MAAP 2013
(Malden Adventures and Academic Program)

Service Learning In Action

By the MHS team: Erin Craven, Jessica Bisson, Liz Smith, Jamie Green, Katelyn Hubert, Pat Laidley, and Heather Northrop
Prior To Start of Program:

- Had a formal meeting with Mayor Christenson of Malden and the Director of Public Works, Bobby Knox, to identify five problems/concerns throughout the city where he felt students could help make a positive impact.
Define Service Learning

- Students split into groups to learn the difference between Community Service, Community Learning, and Service Learning.
- Given examples of Community Service students discussed ways to turn it into service learning.
Discover Needs/Problems
Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment

- **History:**
  - 3 figures in American Abolitionist History who introduced change through policy, education, or direct service
    - Compare and Contrast the effectiveness of each person

- **Science:**
  - List steps they need to solve a problem
    - [http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Se12y9hSOM0](http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Se12y9hSOM0)

- **English:**
  - Students analyzed and responded to the MHS mission statement
    - Read and marked up the text by questioning, connecting, reacting, inferring, and predicting

- **Math:**
  - Measurements and Analyzing Data
    - Including various numerical elements of research, such as, funding, counting, predicting, etc.
Investigate Problems

- Students broke up into groups to investigate the top three problems from the survey: Littering, Recycling, and Graffiti
  - Created surveys
    - Recycling Survey for individuals.docx
  - Data collection
    - recycling checklist.docx
  - Internet research
Mayor Christenson and Director of Public Works, