

GRATITUDE COLLAGE

"BETTER TOGETHER" CULTURE STORY



THE IDEA:

At El Camino High School, each student took a moment to reflect on what they were thankful for... and then we designed a **GRATITUDE COLLAGE** for all to see! We distributed the die-cuts to each teacher in a manila envelope with the directions taped to the outside of the envelope. The directions are simple: Have each student and staff member write down something or someone they are thankful for.

- **Derek Padilla**
Director of Activities at El Camino HS, CA

CULTURE RESULTS:

We created the wall collage in a high traffic area the Friday before Thanksgiving, and when the students arrived the next Monday, the school felt more spirited! It also created a sense of community as students could see what their peers had written and reminded everyone they are not alone as well as to appreciate their differences.

HELPFUL TIPS:

- Prepare in advance! Get the paper and start making the die cuts early for both students and staff
- Teachers and/or Activities Director should review what is written for appropriateness
- Find a high traffic location to post the collage
- Vary the design from year to year. Ideas: cornucopia, pumpkin, traditional fall food items, heart, tree with fall leaves
- Ideas to spell out: THANKS, THANKFUL, GRATEFUL, TOGETHER

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