts
- Look at examples of a sign we need you to make:
  Large orange sign 12 feet long x 6 feet high that reads:
  ¡LA CHISPA!
  DREAM * LEARN * SERVE
  SOÑAR * APRENDER * SERVIR

**About the La Chispa workshop:**

- On average, 150 students from 15 schools attend each La Chispa. The students will be participate in two small groups of 9-15 students during the: 1) Their School Groups led by their advisers, and 2) Their Mixed School Groups led by their mentor (you!).

- When students are meeting in their School Group with their advisers, you will be meeting as a Mentor group with the La Chispa facilitators.

- During Mixed School Groups, you will be leading a small group of students while the school advisers are in an adviser meeting. **IT IS IMPORTANT THAT YOU READ THIS SCHEDULE SO YOU KNOW YOUR RESPONSIBILITIES.**

- Students will also be learning concepts in the large group setting during the day. The expectation is you will be modeling the teamwork and individual behaviors we want the students to exhibit during activities.

- Snack break will be around 10:45 am, lunch at 12:00 noon. ([Bring a brown bag lunch](http://lacima.org/lachispa))

- Please arrive at the gym at 7:30 a.m. We will bring all the materials you need to be successful in a folder for you.
### Before Your La Chispa

**Thinking about Your Stories**

**SPEAKING PARTS**  
Please think about these questions and be ready to speak!

**Mentor Introduction:** During the welcome, you will be asked to introduce yourself on the microphone to the students:
- Your full name
- Your school and community activities
- Your G.P.A. (grade point average)
- Your plan for post-secondary education. Where do you plan to go, what do you plan to learn?

**Mixed School Group Time:**  
**Sparks Introduction:**
- What is the best thing you have done in high school so far?  
- What school or community activities do you participate in?  
- What is a hobby you enjoy?

**Introduction to Self-Talk** You will be asked to tell a story that illustrates the importance of positively working through challenges. Your story needs three parts:
- **Challenge:** what was the challenge you overcame?  
- **Choice:** what was a choice you made in facing the challenge?  
- **Change:** what was a positive outcome that resulted?

**Mentor Interview:** During the second group session, the students will have a chance to interview you. We don’t know the exact questions they will ask, but be ready to talk about...
- Difference between middle school and high school  
- Opportunities you can get involved with in high school  
- How do you face challenges  
- How do you stand up to peer pressure  
- How do you navigate a bicultural experience  
- Any question you think a middle school brain will ask you!

**SAFETY:** If they ask you a question you are not sure if you should answer, say: “I don’t feel comfortable answering that.”

**You also might have the chance to ask the students some questions...**
- What sports do you participate in?  
- What is your favorite subject in school?  
- What type of hobbies do you have?  
- What school clubs and activities are you involved with?  
- Do any of your schools have a La Chispa club?  
- Who is a favorite teacher? Why?  
- What high school do you plan to attend?  
- Do you have any ideas about your future career and work?  
- Who are your role models? Why do you look up to them?
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Your full name________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

**Your school and community activities**

_______________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

_______________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

Your G.P.A. (grade point average)____________________________________

Your plan for post-secondary education. Where do you plan to go, what do you plan to learn?

______________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

**Mixed School Group Time:**

**Sparks Introduction:**

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______________________________________________________________________________________________________________________________

What school or community activities do you participate in?

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What is a hobby you enjoy?

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**Introduction to Self-Talk** You will be asked to tell a story that illustrates the importance of positively working through challenges. Your story needs three parts:

