

Community Leadership Development Program

I am pleased to announce that the 2004-2005 Community Leadership Development Program was a huge success and, as a result, 32 of our 35 patrols were able to take advantage of the trip to Washington. At this point, all participants still have one final culminating activity to complete and our fifth graders just completed the math portion of the FCAT. Therefore, we are not able to formally report the full impact of the Program. However, all participants agree that they learned a great deal by participating in an after school program that was understandably rigorous.

To be sure, getting the program started was challenging. Two hurricanes caused us to lose many school days and caused many businesses to break their commitments to present to our patrols. However, we were able to recruit others to take their places and revamp the schedule so that we could present the program the way it was intended to be presented.

Looking back over the experience, I would definitely incorporate more cooperative learning training. I expected that fifth graders would have mastered this concept. However, I found that some students were more adept than others in their ability to work with other people in a group setting. With this in mind, I would spend more time at the beginning of the program emphasizing the importance of cooperative group work, assign roles for all group members and clarify the goals for each group and individual student accountability. I took for granted that the patrols would automatically have these skills, and half way through our presentations, I saw the need for more development here.

I also would like each participant to keep a reflection journal throughout the year so that they can make connections between what they are learning in our sessions to their real world experiences. Finally, I thought that it would be a good experience to include businesses that are owned or managed by African-American or Haitian-American people. Since most of our Patrols are from African-American or Haitian American Cultures, I thought that our participating students would benefit and see these presenters more as successful role models rather than just people in our business community. As we complete the final phase of our FY 05 Community Leadership Development Program, please consider these revisions in our proposal for FY 06.

A) Needs: Describe the educational need to be addressed by the proposed project and how that need was determined.

The AAA Safety Patrol program has provided generations of 5th and 6th grade students with their first experience in leadership. For one full school year these students learn the true meaning of responsibility by accepting their role as student leaders, learning to care for the well being of others and by demonstrating good citizenship. The best "perk" of being a Safety Patrol in Palm Beach County is that each 5th or 6th grade patrol has an opportunity to board an Amtrak train at the West Palm Beach Station and travel to Washington DC, our nation's capital.

This is not something new. In fact, Palm Beach County Patrols have had this unique opportunity for well over 30 years. And, except for the cost of the trip, very little has changed. The students leave the train station at 12:00 noon on a Thursday, travel all through the afternoon and evening until around 7:00 am when they arrive at the Washington Train terminal (Weather permitting of course). From there, they go straight to the senate Chambers of the Capital building, then to the Bureau of printing and engraving, the national archives, the Jefferson and Lincoln Memorials, and then Ford's Theater. On day two, they visit Arlington National Cemetery, Ford's Theater, the Washington Monument and Mount Vernon. The third and final day is usually reserved for the Smithsonian buildings. By 3:00 pm. all patrols report back to L'enfant Plaza and board busses that will take them back to the train station where they will leave Washington's dismal wintry backdrop and head for the sunny skies of south Florida.

To be sure, this is a first class trip and a once in a lifetime experience for those students who first, qualify to be a patrol and then have parents who can afford the \$ 525 price tag for the trip. The truth is, this is a great deal of money to ask parents living in a low socio-economic region to pay. So sadly, very few Safety Patrols attending Lake Park Elementary, a school that has ninety-one percent of its students receiving free or reduced lunch, have a chance to participate.

Without question, there are many efforts by fifth grade teachers and our patrol sponsor to help these students earn money. Each year, they organize car washes, candy sales, bake sales, rummage sales etc. all for the purpose of providing an opportunity for their economically disadvantaged students to earn the trip. While these efforts are noble and very time consuming. One must stand back and ask, what are the students learning by working at car washes and selling candy? The importance of work ethic? Good character? By and large, these are important qualities to develop. However, our patrols already have these personal qualities because that is how they all qualified to be patrols.

So here at Lake Park Elementary, we grapple with this question. What can we do for our fifth grade patrols, who have already demonstrated good character and citizenship, that will give them a first hand understanding of practical leadership and the importance of being proactive in their communities.

B) Project Description: Describe in detail the strategies and learning activities to be carried out. Explain how your project aligns with your school's improvement plan, the district's key results and goals.

The staff and students at Lake Park Elementary receive a great deal of help from area support groups and businesses. We have established these relationships because we believe that there is a symbiotic relationship between a school and the community that surrounds it. And, the students are the first to benefit from this. For several years now, our own town library has provided us with storytellers and a quiet after school location to complete their homework. Across the street from our campus, St. John's Lutheran Church has provided a free aftercare program. The Lake Park Publix donates all left over holiday novelties to our students to motivate them and has encouraged many of their associates to serve as volunteers. To describe all of the different types of relationships that we have formed with our community partners would take pages, but the point is that these types of connections impact student performance and encourage students to be productive citizens consistent with Palm Beach School District Goal number 8: provide experiences that prepare students for productive citizenship.

It is because of our strong ties to our community that the fifth grade staff and patrol sponsor would like to coordinate a Community Leadership Development Program to encourage our Safety Patrols to develop a true understanding of strategic leadership, challenge their critical thinking skills and to become more aware of their civic responsibilities as young citizens.

C) Project Description: Describe in detail the strategies and learning activities to be carried out. Explain how your project aligns with your school's improvement plan, and the District's key results and goals.

The purpose of this project is to set the students up for success, providing short term and long term benefits to the students involved. For immediate results the students have the opportunity to learn and earn their trip to Washington D.C. by attending training and applying those skills to specific problems. This entire project will produce long term benefits by providing the skills identified in the Goal 3 Sunshine State Standards.

