

Service learning in Lutheran schools

Advocacy (heart)

'Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all.' Aristotle

Standing up for others. Giving voice.

This component focuses on an explicit teaching of the meaning of advocacy and its different forms and forums. Advocacy is about making a difference through political and/or public education.

Questions: How could student direction be developed (student solve problems, make decisions, test hypothesis)? How will mutual respect and understanding of diversity be promoted?

Re-orient teaching strategies that encourage student direction and enhance thinking skills and learning.

- consult with the local community
- vote to clean up part of the community
- plan a project
- observe, take inventory and clean up the area
- analyse what they found; hypothesise about its sources
- look at the impact of the pollutants on flora and fauna
- share the results with the local council and residents
- offer suggestions for reducing pollution – perhaps by writing a brochure and developing a website.
- public address – classroom, year level, assembly
- make and distribute brochures
- make a film to screen for a desired audience
- develop a website
- posters
- newsletters or newspaper article
- write letters

References

Roehikepartain, E.C. Service-Learning in Community-based Organisations: A Practical Guide to Starting and Sustaining High-Quality Programs. Scotts Valley, CA: Learn and Serve America's National Service-Learning Clearinghouse, 2009. http://www.servicelearning.org/filemanager/download/8543_CBO_Toolkit_2009.pdf