



THE SCHOOL DISTRICT  
OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA

ARTHUR JOHNSON, Ph.D.  
SUPERINTENDENT

**DEPARTMENT OF SAFE SCHOOLS**  
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**PRIME TIME**  
**Service Learning Proposal**  
**Second year**  
**SY07-08**

School District of Palm Beach County  
Department of Safe Schools  
1790 NW Spanish River Blvd.  
Boca Raton, FL 33431  
561.982.0925 FAX 561.982.0943  
Olivia Rogers, Manager, Out-of-School Programs  
Beth A. Lefler, Service Learning Coordinator

Amount Requesting: \$21,000

Purpose of Fund Request

The purpose of this request is to provide Service Learning training, project supplies and materials, and project monitoring and support to the staff and students of 20 community based and/or school based afterschool programs throughout Palm Beach County. All community based and school-based afterschool programs will be offered the opportunity to engage in a service learning project at an Out of School Consortium meeting in September, and then January. Those programs which express an interest will be invited to a workshop(s) on service learning which will clearly outline the expectations, goals and responsibilities of this project. The workshop will be conducted by the Service Learning Coordinator (SLC). Those who follow through with a commitment to work on a service learning project will be offered a stipend at the completion of a project. Funds for supplies will also be provided to each project

Through the service learning process, youth will be empowered and excited to make real change in their communities and can experience their worth as contributing members of society. This can strengthen their feelings of civic responsibility and efficacy. This unique approach will increase participation in afterschool programs, and build a commitment to their own local communities. A sense of empowerment and importance is a powerful tool in developing youth leadership among our agencies, schools and communities. A positive service learning experience can provide the foundation for a lifetime of service to others.

Lessons Learned

We have learned that agency staff needs a clear guide to the steps, content, and anticipated timeline for service learning. Thus, this summer the SLC will develop several project plans for the groups to select, complete with a list of resources related to each topic so that all necessary information is available on hand. We have also learned that each site needs a high level of onsite support using a teaching/coaching model. We are very committed to the benefits of service learning. The SLC will visit sites on a bi-weekly basis and communicate by telephone and email on a weekly basis or daily basis, as needed. As an incentive to keep the staff engaged, we are proposing a \$75 stipend for the completion of a project. In order to keep the interest of the students, we propose having a celebration jamboree at the end of each semester, and a display of each project on the Primetime website. Groups may create a video tape on the progress of their project, or do a picture history of their group working, or create science boards

to display projects. We see this as a joint celebration for all involved so that the students and staff can share what they have accomplished and learned, and have fun while reflecting on their project activities.

TimeLine

**July-August**

Development of potential service learning project plans with supportive resources; anticipated timelines, and expectations/responsibilities for the projects.

Development of documentation paperwork.

Development of workshop content, expectations, timeline and meetings.

**September/January**

Open invitation offered at Out of School Consortium Meeting.

Workshop(s) for interested afterschool staff to review service learning, timelines, expectations and responsibilities.

Selection of 10 sites.

**October-December/February-May**

Visit each site on a bi-weekly basis.

Provide weekly communication via email/telephone call.

Supplies provided.

Mid-November (mid-March)-joint meeting with afterschool staff to review progress.

Mid-December (late April) - Jamboree with all involved sites to celebrate and share project successes.

Role of Service Learning Coordinator

The Service Learning Coordinator (SLC) at the Department of Safe Schools will provide ongoing technical assistance, development of potential service learning project plans and resources, and anticipated timelines. Coordinator will also provide workshops and monitoring activities to all 20 sites (10 each semester) so that each site can easily and accurately implement quality service learning projects. The Coordinator will also be charged with the responsibility of appropriately documenting each project, managing the budget and all project funds.

Number of Youth: 160-200 (8-10) per project site X 20 sites/elementary and middle school students

Number of Staff: 21(1 per project X 20 sites + 1 Service Learning Coordinator)

Proposed Budget

|  |                 |
|--|-----------------|
| Stipends for 20 staff members @ 75.00 each | \$1,500         |
| Mileage                                    | \$4,500         |
| Service Learning Coordinator               | <u>\$15,000</u> |
| TOTAL                                      | \$21,000        |