

Hometown Connection

This community service project involved many of the students in the Lancaster School. Individual classes, from kindergarten to eighth grade, contributed to the boxes that were mailed out each month to the college students. It made them feel connected to the students of the school. They sent back thank you notes expressing their gratitude throughout the months of the project.

Curriculum/State Standard

Demonstrate teamwork and leadership skills in the family, workplace, and community.

Overview

Our elementary and middle school students sent care packages to college freshmen who were former students of the Lancaster School. The packages included stories, letters, cards, craft items like sun catchers and magnets, art projects like drawings and origami pinwheels. Plus, we baked goodies to include. These boxes were sent out each month.

This project was successful, in part, because of the enthusiasm of our FCCLA members (Family, Career and Community Leaders of America). They really showed their leadership skills by taking charge of the project by putting reminders in the notices, organizing the baking of the goodies, and collecting all the items from around the school. They

turned the project into an FCCLA Chapter Service project by creating a presentation with display board for the state competition. They won the opportunity to travel to Minneapolis, Minnesota, in July to present the project at the National Leadership Meeting.

Objectives

- The student will demonstrate techniques that develop team and community spirit.
- The student will demonstrate ways to organize and delegate responsibilities.
- The student will demonstrate processes for cooperating, compromising, and collaborating.

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K-8

GRADE LEVEL



ARTS



LANGUAGE



MATH

Misc

MISCELLANEOUS



SCIENCE



HISTORY



SOCIAL STUDIES

8

MONTHS

\$1000

TOTAL BUDGET



THIS WINNING LESSON PLAN WAS SUBMITTED BY:

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"Hometown Connection" project continued...

Materials

Computer with printer, computer ink, paper, cards, postcards, labels, mailing boxes and tape, stamps, postal scale, packing materials, baked goods

Readiness Activity

A list of freshmen college students who had attended our school was gathered. Letters were written to their parents asking for the college students' addresses. Letters were written to the college students to find out if they would be interested in participating in the Hometown Connection project.

Strategies/Activities

1. Present project to all teachers in school so they can consider having their students contribute to the boxes.
2. Make a list of participating college students to place in each classroom in the school.
3. Choose dates for boxes to be sent out - we planned one per month.
4. Make a chart of college students' vacations, birthdays, dorm addresses, and e-mail addresses.
5. Bake goodies for first shipment - freeze until needed.
6. Put reminder in daily notices: looking for stories, poems, letters, cards, and craft projects to go into Hometown Connection boxes - they will be sent out on (include date).
7. Using computer, make mailing labels for boxes.
8. Research packing methods for baked goods.

9. Pack boxes and take to the post office.
10. Repeat steps 5-7 each month, checking calendar to avoid conflict with vacation schedules.
11. Send birthday and holiday cards out separately.

Culminating Activity

The freshmen college students who received the Hometown Connection boxes were scheduled to visit each grade in the school to share their freshmen year experiences. This gave all of the participants a chance to meet and hear how the project affected all involved.

Evaluation

Students were evaluated through observation and questioning.

Student generated work plans were also used prior to the food preparation labs.

Cooking lab rubrics were used during the food preparation for care package items.

FCCLA members were evaluated on their presentation of the project by a panel of three adult judges.