

Student ACES

Developing the next generation of leaders

The ACE Story

Three years ago father and daughter, Buck Martinez and Krissy Webb, inspired by the need to create a new generation of leaders, launched a high school leadership program named Student ACES. Buck Martinez has been in the energy industry over 35 years and has been active throughout his career coaching and mentoring high school and college students. He has a passion for helping and enabling our youth by providing them leadership skills that will enable them to be successful and responsible leaders in their schools, their communities and with their families. Krissy has worked in the service and nonprofit sector for over twelve years. She has tremendous organization skills and is passionate about creating the next generation of leaders in our country.

Student ACES (ACE) was founded to create a pathway for young men and women to achieve the highest standards of leadership. The inspiration for Student ACES is derived from our deepest desire to see every student achieve a foundation of leadership that will generate positive outcomes and tremendous success in their lives.

“Throughout my professional career I have been inspired by young men and women who dedicate themselves to be the best at what they do. Whether it is sports, academics, or serving in their respective communities; they sacrifice much to excel. This commitment and dedication inspires and motivates me to, not only start Student ACES, but to lay a foundation for future generations. My commitment is to bring leadership principles to many students and provide them basic building blocks to succeed. As a business professional for over 30 years, a high school and college athlete, and blessed with a marriage of 35 years, I have experienced and witnessed tremendous leadership challenges. My most memorable and rewarding experiences, however, were always attained when teaching, and or, coaching my three daughters and many of their teammates and classmates.” – Buck Martinez

“Giving strong-minded students confidence and leadership skills while introducing them to today’s top leaders puts the future of our country in prepared, capable hands. It is important to me to have good leaders for my young girls to look up to” – Krissy Webb

As we mentor and coach these students, we believe they will develop a community of ACE Scholars. The goal of Student ACES and my personal commitment is to help student athletes optimize their leadership potential and experience a high level of drive and inspiration.

Who is Student ACES?

- Student ACES (ACE) is a 501(c)3 organization dedicated to providing leadership programs, mentoring, scholarships and internship opportunities for high school students. ACE's focus is to inspire, train and mentor a community of Student ACES who exemplify leadership traits in athletics, community service and education. ACE is headquartered in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida. Participating in the ACE program are schools from Palm Beach and Broward County.

Why

The inspiration for the ACE is derived from our deepest desire to see every student achieve a foundation of leadership that will generate positive outcomes and tremendous success in their life. These young men and women have the unique opportunity to be inspirational and influential in the lives of others. It is our goal to provide the student athletes with a foundation of leadership that will help them to become successful in every walk of life.

We firmly believe that it should be incumbent on us to lay out a clear agenda of values that we can all agree should be taught to all of our students. The following are examples of these values;

- Commanding Respect
- Earning Trust
- Leadership through Sacrifice
- Ethics and Morality
- The Power of a Positive Attitude
- Honor and Character
- Integrity
- Hard Work & Work Ethic Standards
- Developing a Confident Self-Image & Brand

What is ACE doing?

ACE Program:

- Over 30 high schools currently participate in the ACE program. Students are nominated by their high schools for demonstrating leadership in the classroom, the community and the athletic fields. Students attend 8 classes on values leadership. Students engage in a community project which is presented to the general public at a community showcase
- The program has grown from the initial pilot program of 30 students to approximately 200 for fall 2016

Captains Training:

- ACE is providing one day workshops all over the state of Florida and will grow to a National scale. This workshop is for student athletes who are currently captains or are projected to be next year's captains on their respective high school teams. The course material is the recently released Captains Playbook.

Leadership Workshops:

- Leadership workshops is geared for student athletes/arts interested in learning and applying leadership techniques. The leadership piece can fit into any structure already in place.
- We will be hosting three workshops with the following partners: D1 Sports Training, XPE Sports Training, Boys and Girls Club, Perfect Game, and Sean's Dance Studio.
- **Young Women's Empowerment:** The young women of Student ACE are proud to present the Girl's Empowerment Workshop. The presentation will focus on the topics of confidence, self image, eating disorders, depression, drugs and alcohol, bullying, social media, attitude, respect and developing a personal brand. In today's society, middle school girls have an overwhelming need of guidance and positive role models. It is our goal to be those role models and teach the young ladies of our communities that as women we are stronger working together and building each other up rather than always tearing each other down. We hope through our efforts that we can build a lasting and strong community amongst the girls in our local areas.