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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Details</th>
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| 7:30  | Arrival                                                                  | - Meet your AWSL Facilitators  
- Change into your T-shirt (We will have them for you!)  
- Hang up the La Chispa sign  
- Set-up Tables: Registration, Name Tag/Folder/Pencils  
- Review schedule of activities with AWSL Facilitators  
- Volunteer for registration/student arrival responsibilities  
- Practice your “speaking parts” for the day |
| 8:45- | Student Arrival! and Bingo/Loteria                                       | - Be at your assigned stations |
| 9:10  | Welcome                                                                  | - Always keep your notebook with you!  
- Sit in the front row  
- Smile, Shake and Share the entire day! (Inside folder on right)  
**Tone Set, Goals for the day, Schedule and MENTOR INTRODUCTIONS** |
| 9:40  | Adviser Led School Groups:                                              | **School Group Activities: Focus Academic Identity**  
**1. Pit Ball: 24 Credits for graduation**  
The facilitator will build a metaphor between hitting a pit ball up in the air 24 times as a group and earning 24 credits in high school. Participate with your students or allow them to attempt the challenge on their own.  
**Processings Q’s:**  
- Was it easy or hard for your group to accomplish this activity?  
- You worked together to get 24 hits. How can you work together in high school to make sure everyone earns 24 credits?  
**2. Voices**  
The goal of this activity is for students to share answers to a powerful question:  
- *Can you tell us about your family’s educational history and what that means to you?*  
Remind students to listen as people share. **Use the talking piece** (stuffed animal) to focus on one person at a time. Continue the conversation until the facilitator introduces the next activity.  
**3. School Success: Pg. 7 and back of folder**  
The goal of the activity is for students to identify their feelings regarding the factors that lead to school success: attendance, behavior, academic achievement, role models and school involvement. The students will fill out the top of p. 2 with the feeling words on the back of the folder. Then, they will share their answers, fill out the remaining questions on p. 2 and have a conversation. |
| 10:45 | Snack Break                                                              | **Enjoy informally talking to the students during the snack break.** |
Skills for the Future: teamwork, self-talk and meeting new people

1. Introduction with students in bleachers As the AWSL Facilitator introduces this session, line up on the gym floor with your Mixed School Group number above your head.

2. Teamwork: Webbing Loop Activities:
Follow the facilitator's lead. Safety: “Only allow your students to use the webbing loop based on the facilitator directions. Do not allow them to do anything with it except what the facilitator specifically states (i.e.-no tug a war, lean backs, wrapping it around people, etc.)

3. Introduction to Self-Talk: Challenge, Choice, Change Story
When directed to do so, tell your students your story about Challenge, Choice, Change. Then, follow the AWSL Facilitator’s lead. Students will be picking a challenge in their lives and matching it with a positive self-talk phrase. (notebook inside left).

4. Sparks:
When directed to do so, share your answer to the question below.
What are the three best things you have done in high school so far and things you enjoy doing as a student, member of a community or by yourself?
Students will then use the Spark pages (p. 4 and 5) to circle as many Sparks as they want and then write their top three Sparks on the top of page 6.

5. College Mapping: p. 6 & 7
Each student in your group will select a different college on the list. (To break ties, use a quick game of Rock, Paper, Scissors) When the facilitator releases the students from their Mixed School Groups, their goal is to mingle with other students and collect points.
- 1 pt for each person you have that has a similar spark
- 1 pt for same college, same city or same type of college
- 1 pt for the same self-talk phrase

The metaphor here is that when students get to college, a large part of their success will be based on their ability to meet and mingle with other people.

6. Interview a High School Mentor! Get ready for questions, and ask some!
- What sports do you participate in?
- What is your favorite subject in school?
- What type of hobbies do you have?
- What school clubs and activities are you involved with?
- Do any of your schools have a La Chispa club?
- Who is a favorite teacher? Why?
- What high school do you plan to attend?
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<th>Time</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12:00</td>
<td>Lunch</td>
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| 12:20-12:40 | Energizers  
Encourage delegates to participate in the group energizers after lunch. Also, walk around the gym and throw away unclaimed garbage to keep the gym clean. ¡Baile! |
| 12:45-1:00 | Keynote Address  
Spread out in the audience and encourage delegates to practice good listening. |
| 1:00-1:15 | Leadership Boogie: Support People who Take Positive Risks  
Be ready to lead the crowd in a hand jive dance move when your number is called!  
The Metaphor here is supporting people at school who are taking positive risks to sustain the spark of La Chispa and turn it into a flame of focused learning and involvement in school and community activities? |
| 1:15-1:30 | Friend-a-Thon/Amigaton  
Participate in the Friend-a-Thon/Amigaton with delegates |
| 1:30-2:00 | CLOSING/ADJOURN/HASTA LUEGO  
For those who can stay, help the La Chispa facilitators clean up!  
Debrief the day. |

**Contacts:**  
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email: joef@awsp.org

**Notes:**
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