

CHALLENGE

A Herff Jones IMPACT Resource For Students

May, 2005

MAY CHALLENGE

Effective Student Activity Programs

An effective student activities program should encourage participation by all of the student population as well as participation and support of parents, faculty, administration, staff and the community.

There are five areas where student activities are important in the growth of the participants. They are:

Promoting citizenship

- ~ by promoting democracy as a way of life
- ~ by helping each student develop a respect for the law
- ~ by helping each individual develop a sense of personal responsibility in daily life and self-esteem
- ~ by providing a forum for student opinions and interests
- ~ by teaching the students that there is a proper method to initiate change.

Promoting scholarship

- ~ by encouraging the highest standards of scholarship and student involvement
- ~ by promoting experiences in problem solving

- ~ by providing training and experiences in the skills and techniques of good citizenship and leadership.

Promoting leadership

- ~ by providing students with the power and right to speak and voice their opinions and to be heard by those in authority
- ~ by using ideas and support of students in solving relevant school problems
- ~ by providing a meaningful program of clubs and organizations for students to practice their leadership.



Promoting human relations

- ~ by helping to create harmonious relations among faculty, staff, administration, parents, student body and community
- ~ by providing needed services to the school and community

- ~ by communicating the purposes of activities and other positive parts of school life to the school and community using all types of communication
- ~ by establishing programs that recognize the uniqueness and contributions of each individual to the school and community.

Promoting cultural values

- ~ by sparking school loyalty, pride, patriotism, and individual student development
- ~ by providing real experiences in group development and human understanding
- ~ by teaching individual rights and responsibilities
- ~ by giving students reasons to stay in school and not drop out and by helping to instill the commitment to worthwhile personal and educational goals.

This newsletter is a joint effort of Jackie Burch and Herff Jones, Inc.

IDEAS FOR EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP

1. Emphasize skills, not rules, in your organization
2. Set high standards for your organization
3. Know your members and try to determine what is important to them
4. Listen courteously and attentively to all ideas
5. Try, if possible, to let people carry out their ideas
6. Try to give directions in the form of suggestions or requests
7. Delegate responsibility
8. Show people that you have faith in them and expect them to do their best
9. Give constructive criticism
10. Praise in public and censure in private
11. Pass the credit to others
12. Ask for help
13. Be considerate
14. Be consistent
15. Accept moderate “gripping” as healthy.

HAZARDS OF LEADERSHIP

1. Becoming only interested in popularity
2. Loving power more than people
3. Using people to your benefit
4. Failure to concentrate and spreading yourself too thin
5. Failure to listen to good advice, experience, and concern from others
6. Disregarding your academic grades
7. Finding it difficult to follow others

8. Failing to recognize the importance of committees and ending up doing the work yourself
9. Avoiding those you consider unimportant
10. Losing friendships
11. Taking on responsibilities that you do not have time to do
12. Taking credit for everything yourself when others helped.

THE KEYS OF LEADERSHIP

1. ***Begin with yourself.*** Successful leadership always begins with the individual. The best leaders share a high degree of integrity, courage, and curiosity. They are willing to take risks and demonstrate courage through their willingness.
2. ***Shape and share a vision.*** If you try to lead without a vision you are seriously crippled. Dynamic leaders consistently develop and articulate a vision.
3. ***Practicing partnering.*** Partnering is actively aligning with others to achieve mutually desired results. Successful leaders think and talk in terms of “we;” sharing information, power, involvement, and responsibility for decisions.
4. ***Continually encourage.*** Leadership encourages others to take risks and to use mistakes as learning opportunities.
5. ***Build resilience to problems.*** Successful leaders are always facing challenges and demands.

Learn to deal with them with composure and confidence.

Top leaders can be developed. Use these keys to leadership to help provide guidelines for developing successful leadership in your clubs and organizations.



“ It is neither wealth nor splendor, but tranquility and occupation, which gives happiness.”

~ Thomas Jefferson

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