Materials:

- ACE is developing a series of leadership books for young adults designed to provide our next generation with inspirational guidance and roadmaps to success
- Our current offering **"Building Blocks of Leadership for Young Adults"** is designed as a foundation of leadership for our next generation
- **The Captains Leadership Manual** is designed as a playbook for student athletes that aspire to become leaders on and off the field
- **Straight Talk for Young Adults** is intended to provide a frank conversation for all young adults on the best roadmap to success and the pitfalls that will stray you off course
- Additional books have been written and will be published in 2017 and 2018

Accomplishments

- In spring of 2014, ACE launched a successful leadership pilot program with 32 students from 8 different schools
- Students ACE'ing event was conducted by the students in the pilot program during the 2014 Easter weekend to help raise money for Leukemia Lymphoma. This event received news coverage from the local CBS affiliate and WPTV.
- ACE provided the Oxbridge Academy football team a locker room talk about domestic violence. In the summer of 2014 ACE delivered a leadership talk to the Anquan Boldin summer enrichment program in Pahokee
- In September 2014, ACE officially launched the first full year of classes. Over 60 students representing approximately 15 schools from Broward to Palm Beach County participated in the program.
- ACE launched its first book "Building Blocks of Leadership for Young Adults" endorsed by Ben Carson and written by Buck Martinez.
- ACE hosted its first golf tournament at the PGA National Resort in October 2014. Approximately 100 golfers participated.
- ACE students were asked to represent the organization in the Winterfest Boat Parade
- A dynamic Teambuilding Class was held at a crossfit gym in which ACE students participated and developed life skills. The event was covered by the local (CBS12) affiliate.
- ACE hosted a "Night of Leadership" for teens from all 13 Boys and Girls Clubs in Palm Beach County. The event was held in Riviera Beach and each teen received a copy of Building Blocks of Leadership.
- On March 14, 2015 ACE hosted the 1st Annual "Swing Into Country" (SIC) The event took place at Oxbridge High School and consisted of a celebrity softball game and a country music concert with nationally acclaimed entertainer, JT Hodges. Local news outlets covered the event in which military heroes threw out the first pitch.
- ACE honored our military heroes at an event at Downtown at the Gardens. Students presented the awards.
- ACE provided a leadership talks to the eighth grade class at St. Clare School. ACE participated as Shark Tank judges at the Cardinal Newman High School Entrepreneur Class
- ACE launched a blog written by one of our student coordinators, Marleen Merten
- ACE led a group of top Palm Beach County High School Football Recruits to the University of Virginia Tech football camp and provided leadership training to the students.
- ACE conducts two distinct interviews on ESPN radio
- ACE hosted a leadership retreat for the Suncoast High School Student Government students. The event was held at FAU on August 2nd and 3rd.
- ACE launches and announces a partnership with FAU to begin on September 2015.
- ACE launches the Executive Advisory Group.
- ACE conducted its first class of the 2015-2016 year with 120 students. Chad Jenkins was the guest speaker along with ESPN. The class was covered in 5 different news outlets.
- On Feb 13, 2016 the 2nd Swing Into Country will take place at FAU next to the Football Stadium. www.swingintocountry.com
- ACE Students are participating in 11 life changing community projects, which will be showcased at FAU.
- The 2nd Annual Swing Into Country was held on Feb 13th at FAU next to the stadium. Attendance was over 2500. Attendees experienced great food, fun and music from Nashville recording artists Clare Dunn and Drake White and the Big Fire.
- On April 5th, 2016, [Student ACES](#) hosted the first ACE Captains Leadership Summit. This event was designed specifically for high school athletic captains to learn leadership skills, techniques and life lessons that will enable them to lead each of their teams on and off the field. Press release <https://www.newswire.com/news/student-aces-hosted-over-200-high-school-sports-captains-for-10431697?rec=Wyl1ZWU5NCJd&set=ljVIZGxjlg==>
- July 12th ACE is launching the Captains Playbook
- September 16th ACE is providing a leadership workshop to the Boys and Girls Clubs in Palm Beach County
- September 20th ACE will host Captains from Miami High Schools at St. Thomas University
- ACE is expecting over 200 students for the 2016-2017 ACE class
- On Feb 11th 2017 ACE will host the 3rd Annual Swing Into Country at Abacoa and Roger Dean Stadium

ACE Classes

Class Topics and Descriptions

Introduction to Leadership and Team Dynamics provides an introduction to leadership traits and leadership styles that make a leader effective. The class provides a candid and thorough discussion on the values and characteristics that constitute the make-up of a leader and the different styles and approach that leaders deploy when leading others. In addition to the Introduction to Leadership segment, students will participate in a team building session. Since this is the first class of the program, students will be able to engage in team dynamic exercises with their new classmates in a fun environment. (Dress is athletic wear and sneakers)

Introduction to Ethics and Morality exposes the students to the subject of ethics and why ethics is integral to leadership. Students will participate in real life cases, such as bullying and domestic violence, to better understand the role that leadership plays in addressing and solving today's difficult issues. Introduction to Ethics will teach the students to think and assess the differences between legality and morality. The intent is to teach leaders to "do the right thing."

