

Civic Activism

Community Objective

To provide students with a working knowledge of community organization, social activism and leadership skills.

Background

Civic activism will help students work with a local planning and coordinating organization (Family Resource Networks FRN) where they can learn about impacting the community and systems for social change. They will determine what is necessary to assist in organized activities and act as student community leaders.

Challenged Student Conditions

Learning disabled and socially challenged junior high students can participate in the service learning activity if we:

- ~Include them in the planning
- ~Recruit them to be a part of the program
- ~Help them plan how to work with committees, boards, state and government agencies, and non-profit organizations
- ~Have other students share their success stories to promote the service-learning project

Resources

- ~A local planning and coordinating organization such as Family Resource Networks (FRN's) that is willing to give youth meaningful roles for assisting in the planning of community needs and systems change
- ~Funding to cover transportation, supplies, and other necessary items
- ~Student, community activists, and school volunteers
- ~Computer accessibility and nutritious snacks

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FOR K-12 CHALLENGED STUDENTS

Timetable (school year)

One Month

- ~Contact the local Family Resource Network to review needs assessment and identify needs of the community
- ~Arrange for adequate funding and resources from local businesses and others
- ~Plan a schedule of monthly activities with students, teachers, and volunteers
- ~Plan and coordinate transportation needs
- ~Plan program activities that include academic enrichment, cultural enhancement, mentoring, and actions to influence the community for social change

Reflection

- ~Students will keep journals on activities
- ~Students will discuss changes that need to take place and those that have taken place
- ~Students will assess needs of the community

Celebration

- ~Invite media to share in the project
- ~Have a party inviting all participants at the end of the project

Academic Objectives

WV IGOs

Civics

- ~Describe the different types of local government, and compare their functions and powers. Explain the purpose of the legislative, judicial, and executive branches of government. Discuss complexities facing local governments. Identify aspects of strong leadership explaining the purpose of political parties in government and how special interest groups attempt to influence politics and politicians. Explain the functions of community support systems in local government. Distinguish between rights and duties of citizens. (9.1, 9.10, 9.11)

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Civics/Government

~Explain the rule of law, tensions between individual liberties and society's need for order. Describe the characteristics of government and civil society that relates to civic participation. Understand protection of rights by government and the common good. Compare representational government and a republic. (C.2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9)

Career Development

~Identify multiple career options, practice interview strategies, provide community service and assess entrepreneurial opportunities (PW.45, 48, 49)

~Identify the student academic skills from the curricula that will be enhanced through working in social and community activism

~Involve various school personnel, parents, and local businesses in planning and carrying out the activities

Contact Information

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