

Promises for a Better County

Community Objectives

To collaborate with Town Council, County Courthouse staff, and Fayette County House of Delegate representatives to provide leadership opportunities, volunteerism, and literacy. We will send two students to a leadership training camp (Camp Horseshoe); participate in community problem solving; and set priorities for service as well as develop promises for a better community.

Background

The natural beauty of Fayetteville, West Virginia, attracts hundreds of thousands of tourists to our area each year. The community is faced with important decisions that the rapidly growing new and exciting enterprises bring to this historic community. More than ever, our students need to acquire the literacy and leadership skills needed to become volunteers and leaders for a better community. This project collaborates with the Town Council, County Courthouse, and legislators to voice our concerns and promises for a better Fayette county. Our *Promises for a Better Tomorrow*, documents what each participating student values. Some of these concerns are: feeding the poor; finding homes for stray animals; visiting the elderly; keeping our natural beauty free of litter; school and community safety; and literacy. These are the promises that our young students make. This document will be displayed through out Fayette County.

Challenged Student Conditions

Educationally challenged third and fourth grade students identified as scoring below their peers or identified as having special needs can be service providers to others by:

- ~Including them in the documentation of our *Promises for a Better Fayette County*
- ~Recruiting students, teachers, parents, and volunteers to participate
- ~Participating in service learning projects as promised in our covenant with the town and county representatives

WEST VIRGINIA'S
SERVICE-LEARNING LESSON-PLANS
FOR K-12 CHALLENGED STUDENTS

Resources

- ~A school near the County courthouse available for summer programs and activities
- ~Funding for the following professionals: Project Supervisor and Service Learning Coordinator
- ~Teacher's resource materials: *Service Learning Teacher Training Manual*, *Active citizenship today Field Guide and Handbook*, *Developing Student's Multiple Intelligences*
- ~funding for the costs of sending students to Camp Horseshoe

Timeline of Service Activities (extended year project)

September October (year 1)

- ~Identify a site for the summer program and get permission

November December (year 1)

- ~Attend WV State Reading Conference and Lesson Plan Workshop

January February (year 2)

- ~Participate in the Martin Luther King Day of Service
- ~Order materials and supplies needed for project
- ~Arrange for matching funds
- ~Contact collaborating agencies

March April (year 2)

- ~Design T-shirts and brochures

May (year 2)

- ~Begin contacting city and county elected officials about meetings
- ~Arrange a tour of the County Courthouse

June (year 2)

- ~Develop covenant, *Promises for a Better Fayette County*

July (year 2)

- ~Continue the summer literacy project through matching title I funds and send students to Camp Horseshoe for leadership training

August (year 2)

- ~Contact the Fayette County Chamber of Commerce to volunteer for community service on Bridge Day

September (year 2)

- ~Prepare and schedule Bridge Day activities

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October (year 2)

~Bridge Day celebration and Make A Difference Day activities

Reflection

- ~Students will document their promises for good citizenship in their journals
- ~Discuss results of the meetings with elected officials and write about them in daily journals
- ~Photo story of student's experiences at camp

Celebration

- ~Provide each student with a picture album and copy of the covenant
- ~Schedule a pizza buffet and entertainment on the Courthouse lawn in conjunction with our field trip and meetings
- ~Participate in Bridge Day 1999 and showcase the *Promises for a Better Fayette County* document
- ~Recognize volunteer's accomplishments in the school newsletter, newspaper, and brochures
- ~Give each student and elected official a Beanie Baby to keep with a special "feel pride" message on each
- ~Receive special certificate from the mayor's office proclaiming recognition for community stewardship

Academic Objectives

WV IGOs

Health

- ~Demonstrate attentive listening skills and effective interpersonal communication skills which demonstrate caring, consideration, and respect. (3.1)
- ~Compare different environments and how they relate to health and well being (3.16)
- ~Discuss the role of conflict resolution in maintaining healthy relationships (3.21)
- ~Practice positive peer reinforcement skills to influence and support others in making positive decisions (3.22)
- ~Assess personal use of positive communications skills (4.1)
- ~Name the steps used in making a healthy decision (4.2)

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Social Studies

- ~Explain and experience the benefits of volunteerism in the community and at school (3.5)
- ~Work with state and local representatives to develop plans for improving our community

Contact Information

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