The Power of Attitude focuses on developing and sustaining a winning attitude. Students will better understand how a positive attitude is the key ingredient to success. The tough challenges that our students will face in life will best be handled by those that understand that a positive attitude is what will enable them to face and overcome adversity. Students will be demonstrated case studies of people that, despite incredible adversity, were able to persevere because of a winning attitude.

Commanding Respect and Earning Trust is designed to teach the students that respect cannot be demanded, it must be earned. Students will listen to lectures on the correlation between respect and leadership, engage in interactive real life case studies, and listen to world class speakers on respect and leadership. In addition to Commanding Respect, the class will focus on the need for leaders to Earn Trust. Students will hear from today's leaders on the need for trust in all relationships. Leaders cannot be effective in any aspect of their life without the ability to establish trust.

The Art of Sacrifice and Courage is designed to teach the students the concept of servant leadership. The students will have the opportunity to listen to soldiers and other leaders that have lived a life of sacrifice. The students will engage in real life leadership situations and will learn how servant leadership can be an effective leadership style. Students will also be provided the tools to confront leadership challenges with a courageous mind-set.

The Art of Effective Communication and Developing a Positive Self-Image is designed to help students to communicate in an effective manner. Leadership requires a confident approach to dealing with people in one on one and large settings. To effectively communicate, our students will also be provided guiding principles on developing and maintaining a positive self-image. Self-Image is a significant issue facing our young adults today. Pressure from classmates and social media can have a destructive impact on our students. This class is intended to generate awareness to the issue and to provide techniques that will support a positive self-image.

Palm Beach and Broward Schools

Broward and Palm Beach County

Pine Crest

STA

American Heritage

Spanish River

Boca High School

Boynton High

Olympic Heights

Palm Beach Lakes

Royal Palm

Santaluces

Wellington

West Boca

Boca Prep

Lake Worth Christian

Pope

Coral Springs

North Broward Prep

Park Vista

Grandview Prep

Lake Worth

Gardens

Sun coast

Berea

Boca Christian

Newman

Glades Day

Oxbridge

Benjamin

Kings

Saint Andrews

Dwyer

Jupiter

Lauderhill

Plantation High School

Cardinal Gibbons

Westminister Academy

Handy

Dreyfoos

* We are an approved program of PB County School District

Miami Dade Schools

Columbus
St. Brendan
Monsignor Pace
SLAM
South Ridge
Palmetto
Dr. Michael Krop
Felix Varela
Hialeah Senior
American
Norland
Miami Beach
Carol City
Mater Lakes Academy
Barbara Goleman

STUDENT ACES
PRESENTS:

CAPTAIN'S PLAYBOOK

A GUIDE FOR BEING A LEADER ON AND OFF THE FIELD

ATHLETICS • COMMUNITY • EDUCATION

ace

www.studentacesforleadership.com

This book is designed specifically for young men and women to learn leadership skills, techniques and life lessons that will enable them to lead each of their teams, on and off the field, in today's highly competitive world. Student athletes have the unique opportunity to hear from athletes, world-class experts and leaders in their respective professions. The Playbook is designed to teach leadership skills such as communication, respect, trust and sacrifice. The book will also encourage the reader to facilitate team discussions on the difficult issues facing our young leaders.

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ATHLETICS • COMMUNITY • EDUCATION

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Captains Playbook

Our Captains Leadership Playbook is a top level guide for the young men and women that have the ambition to be leaders, both on and off the athletic field. It is also designed for coaches that depend on captains to be the conduit to the players. Today's captains have a monumental task of setting the proper example and making sure that their teammates are focused on the clear objectives and actions that will ensure success. They need to guide their teams through the distractions of social media and other daily pressures, and live up to the challenges of becoming the role models, one that aspires to conduct himself in a manner that everyone will respect and admire.

The Captains Leadership Playbook is a great tool for everyone on the team and should encourage those that believe they can lead to step up and do so. It provides a clear understanding of the roles and responsibilities of a captain, the traits that he or she should possess or acquire, the expectations that come from assuming a leadership position, and the tools to ensure success.

This information is valuable to everyone involved in a team setting, including parents. Many individuals could use this helpful tool at the high school, college and professional level. A key factor that keeps teams from achieving success is the lack of leadership on the field and in the locker room. Being a captain is not about being the most talented or the most popular player it's about being the person that commands respect by earning trust, sacrificing for the team, working harder, and having a winning attitude. It is my intention that the Captains Leadership Playbook provide a guide and the tools to create great leaders on and off the field.

Sponsorships for Captains Training materials are available.

Final Thoughts

- ACE has directly impacted over 1500 students and is positioned to increase that number significantly
- It is our vision to create a foundation of leadership that will cultivate a culture of core values such as integrity, work ethic, sacrifice and positive attitude, throughout their teams, their schools and their communities.
- Student ACES anticipates that this experience will better prepare student athletes to become young men and women of integrity that will honorably represent the universities they chose to attend.