

PROGRAM:

After School Tutoring Clubs

OBJECTIVES:

Provide students with additional academic assistance while engaging them in extracurricular learning activities and community service.

LOCATION:

Harrison Middle School and Sierra Vista Middle School in Sunnyside School District

DESCRIPTION:

Between the two middle schools there were a total of 8 two-hour clubs, which also provided 30-45 minutes of tutoring each day, Monday-Thursday.

- Each day began with a “break” and a snack for students, leading into tutoring and homework assistance for 30-45 minutes. Teachers and GEAR UP staff also used this opportunity to do grade/progress checks.
- Following homework, teachers broke into their club activities. Each day of the week involved a different club and teacher, and each had different sets of activities.

A certificated teacher or staff member led each GEAR UP club/tutoring class. A total of seven teachers between the two schools participated. The school district provided students with snacks at no cost due to the high percentage of students on free and reduced lunch.

Clubs included: Mental Karate, Game Club, Multi-Cultural Club, Theater Club, HMS Pride (Community Service) Club, Health & Fitness Club, and Science Club.

The program provided tutoring and other academic support to students, while at the same time engaging them in a variety of cultural, scientific, social and service activities. Engagement in extracurricular activities is strongly associated with academic success, and this program served that and many other functions.

IMPLEMENTATION TIMELINE:

PREPARATION ACTIVITIES:

- First meeting to discuss concept—End of prior school year.
- Follow-up meeting and designated assignments—End of September with anticipated start date for mid-October.
- Communication with Transportation to determine availability of buses for after school programs.

Naturally, implementation of the program was dependent upon the support and good will of the administration. Help from the administration was forthcoming at all times, and frequently suggestions from the administration were extremely useful in program development. Implementation required a great deal of recruitment for teachers and brainstorming club ideas. The program had the full support of administration and staff at both schools. Outreach efforts to parents and students were conducted through classroom presentations, parent meetings, word of mouth, posters, and parent-teacher conferences.

FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES:

- Students are asked to evaluate the club activities and indicate club interests.
- Staff reviews attendance and student input to design future clubs/activities.

COSTS OR COST CONSIDERATIONS:

The major project cost considerations were the following:

GEAR UP funds – Teacher wages = \$28/hour for 2 hours per week; Travel for HMS Pride to travel to Senior Center once a month (2 vans @ .80/mi. x 2.2 mi.).

Hillcrest Manor partnership for HMS Pride visitations once a month

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