



## **School Presentations: Policies, Guidelines, Standards**

As the “Coach/Leader” please be sure that your “Team” understands and abides by the following. Hopefully, this info will keep us all on the same page and able to do a presentation that makes a difference and satisfies school administration. Thus far, every school has been excellent with us.

During your training as a new chapter, you were told not to speak at any school without first contacting the ABLBH home office for advice and permission.

◆ **Each school will have individual instructions we must follow.**

- We will honor “home court” rules.
- ABLBH POLICY- Do not smoke on school property outside of your car.
- ABLBH POLICY- Never take more than one guest per speaker.
- ABLBH POLICY- Do NOT video or livestream our speakers without consent of the building principal/school contact.
  - ✓ ABLBH POLICY- Never include students in video/livestream, even if you have their permission.

◆ **The biggest challenge for a faith-based program to get into school is the “Church/State” issue.**

- For us, this means we must limit the use of God’s name.
- Due to various faiths and backgrounds, we must avoid using the name of Christ.
  - ✓ There must be no preaching or labeling of scripture.
    - Do not refer to a book, chapter, or verse.
    - It is okay to say, “I needed God.” You cannot say, “You need God.”
  - ✓ One or two mentions of God’s name in 8 minutes is our limit under these circumstances.
    - Use terms like “my faith/belief,” but do so sparingly.

◆ **THESE RULES ARE EXTREMELY IMPORTANT AND MUST BE ABIDED BY.**

- We understand your faith style may make this something that isn’t for you. If that is the case, please refrain from going. This is not a time to go off on a vendetta against church and state that will harm or destroy our future privilege and opportunity for more school experiences.



- ◆ The school will determine presentation length.
  - When that is known, your “Coach/Leader” will inform you of how long each individual will be able to share.
    - ✓ We would rather have four stories of 8 minutes each than two of 16 minutes each. This gives more options to reach the students plus it is an advantage in keeping their attention.
    - ✓ Please adhere to your time limit. If the first two or three presenters go over two minutes each, the final speaker just lost 4 minutes.
  - Your “Coach/Leader” will be positioned such to let you know when you have two minutes and one-minute left.
    - ✓ Coach/Leader should request chairs near the podium.
    - ✓ Many schools provide bottled water or will upon request.
  - If you are going over your allotted time the “Coach/Leader” will stand and slowly move toward you.
  - DO NOT open session to general Q and A.
    - ✓ In small classroom situations, feel free to do so. Not in an assembly.
  - TURN-OFF cell phones during Team presentation
    - ✓ EXCEPTION: It may stay on if you are reading from it.
    - ✓ Please silence ringer.
    - ✓ No chewing of gum, please.
  - Each presentation must be grade/age appropriate.
    - ✓ Know your audience.
    - ✓ Understand that some elementary students do not know the meaning of some words like addiction. Please explain/define it.
    - ✓ NO cursing.

Speaking at a school is not to include any political comments or agendas.

We see the opportunity of sharing at a school as a privilege and honor. Because we are invited as “ABLBH”, we feel any and all speakers should be active ABLBH participants. They invited us because they believe in who we are. Thus, someone outside of ABLBH may not fully understand our identity.

- ◆ Clothing style should meet or exceed school standards.
  - ABLBH POLICY-No shorts are to be worn.
  - ABLBH POLICY-Chapter t-shirts are appropriate.
  - ABLBH POLICY-Ladies, nothing low cut.
  - ABLBH POLICY-No pocketknives in the building.
- ◆ As a courtesy to the school, please arrive and be inside 15 minutes early.
  - Some schools require picture ID, some have you sign in, others take us on our word.



- After the presentation, be prepared to have students come forward to speak with you.
  - ✓ Never go with them to a private area unless escorted by a school official.
  - ✓ Never contact a student after leaving the building.

Our goal is to share our story. It is not to raise up, elevate or promote ABLBH or any other recovery group. With that in mind, please remember that in this setting you are a representative of “A Better Life-Brianna’s Hope.” What you say and do reflects on the entirety of our organization. Please use your time to tell of your struggles, losses and victories. Leave your listener with hope.

More than once, we have been invited back to the same school. That says to me that the administration likes what we offer. We want to continue this blessing and help each other pay it forward. As of May 31, 2021, we have spoken to over 21,750 students/staff K-12. There are not many organizations that get such a wonderful experience. God has blessed us and for that we say thanks to each of you.

Again, if you feel this limits your testimony or goes against your faith standards, we understand. Please simply decline the opportunity to attend and share.

ABLBH reserves the right to not invite you to be a part of similar future opportunities. Please keep a copy of these Policies/Guidelines/Standards  
Before participating, you must sign that you agree with and understand all the above.