



HUMAN SERVICES ACADEMY NEWSLETTER

September 2015



Ronald Reagan Student Leadership Program

With the support of Richard Castaniero, four Human Services Academy juniors participated in the Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation's Summer Leadership Program. The objective was to increase civic engagement of student leaders. They spent five days, in Simi Valley, immersed in Leadership Development Training that focused on three principles of successful leadership:

- ◆ Effective Communication,
- ◆ Optimism, and
- ◆ Informed Decision-Making.

By the end, students were expected to create a Leadership Action Plan to address a problem in their community. They have chosen community service projects in the following areas:

- ◆ Foster Care,
- ◆ Mental Health, and
- ◆ Nutrition.



United States Marines

The Marines pride themselves when it comes to global readiness. When Sergeant Weldon Housley spoke to the junior interns on August 27th, he told them, "If you have not started looking at colleges you want to attend, you are already behind!". He continued by elaborating on the various jobs in this branch of service that relates to the Human Service Pathways. For example, after completing service with the Marines, one can become a police officer. He also mentioned, how in the Marines, you can get paid to travel the world. Bootcamp is thirteen weeks long. The Sergeant also explained, "Even though there are many misconceptions about Americans in other countries, they provide their service to make a difference." We will see him again at Senior Awards Night presenting scholarships.



United States Coast Guard

Petty Officer Brian Hunter did a great job of giving the 11th graders a historical perspective about the United States Coast Guard that started with Alexander Hamilton proposing ten cutter ships. He explained that the old steamboats had to undergo rigorous inspections because they were so dangerous and could explode. Today, we can tour many of the lighthouses that were originally designed to show boats the safe entrance into harbors. Currently, law enforcement is an important component of the services provided by the U.S. Coast Guard to provide safety at sea. Marine technicians are involved with the oil spills that we read about in the papers.

SPHS Book Fair



Nora Perez, Library Assistant, requested help from the Human Services Academy at the Scholastic Book Fair that took place on the evening of Thursday, August 27th at Back-to-School event. Ten sophomores mounted posters on the walls, set up displays in the library, and made announcements to parents in various classrooms that evening. The \$400 in fundraiser monies will be used to purchase new books.



Shield of Success



Pre-Academy Human Services freshmen have been enrolled in Introduction to Human Service class at the honors level. They have a textbook to read at home and nightly assignments.

Section 1 was all about Who Am I? They began by envisioning their future. Aspects as to Why People Work are reviewed since everybody works! Coming up with their Definition of Success lead them into creating a Shield of Success. 9th graders had to draw icons to represent:

- * Accepts Responsibility,
- * Self-motivated,
- * Self-management,
- * Interdependent,
- * Self-awareness,
- * Believe in Life-long learning,
- * Emotional intelligence, and
- * Believe in myself.

Character Traits have involved discussions related to tolerance, honesty, respect, courage, and citizenship. Decision-making patterns were reviewed and ranked. Portfolios and 3X5 cards are graded before they take quizzes on each chapter. Then, the student keyboard their assignments online into My10YearPlan.

The goal is to get college credit !

Saturday School

Quarter 1 Progress Grades were mailed home Thursday, September 17th. Academy students printed their grades from Student Connect. If all their grades were C or better, they simply took the grade sheet home for a parent signature.

However, if the student received a D or F in any class...they were assigned two Saturday Schools on September 26th and October 3rd. They show up with their school ID, textbooks, and assignments to work on from 8:00-12:00.

Since some students are not meeting their academic potential, this time is forcing them to put quality effort into completing homework, catching up on missing assignments, and studying. The hope is that their grades will be up in four weeks for the Quarter 1 Report Cards.



Science Labs Raise Awareness

Sophomores participated in a science lab in their Child Development and Care class. The Semi-Permeable Membrane lab had the students making observations and then writing descriptions about what they saw. The baggie simulated the amniotic sac surrounding the baby and the iodine simulated the syphilis germ. They developed correlations at the end of the lab. The conclusion suggested that if the syphilis germ passed over the amniotic sac, the fetus could be born with multiple birth defects. This lab related directly with their Birth Defect Research Projects.