The Lake Park Patrols will be identified in May of 2005. Training for the thirty-two individuals selected will begin on Saturday, August 20th and continue for ten consecutive weeks. On Saturday, August 20th, the 32 participating patrols will complete 8 hours of Continuous Quality Improvement (CQI) training. The first half

of the training will include activities that illustrate the six step problem solving approach that is consistent with the CQI model: 1) define the problem, 2) brainstorm all possible solutions to the problem 3) evaluate each solution 4) choose a solution 5) put the solution into action, 6) evaluate the outcome. The second half of the training will involve teambuilding and data collection activities. During the intensive 10 week training, representatives of Lake Park area businesses and organizations will spend three hours every Tuesday afternoon (2:30-5:30 pm) discussing the type of business/organization they run, their management structure, the goals of their organization, their policies regarding customer service, hiring, and personnel motivation. The presenter(s) will finish their discussions by explaining three challenging problems that occur and how these problems effect their organization. On the following Thursday, we will have a follow up session with the group, review the presented information and walk them through the CQI approach to problem solving. We will use the Internet to research the organization's problems to see if similar organizations have experienced the same types of problems then review and analyze data to develop possible solutions. The students will need help during the first several weeks until they get familiar with the routine. After our Thursday meeting, the students will be given an activity for homework that will directly coincide with that particular session. The homework activity should feasibly be completed in two hours time. Therefore, the patrols will spend a total of 7 hours each week participating in activities that pertain to the program. We will continue to follow the same format for 10 consecutive weeks. To be sure, modifications may need to made along the way. However, we will continue this format until the end of October. At that time, the students will divide into groups of four and we will implement the culminating activity.

Implementation Timeline

()= hours

Date	Presentation (3)	Thursday Follow up (2)	Weekend homework(2)	Total hours
Saturday August 20 Training	Patrol CQI	Planning meeting	Writing activity	11
Tuesday August 23	Cooperative Learning Fundamentals	Cooperative Learning Fundamentals	Cooperative Learning Role Reflection	7
Tuesday August 30	Publix	CQI in Action	CQI Project	7
Tuesday September 6	WAMU	CQI in Action	CQI Project	7
Tuesday September 13	Coke	CQI in Action	CQI Project	7
Tuesday September 20	Winn Dixie	CQI in Action	CQI Project	7
Tuesday September 27	Costco	CQI in Action	CQI Project	7
Tuesday October 4	Watterson Eavonson	CQI in Action	CQI Project	7
Tuesday October 11	Target	CQI in Action	CQI Project	7
Tuesday October 19	Lowes	CQI in Action	CQI Project	7
Tuesday October 25	IHOP	CQI in Action	CQI Project	7

On Monday, October 31st, we will collect the final individual homework assignment from each student and discuss the culminating activity. We will first divide the students into 8 groups of four and, in teams; they will implement the CQI model without any outside assistance.

On Thursday, November 3rd, we will invite eight presenters to our school from eight different departments of the Lake Park Town Government. Joining us will be the mayor, town attorney, town manager, a representative from the planning department, fire, law enforcement, public works departments, and Community service department. A group of four patrols will meet with each town employee as he/she discusses job requirements, working relationships, service to customers, work philosophy etc. Then, each of the eight town representatives will discuss at least 3 individual problems he/she faces on a recurring basis. It will be up to each team to ask the right questions, take the right notes and then follow the CQI model to come up with possible solutions to the problems that their town representative is facing. The students will be allotted 10 hours to complete this assignment and will be given access to the computer lab and time in the afternoon to conduct their research. Once their projects are completed, each group must present their findings by Power Point at a special presentation that will be held on Monday, November 22nd at 6:00 pm just before our Thanksgiving musical performance.

The students who successfully complete all 90 hours of the training will be awarded their full \$ 500.00 so that they can make payment for their Washington trip when they return from Thanksgiving break on Tuesday, November 29th. A prorated amount will be awarded to students who miss one or more of the sessions. After the students, return from their trip to Washington D. C., they will be required to write a short report and thank-you note complete with pictures. We would like the patrols to give these to Mr. and Mrs. Pew so that they can thank them personally for the opportunities that they otherwise would not have had.

D) Evaluation and Measurable Outcomes; Describe the specific outcomes you expect to achieve and the project's impact on Student Achievement. Describe how you will evaluate the project.

Ninety percent of all 32 participating patrols will complete the program from start to finish.

Ninety Percent of all 32 participating patrols will attend at least ninety percent of the presentation and follow up sessions.

Ninety Percent of the 32 participating patrols will improve their math scores as measured by the FY05 administration of the FCAT.

D) Budget: Attach a detailed budget for the proposed program. Identify each item and its associated cost. Please identify other funding and or gifts-in-kind which have been secured or are anticipated to meet budget requirements.

Grant Request

Item	Amount
Safety Patrol Trip: 30 @ \$ 500.00	\$ 15,000.00
\$1,000.00 left over from FY 05	Total \$ 15,000.00

In

Kind Contributions

Partner	Contribution	Cost
CQI Training	Patrol staff	Donated
Cooperative Learning Training		
Publix	Company Time	Donated
WAMU	Company Time	Donated
Coke	Company Time	Donated
Winn Dixie	Company Time	Donated
Waterson/Eavonson	Company Time	Donated
Target	Company Time	Donated
Lowes	Company Time	Donated
IHOP	Company Time	Donated
Applebees	Company Time	Donated
Napleton	Company Time	Donated
Nissan		