Introduction: Environmental Service Learning & Leadership Project

• It provides an opportunity for every Y.E.L.L. student to apply what she/he has learned to address an identified environmental problem in their community.

• You will learn the elements of leadership through discussion, reflection, team building and action.
What’s This All About???

• There are two basic components to service learning:
  • “Service- Young people engage in activities that meet the needs of others and the community…”
  • “Learning- The experiences of serving others are used as an opportunity for self-reflection and learning” (Search Institute, 2000).
Another Perspective on Service Learning

• Environmental service learning is also described as “deliberate community service plan and action designed to maintain, protect and or restore the health of the environment.” (Adapted from Beery, 1993).
Y.E.L.L. ESL & L Projects

• Y.E.L.L. Environmental Service Learning & Leadership Projects will encourage:

  – the development of positive environmental values,

  – Leadership, and

  – responsibility to care for the environment.
Taking the M.A.S.K. Approach

•Awaken your **MOTIVATION** to take action to protect human health and the environment;

•Develop a positive **ATTITUDE** about your ability to make a positive change in your community in the face of environmental challenges;

•Develop and improve your leadership **SKILLS** that will mobilize other youth to take action; and

•Increase your **KNOWLEDGE** about environmental issues.
Beginning with the End in Mind

• You project will be evaluated by the following criteria:
  • Clarity of Problem statement – 10 pts
  • Demonstration of leadership abilities in the planning and execution of project – 25 pts
  • Outcomes of Interventions/Impact in community (Before and after photos) – 25 pts
  • Evidence of sustainability of project after the semester – 10 pts
  • Reflections/Lessons learned in Write Up – 10 pts
  • Overall presentation/video – 20 pts
Getting Started...Identify Your Team

• Exchange phone numbers and e-mail addresses with your team members.

• Come up with a Team Name!

• Be Competitive!
Focus Your Project

• What do you want to achieve?
• What is the Environmental problem that you would like to address?
  – Ex: littering at the Carver School of Health Sciences).
  – The selected problem should be placed-based in the NPU-V community.
Consider These Potential Project Categories

- Toxic Chemicals
- Renewable Energy
- Plastic and Recycling
- Air Pollution
- Raise Your Voice
- Zero Waste
- Water Pollution
Analysis of the Problem

• What are the root causes of the problem?

• What has causes this problem?
Project Statement

- What is your project?
- How will address the problem that you have identified above?
- Where will the project take place?
Objective Statement

• What is the purpose or reason for your project?

• Why do you want to take on this project?
Become an Expert

• **Conduct background research.**

• **Consider these questions for your project:**
  – *What is the current situation?*
  – *What’s already been tried (if anything)?*
  – *Who will be involved in your project?*
  – *Who are the decision makers?*
  – *What obstacles exist?*
  – *Are there examples of successful projects like this? If so, what made them successful?*
What Do You Already Know?

• Write down everything that you know about your project.
What Do You Need to Know?

- Write down everything that you don’t know regarding your project that would be useful to know.
Becoming an Expert: Special Notes

• Capture “before” photos to demonstrate the extent of the problem before completion of your Environmental Service Learning & Leadership Project (ESLLP)

• Look at the things you need to know. What steps can you take to reduce this list? When will you take these steps?
Set Your Project Goals

• **What will indicate that you have successfully implemented your project?**

• **By when will you complete these goals?**

• **Make your project goal *specific* and *measurable* (i.e. reduce your school’s energy consumption by 20%).**
Survey Your Landscape

- *It is important to identify what you have and what you need so that you can determine your strengths and weaknesses:*

  - What people do you have?
  - What skills and talents do you have?
  - What money and resources do you have access to?
  - Are there upcoming events or other opportunities that relate to your project that you can take advantage of?
Survey Your Landscape

• What do you need that you don’t have?:
  – What people do you need?
  – What skills and talents do you need?
  – What money and resources do you need?
  – Are there upcoming events or other opportunities that relate to your project that you need to take advantage of?
Surveying Your Landscape
Action Items

• What actions will get you what you need?

• By when will you complete each action?

• Who will complete each action?
Create a Timeline with Milestones

• Work backwards (from project goal achieved) and create milestones (small goals that work towards your project goal).

• Your first milestones will be to complete the “Becoming an Expert” and “Lay of the Land” action items.

• Make your milestones specific and measureable (include a completion date and determine who will complete the goal) !!!!
Message Clearly

• **Create Your “Elevator Pitch”**
  – *In no more than 5 sentences, describe:*
  • who you are,
  • what you are doing, and
  • Why you are doing what you are doing.

*Sell yourself and your project!*
Writing it All Up: Project Overview

• Project Overview: Using the work you did earlier, briefly describe your project.
• Make sure to address:
  – what your project is,
  – where it will take place,
  – what the purpose is,
  – and why you are taking on this particular project.
Writing it All Up: Lessons Learned

• Lessons Learned:
  – What are the important lessons that you learned by completing your Environmental Service Learning and Leadership Project (ESLLP)?
  
  – What are your “take-aways”?  
Project Sustainability Plan

• How will your project continue after this year?

• What steps will you put in place to make sure that the project continues?