



## THE DESENSITIZATION EXERCISE: A LEAP TOWARDS INCLUSIVITY AND UNDERSTANDING

-ANJALA NILOFAR

On the 4th of December, 2023, the Corvuss American Academy embarked on a groundbreaking journey with the Desensitization Exercise, a venture that far exceeded our expectations in fostering inclusivity and understanding among our students.

### Phase One: Building Rapport

The exercise began with a focus on building rapport among participants. The students' enthusiastic response laid the groundwork for a warm and receptive environment, essential for the success of what was to follow. Pre-classroom activities, specifically designed to promote engagement and interaction, created an encouraging atmosphere, setting a positive tone for the day.

### Celebrating Neurodiversity

At the core of this exercise was its transformative impact on perceptions surrounding 'special needs'. The term, which often carries a derogatory connotation, was reimagined as a celebration of neurodiversity. Through open discussions about individual differences, students displayed an admirable level of open-mindedness and willingness to embrace this diversity. This pivotal shift in perspective was

not just a theoretical change but a practical one, actively contributed to by the participants.

### Pioneering Community-Building Strategies

Serving as a pilot for future community-building sessions, the Desensitization Exercise introduced innovative approaches that received overwhelmingly positive feedback. These strategies, aimed at fostering inclusivity within our educational environment, have shown promising signs of breaking down barriers and paving the way for a more collaborative and supportive community.

### Engagement and Positive Feedback

The level of engagement from our young adults, particularly in the interactive and creative aspects of the exercise, was commendable. This participation spilled over into classroom interactions, where educators observed an increase in participation and a more relaxed atmosphere. The success of the initiative was further solidified by the participants themselves, who expressed their appreciation for the approach, noting its positive influence on their perceptions of special education.



## Looking Forward

The Desensitization Exercise is more than just a one-time event; it is the foundation for ongoing initiatives aimed at promoting inclusivity, understanding, and community building within our educational setting. The insights gained from this successful pilot will be invaluable in refining and developing future sessions. We are committed to ensuring that this positive impact on our educational community is not just a temporary change but a sustained one. In conclusion, the Desensitization Exercise stands as a testament to the Corvuss American Academy's commitment to fostering an inclusive and understanding environment. Through initiatives like these, we continue to strive towards a more inclusive future, where diversity is not just accepted but celebrated.

## DEAN OF STUDENTS

-JEFFERY M. LOVE

**Dear Raven Community,**

As we progress through the academic year, I am pleased to share some important updates regarding modifications to our discipline and conduct policy. These changes have been the result of a collaborative effort involving the Senior Leadership Team (SLT), academic staff, and Student Council.

I am exceptionally proud of the outstanding contributions made by the SLT, staff, and Student Council in addressing concerns related to campus morale. Through open dialogue and a commitment to continuous improvement, we have implemented changes that aim to create a more positive and supportive environment for all students.

One notable highlight is the establishment of a new community and social area. This space has been designed to provide students with a safe and positive environment in which to socialize, fostering a sense of community and camaraderie. We believe that this addition will contribute significantly to the overall well-being of our student body.

Furthermore, we have revised the consequences discipline flowchart to ensure clarity and consistency in the enforcement of disciplinary measures. This updated flowchart is effective immediately, and we encourage all students to familiarize themselves with the revised guidelines. We believe that a transparent and fair disciplinary process is essential for maintaining a respectful and harmonious school community.

In line with our commitment to safety, a fire drill will be scheduled in the coming week. This exercise is not only a necessary precaution but also a requirement to comply with Western Association of Schools and Colleges (WASC) standards. We appreciate your cooperation and participation in this essential safety measure.

As we continue to strive for excellence in all aspects of our school community, I extend my gratitude to everyone involved in the collaborative effort that has led to these positive changes. Your dedication to the well-being and success of our students is truly commendable.

# RAVEN OF THE WEEK - ANSARI MOHAMMED TAHA

- LATOIYA PASCUA

## Corvuss American Academy's Football Star Shines in Leno Premier League

In this week's spotlight, we are excited to showcase the remarkable talents of Ansari Mohammed Taha, our star student-athlete from Corvuss American Academy's football team. Taha, known for his extraordinary skills as a left-footed player, has recently made headlines in the Leno Premier League 2023.

### Coach Achan Ashung's Insight

According to Coach Achan Ashung, left-footed players like Taha are a rare gem in football. "Most players excel with their right foot, but finding someone who can dominate the left side of the field is exceptional" says Coach Ashung. Taha has not only filled this vital role but has also excelled in it, earning a coveted spot as a left-back.

### A Rising Star

Taha's calm demeanor and strategic gameplay make him an invaluable member of the team. His ability to launch attacks and provide crosses has posed a significant threat to opposing teams. These skills have been instrumental in Corvuss American Academy's unbeaten streak and their dominating start in the league.

### Recognition and Future Prospects

His outstanding performance has earned him the prestigious 'Player of the Week Award' in the current Leno Premier League Tournament. This recognition is a testament to his hard work, dedication, and the promising future that lies ahead.

As the Corvuss American Academy community, we are incredibly proud of Ansari Mohammed Taha's achievements and look forward to his continued success on and off the field.

**Congratulations, Taha! Keep soaring high!**





