

## The Sea as a Classroom



## Who We Are



- ▶ Philosophy of Education – L, GC, S&SP, Ethics & Ex
- ▶ Outcomes for students – engagement, experiential (get your hands dirty), retention, relevance, connections
- ▶ Goal – to give young people the skills/tools to navigate a successful future

## Why go to sea?

- ▶ Platform for personal development – 2 weeks, 5 months +
- ▶ Challenge comfort zone (physical, psychological etc.)
- ▶ Build/rebuild new sense of comfort & community
- ▶ Sense of pride & accomplishment, team
- ▶ Isolation, closed environment = microcosm
- ▶ No MSN, www, instant gratification – invites camaraderie, reflection, new interests
- ▶ Sea is medium for development outcomes – stage for responsibility, accountability, teamwork & community
- ▶ Teaches interdependence, not dependence
- ▶ World celebrates “you, you’re worth it”. Sea humbles us.

## Value to Educators



- ▶ Teachers extract & measure remarkable growth
- ▶ Sea/vessel provide natural learning environment
- ▶ Heightened consciousness of learning, life skills
- ▶ Offers legend to interpret learning, offers applications
- ▶ Provides scaffolding to staff & students, supports outcomes

## Results?

- ▶ Outcomes are real, measurable
- ▶ Theory translates to practice
- ▶ Applications – personal, work, marriage, parenting +
- ▶ 25 years of data to demonstrate success



## The At-Sea Learner

- ▶ Duty to group/sense of responsibility developed through sea-based learning
- ▶ Soft skills not on report card but largest part of learning & life success
- ▶ Confidence, compassion, internationalism, learning about self through others

