

Advisor Agenda – All Grades

Monday, December 1st

1. Read Daily Bulletin

2. Special Announcement – Seniors

Advisors – please pass out the Financial Aid Night flyers to advisees

You can afford to go to college! All seniors are encouraged to attend the Financial Aid Night, which will be held next Monday evening, December 8th. Please take your flyer home and let your parents know about this important event.

3. Special Announcement – All Grades – AIDS Awareness Week

Every day, 6000 people are infected with HIV- Human Immunodeficiency Virus. When people are HIV positive, the virus multiplies in their cells, making them highly susceptible to disease. Thanks to scientific progress, people can live with HIV if they have proper medical care. However, for the large percentage of people who don't get treatment, the HIV virus eventually leads to AIDS. There is no cure for AIDS.

33 million people worldwide are living with HIV/AIDS. 95 percent of those infected live in developing countries. Communities suffering high rates of HIV/AIDS have a hard time lifting themselves out of poverty- the virus affects not only those living with it, but their entire social and economic networks. Less than 20 percent of the people living with HIV/AIDS are receiving life saving antiretroviral medications.

HIV/AIDS is a preventable and treatable disease. While there is still no cure for AIDS, proper treatment can help people live healthy, productive lives.

In honor of World AIDS Awareness Week, CV's Global Citizen Corps Leaders and GSA club have invited Wendy Johnson to speak about her recent experiences working with HIV/AIDS in Africa and in the state health department. She'll be presenting today at 1:30 in the auditorium. Some classes have signed up to go. If you have an off block during 7th period today, feel free to attend.

Also, don't forget to stop by the AIDS Week bake sale on Thursday- all proceeds will go to HIV/AIDS work in developing countries.

4. Activity – All Grades – Community Service

Begin discussing the concept of community service. This month, Advisor groups will discuss and prepare an action plan for either community service project, or awareness activity.

- Service project - actual work done by the students
- Awareness activity - something that raises awareness of a particular issue – a poster, an article to be read in an advisor, a letter to the editor, etc.

The grade groups will break down as follows.

- Ninth grade groups will choose a service project or awareness activity to complete on campus to improve our Crescent Valley community.

- Tenth grade groups will choose a project or awareness activity that connects Crescent Valley students to the Corvallis community.
- Eleventh grade groups will choose a project or awareness activity that connects the Corvallis community to the rest of Oregon and/or the United States.
- Twelfth grade groups will choose a project or awareness activity that connects Corvallis citizens and Crescent Valley students to the global community.

We are following this pattern in order to continue service/awareness next year and not have students repeat projects.

Below are questions to help your advisor group to start thinking about what community service is and how they can play a role. If you would like to start brainstorming ideas for your Advisor group, you may start today or wait for Thursday. During Thursday's Advisor, groups will begin preparing an action plan form to help them put their ideas into concrete steps.

Included in this e-mail are excerpts from article on community service that was in the New York Times last year. It discusses the dilemma of doing service for service sake, or for your college resume. You may choose to read it if you need something to create dialogue.

Service Questions

- Have you ever participated in community service? Why or why not?
- What types of community service have you participated in? What types would you be interested in?
- What has motivated you to do community service (requirements, interests, parents, friends, college admissions, etc.)?
- What do people learn from participating in community service?
- What are good ways to introduce young people to community service?
- Should schools require students to participate in community service?
- Should colleges look favorably on applicants who have participated in a lot of community service? Why?

Excerpts from the New York Times article - **A Better Society? Or a Better Résumé?**

Printed, **March 26, 2007**. Written by, **MICHAEL POWELL**

[S]ometimes society stumbles in the right direction for the wrong reasons, said Robert Putnam, a professor of public policy at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

“If young people acquire the habit of community service (even for less than exalted reasons), there is some evidence that the habit persists into adult life. So even if the initial motive was ignoble (of low quality), the long-run net effect may create a more caring society.”

The high school students' predicament is more complicated. For the past 15 years, highly competitive colleges have demanded that students detail their charitable work, and not surprisingly that has fired a community service arms race.

“Do sports. Check! Take advanced-placement classes. Check! Feed a sandwich to the homeless. Check!” Scott White, director of guidance at Montclair High School, heaves a sigh. “Is it better than sitting on a couch watching MTV? I guess.”

“But is it truly meaningful? No.”

The most exclusive private schools in Manhattan, from Trinity to Dalton to Collegiate, hire community service specialists. Well-heeled families pay \$5,000 to send their high school children jetting off to build cottages in the hills of Costa Rica and the Dominican Republic. Ivywise, an educational consulting company that provides admissions counseling to students, says: “Extracurricular activities count! But they have to be of a certain nature.”

Students become hip to this game. Many possess genuine humanitarian impulses, and tens of thousands work in all matter of good causes. But the emphasis on official, college-certified “community service” strikes even some of the most committed teenagers as almost beside the point.

Lucy Stewart, 18, a senior at Montclair High School, has worked in inner-city Newark for the past four years, helping abused and neglected children with their homework, and reading them stories and providing good company. Hers is a family that stresses such service — her older brother volunteers in an animal shelter — and she notes the value of exposing even the most jaded student to community service.

“I’d be lying if I said it doesn’t mean something on a college application,” she said. “I would only say that you really can tell the difference between those who are passionate and those who are doing it to put it on their résumé.”