

Commitment to Graduate®

Idea #101: Commitment Banner Signing



School type: High School

Activity goal: Commitment to scholarship and graduating from high school

Prep Time: 1 hour

People required: Person to organize and distribute instructions
Principal and / or Assistant Principal, Counselor, Renaissance Coordinator. Renaissance students can be involved and if at all possible your Jostens Rep!

Space requirements: Two rectangular tables, Commitment to Graduate banner, dozen Sharpie markers, one green C2G wristband for each student.

Timing: Once during the school year

Materials: C2G green wristbands: School personalized C2G banner available from Jostens.

Cost: Less than \$1.00/student

Submitted by: Dr. Tricia Peña
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OVERVIEW

A special ceremony for students to make a commitment to scholarship and high school graduation.

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Determine if the Commitment Banner Signing will be for the specific grade or for the entire student body. (Example: The first year 4 banners, one for each class are signed – freshman, sophomores, juniors, seniors; the following years for freshmen only.)
2. Order the C2G bracelets and the customized class year commitment banner from the Renaissance Store or through your Jostens rep.
3. Select a time for the banner signing: time of year and time of day. An example may be the second week of school during an advisory period or it could be an activity as part of the Freshman Orientation program the day before the school year starts.
4. Calendar the event with the Principal, Jostens Rep, teachers and reserve the space.
5. Arrange the environment! Place the banner on one table with the Sharpie markers. An adult supervises this table welcoming students to the banner, giving direction on how to sign the banner, and guiding them to the receiving line. The second table provides a physical structure for students to move on to the receiving line.
6. Students are welcomed, told the purpose of the commitment signing then taught the meaning of a commitment – a promise – relate this to students and / or athletes signing and committing to a university or professional team. Students are taught a handshake and how to make eye contact.
7. Model the process: In a line, students go to the signing table, sign, and proceed to receiving line. Receivers shake hands with the students. Principal asks each students if they are “Committed to Graduate” giving a handshake and making eye contact. The student is to respond, “I am committed to graduate” and then receives the green band.
8. This commitment is in writing and stated verbally – a strong and moving beginning to living the commitment!
9. The banner is displayed on the gym wall above the bleachers where this class sits for rallies and remains on display for the four years.