

Hello! I'm Lauren and this is Briella. We are from Dorothy McElhinney Middle School. Today, we'll be talking about our Renaissance Program and the rallies that we put on. Here are a few photos from our last Renaissance Rally. *Insert photo of Briella and I talking* This photo shows our theme, which was Game Show. We called it "Colt Family Feud," because that is our mascot. Our idea was to have a team of teachers, shown on the left, and a team of ASB members, shown on the right. We gave the ASB members and the teachers a list of the students who got each award, and they "guessed" who received one. We created a Powerpoint that looked like the Family Feud screen, and we had a few people working it and making sure everything was in order. It showed students names and would tell us if they got it wrong. Since the teachers and ASB had a list of the award winners, we figured we would mix it up and make sure they got a couple wrong. They would occasionally guess Michael Jackson or some other celebrity. After getting two answers wrong, we would switch to the other team. Announcing the awards this way got students and parents excited. Here are a couple other pictures from our last rally. *insert photos here*

As a committee, we came together and shared our ideas with each other. After we came up with a few themes we liked, we shared with the class and voted on Game Show. Then, we came up with a set design. To do this, we created a 3D model of our gym and the signs. This enabled us to use our creative and imaginative minds to add decorations to make it better.

Currently, we are working on another rally. Our theme is going to be Wizard of Oz. For decorations, we will be making a few different lands. For example, we are going to be partnering up with our art department. We will build a Munchkin Land, the Witch's Castle, and Emerald City. We will also lay a yellow brick road going from where the students will enter, and then it will wrap all the way around to Emerald City. In the past, we have worked with the art department. A couple of years ago, the art department created a Death Star that was just about as tall as most of the students.

We collaborate with many other groups on campus very often. For example, we work with Cheer, Art, Dance, WEB, Color Guard, Drama, Drumline, Band and Choir. Having other groups involved helps us ensure that our plan and design flows with their individual needs for spacing, timing, students in multiple groups, etc. The art department helps us create decorations and make our rallies become more festive, as I previously stated.

Here are a couple of handouts and templates that we use to plan our events. You can find more templates and materials at www.mrwilliamsclass.com under Leadership. You can download and print these templates to stay organized and make sure your design and planning goes smoothly.