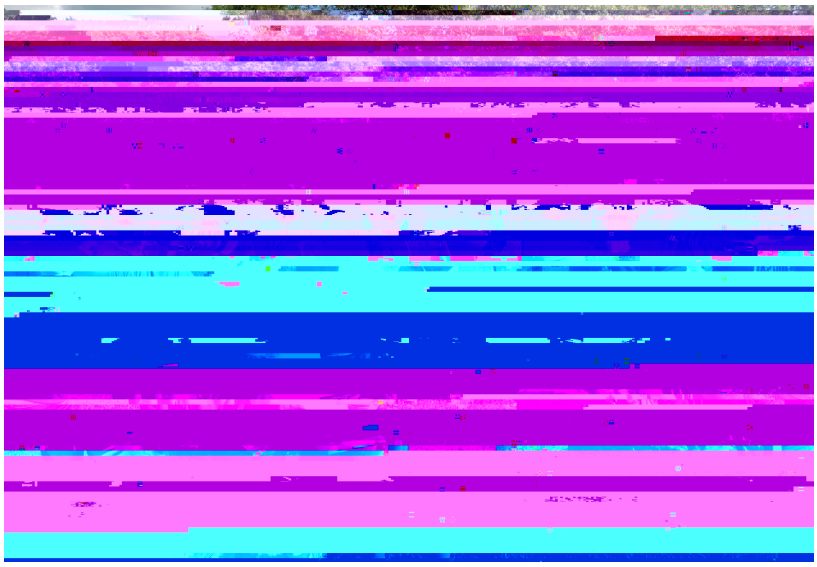
While the grade-level teacher leaders generally change as students progress through the school, students remain in the same Crew until they graduate.

Tapestry personnel have contemplated whether the Crew leader should rise with the students but reflecting a commitment to Crew leaders having first-hand knowledge of the grade specific program, leaders change each year. At graduation, Crew leaders announce their students and share personal descriptions of each student as they receive their diploma.



Replication Conditions

- Establish a clear and coherent vision and mission
- Leverage flexibility provided by New York charter school law (e.g., distinct curriculum and extended school day and school year)
- Create intentional structures that provide all students with an opportunity to develop ties with adults and students in the school
- Limit size of high schools to intentionally create a caring community in which students feel a strong sense of affiliation and accountability for positive behavior and rigorous academic pursuits. Tapestry personnel estimate ideal high school size is around 350 students.
- Hire well: A strong school leader and exemplary teachers who are committed to the school mission are the foundation of a successful school
- Integrate respect of teachers, students, and parents into every aspect of school culture to build a positive community of caring
- Leverage positive expectations and peer pressure cultivated in Crews or similar advisory structures to engage students, encourage students ambitions, and reduce high school drop-out rates
- Provide ongoing professional development to personnel regarding how to lead effective advisory groups designed to engage and support high school students.

References/Resources

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