Service-Learning

A Dropout Prevention Strategy and More!

Cathryn Berger Kaye

December 3, 2009
Words of Wisdom

You must be the change you wish to see in the world.

Ghandi

If you think you are too small to have an impact, try going to bed with a mosquito.

Anita Roddick
Words

- Inspire
- Enliven
- Envision
- Inform
- Transform
- Predict
- Dream
- Take Us Places
- Surprise
- Mystify
- Provide Dilemmas
- Ideas
- Examples
- Hope
Words matter – they move us in one direction or another.

Deena Metzger, author
Quote Art

• Developed understanding of quotes
• Took a School Tour
• Researched quotes for different locations
  – “Confidence is Contagious, so is lack of confidence.”
    Vince Lombardi, coach
  – “I find television very educational, the minute someone turns one on
    I go to the library and get a book.”
    Groucho Marks
• Placed quote placards around the school
• Created a scavenger hunt for students … in search of uplifting words!
• Made a CD Screen Saver Art
Today’s Discussion

• **What is Service-Learning?**
  The **LEARNING** in Service-Learning
  Developing **LITERACY**
  The **SERVICE** and the **LEARNING**
  Community Service vs Service-Learning

• **How does Service-Learning work?**
  Key **Elements** and **Stages**
  Adding **BOOKS**

• **Meeting Needs** of Kids who Question “School”
What **skills** do students need to be **successful learners**?

- To ask questions
- To listen and retain
- To be observant
- To identify similarities and differences
- To work independently, with partners, and in groups
- To identify and apply their skills and talents
- To acquire assistance as needed
- To be resourceful
  - To gather & manage information
  - To summarize & take notes
- To effectively solve problems:
  - Test hypotheses
  - To follow-through with reasonable steps
- To have **LITERACY** skills that are **transferable**
Literacy

Form
• Read
• Write
• Comprehend
• Fluency

Function
• Civic Literacy
• Cultural Literacy
• Social Literacy
• ____ Literacy

Answers the “Why?”
SERVICE
Thomas Alva Edison said . . .

I never perfected an invention that I did not think about in terms of the service it might give others . . . .

I find out what the world needs, then I proceed to invent.
Educator Ralph Tyler said

Learning is like *fish*;
if you don’t use it,
it won’t keep.
SERVICE

LEANRING

Heart
Aristotle:

Education of the mind without education of the heart is no education at all.
The Canned Food Drive!

- As COMMUNITY SERVICE may look like

- As SERVICE-LEARNING looks like

Solutions
to the Dropout Crisis
Hunger

How many people in the world do you think go to bed hungry every day?

• 100,000
• 5,000,000
• 800,000,000

How many people in the world do you think live on less than two dollars a day?

• 25% or about 1.5 billion
• 15% or about 900 million people
• 50% or about 3 billion people
West Hollywood, California
Youth Led – Campaign!

- Kids visit food bank
- See FIRST HAND need
- Design a PR Campaign
- Involve ALL GRADES
- Promote in COMMUNITY
- Held in April (brilliant!)
- Volunteer as “tasters” for community cookbook
K-12 Service Learning Standards

- Duration & Intensity
- Linking to Curriculum
- Reciprocal Partners
- Meaningful Service
- Youth Voice & Choice
- Reflection
- Diversity
- Progress Monitoring
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<td>Find examples of how people who are homeless or living in poverty are depicted in literature</td>
<td>Interview a public official about government services for people in need</td>
<td>Research how hunger impacts a country where the language being studied is spoken</td>
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<td>Find out which popular artists take action through their music and their public presence to end poverty and hunger</td>
<td>Hunger and Homelessness</td>
<td>Read food labels and discuss percentages of what is nutritious</td>
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<td>Create a child-friendly exercise video for a family shelter</td>
<td>Develop a brochure for a local food shelter</td>
<td>Study the effect of hunger and poor nutrition on student achievement and on adults trying to enter the workforce</td>
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What gives something MEANING?

• Personalization
• Ownership – allowing for my ideas and commitment to be taken seriously
• Relevance
• Demonstrable Outcomes
• Engaging with aspects of FUN and CHALLENGE
• Personalization
Five Stages of Service-Learning

- INVESTIGATION
- PREPARATION & PLANNING
- ACTION
- REFLECTION
- DEMONSTRATION
Investigation: Personal Inventory

Interests, Skills, and Talents

★ **Interests** What you like to learn and think about

★ **Skills and Talents** I can ...

★ **Being helpful** ... when you helped someone

★ **Receiving help** ... when someone helped you
Investigation: Community Need??

- Media
- Observation/Experience
- Surveys
- Interviews
Investigation

• Inventory Students
  – Interests, Skills, and Talents

• Gather Information about a Community Need
  – Observation and Experience
  – Interview
  – Survey
  – Media
PREPARATION & PLANNING

- Ask Questions
- Read
- Accumulate Information
- Share Ideas
- Research
- Field Trips
- Connect With the Community
- Plan for Action
ACTION ACTION ACTION

• DIRECT SERVICE

• INDIRECT SERVICE

• ADVOCACY

• RESEARCH
REFLECTION

• Before Service ...

• During Service

• Following Service

Continuous...Connected...Challenging

Eyler, Giles and Schmiede
“I don’t agree with that. I think you should learn, of course, and some days you must learn a great deal. But you should also have days when you allow what is already in you to swell up inside of you until it touches everything. And you can feel it inside you. If you never take time out to let that happen, then you just accumulate facts, and they begin to rattle around inside you. You can make noise with them, but never really feel anything with them. It’s hollow.”
DEMONSTRATION

THE BIG WOW!

Findings are illuminated
Process of learning articulated
“Public” communication
Literature

- Any Small Goodness: A Story of the Barrio
- Handbook for Boys: A Novel
- Messed Up
Meeting Needs of YOUTH

• Replace *Boredom* with Active Learning +
• Build on students *Interests, Skills, & Talents* +
• Strengthen *Transferable Skills* +
• Develop *Mutually Respectful Relationships* +
• Increase *Competence and Confidence* +
• Use *Engaging Teaching Strategies* = *Service-Learning*
The purpose of life is having a life of purpose.
For More Information

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