

Leadership Curriculum/Activity (Lesson)

An Idea by Allison Gadeke, Activities Director, Sierra Middle School, agadeke@lusd.net

Community Service – This is a required project in my leadership class – due in January. Students have six weeks to complete it.

Option One: They Gave So that Others Could Receive

Find an article in a magazine or newspaper about something truly heroic that has been done by someone for others. I'm not looking for something like lifting a car or moving a boulder ... rather, I am referring to a heroic project that someone has taken on that affected others. This could be a project where boxes of goods were sent to troops, millions were raised for cancer victims, etc. The project cannot involve a family member, and the article has to have been published in a national magazine or newspaper.

You must then write a one page paper, explaining what the project was, who was involved, and how it was done. Also, you must explain in at least one paragraph how this has inspired you and affected you to make a difference for others. You must also attach a photocopy of the article with the date and publication information (make sure that it is easy to read.) Papers should be typed or neatly handwritten in ink.

Option Two: The Gift of Giving

Before the end of Winter Break you have a fun and rewarding assignment to complete. You are going to need to do something nice for someone else. This can be as big or as small as you choose for it to be. It cannot be something that was assigned to you, nor can it be one of your regular chores (for example, taking out the trash for your Dad does not count.) You need to focus on someone whom you do not usually help (this cannot be your parents, siblings, etc.). **(You may not do something for a family member at all to fulfill the requirements of the project – if you do, you will not earn credit for this assignment.)** Do something to help him/her/them. (You cannot do something that you regularly do, and it cannot be something you did last year for this assignment or one that you did for a service organization in the past – like Boy Scouts, CJSF, etc.) You need to talk to your parents about this right away so that they can help you find a project that is safe and is something that they support. You must then write a one page paper, telling what you did, and how it impacted the person(s) you helped. (Also take a few photos if you can this will be helpful to add to your Leadership Scrapbook Assignment.) Be creative, have fun, and remember that this assignment is a gift you are giving to yourself – so make the most of it! (Papers should be typed or neatly handwritten in ink). Please attach the affidavit of participation to your paper.