



STANDARDS OF EXCELLENCE PROGRAM PROJECT SUMMARY SHEET

SCHOOL: Delaware Township School

ACTIVITY: DTS Crafty Calendar

DATE(S): (monthly) October - May

CATEGORY: Fundraising/Community Service/Student Services

ADVISOR NAME: Cynthia Terranova

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PROVIDE A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THIS PROJECT:

Our student council officers made a decision to incorporate more interaction between the middle school students and the elementary students of our district. As such, the DTS Crafty Calendar created that opportunity through monthly events hosted by student council. Elementary students take part in themed activities after school by signing up for each activity and paying a small fee to cover materials and supplies. All additional funds generated by the event are then donated to our state charity, Spread the Magic. The Crafty Calendar has included pumpkin painting & pumpkin pals, turkey apples, candygrams, frosty friends, chocolate roses, blooming luck, peeps for your peeps, and a junior carnival. Student council members, faculty, and parents have all shared how much these monthly events have been enjoyed and fostered a true spirit of community among all DTS students.

DESCRIBE THE PLANNING & EXECUTION OF THIS PROJECT:

The planning for these events began in late summer, prior to the start of the school year. The officers and advisors worked together to combine the traditional student council fundraisers, such as candygrams and chocolate roses, with themed events for younger students. Once we had a calendar complete, it was presented to the administration for approval and shared with the faculty as well. Notification of the monthly events are shared with parents via listserve and student council members sign up to assist during our monthly meetings. Supplies are purchased in advance based on an estimated number of elementary participants. Student council officers and general members meet with the advisors during their lunch periods a week ahead of the event to make models of the crafts, learn games and other "filler" activities for students finishing early the day of the event, and make final preparations including attendance and sign-out sheets. During the afternoon of the event, student council advisors and members use activity period to set up the area where the elementary students will be meeting. As the eager participants arrive at dismissal time, they are greeted by our officers, checked in, and led to their working station for the projects. At the conclusion of the event, once all elementary students have been signed out by a parent, all officers and members remain to clean up.

DESCRIBE THE BENEFIT OF THIS PROJECT BENEFIT TO SCHOOL AND/OR COMMUNITY:

The DTS Crafty Calendar has truly established our student council as a leadership group within the larger context of the school community. It has rightfully earned our student council officers the esteemed attention of the elementary faculty, the Board of Education, and the community at large. As the elementary students arrive at school each day, they wave and converse with the older middle school students outside, passing in the hallways, and as they enter and exit the cafeteria since the "big kids" are now their "buddies" because of the DTS Crafty Calendar. It has been an incredibly successful fundraising tool for our state charity in addition to the flourishing spirit of collaboration within our school district.

EVALUATE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THIS PROJECT, REFLECTING ON ANY POSSIBLE CHANGES YOU MIGHT CONSIDER:

Based on the amazing success of the DTS Crafty Calendar, the only possible changes we are considering for future use can be best expressed in the words of one of our "regulars" from this year's Crafty Calendar events, "We want more! more! more!"