Top 12 Opportunities for Staff Involvement

In Habits of Mind

1. Join the Habits of Mind (HoM) team.

2. Be aware of how the HoM “It’s POSSIBLE” acronym applies to your interactions with students, as well as to the student behaviors you most commonly observe; find your own customized way to promote “It’s POSSIBLE.”

3. Discover HoM tools via the website and adopt or adapt them based on your interactions with students.

4. Place the Habits of Mind blur on your desk or work station for quick reference to encourage student interaction with HoM.

5. Place HoM posters in your work area, changing them out as we emphasize different habits. We’ll provide the posters and prompts about which posters to display at which time.

6. Introduce students to the Habits of Mind website and app during your interactions. You could give out the HoM bookmarks or “Stay Involved” checklist cards. (We’ll provide these.)

7. Build opportunities into your interactions with students to use these tools. It creates a great impact. For example, you could introduce the semester planner and weekly schedule to students. You could encourage them to develop an Ed Plan and to use DegreeWorks or to join a study group or student club. At the very least, you can help students to see the choices in front of them and refer them to the HoM web tools.

8. Share tools you already use in your position with the Habits of Mind Team.

9. Focus on key habits emphasized at certain times by Habits of Mind.

10. Try to adopt the common language of HoM to emphasize the traits/habits you already stress in order to reinforce students’ understanding of Habits of Mind. Be aware of where that language parallels the work you already do with students.

11. Research shows that student success correlates strongly with student-faculty/staff interaction outside of class, so please try to eat in the cafeteria once a week/month. Find opportunities to volunteer or get involved with students outside of your normal interactions.

12. Wear the HoM buttons and be able to explain what it represents to students. This is great opportunity to refer them to the HoM app. (We’ll provide resource training cards that give a brief overview of each button and its corresponding habit).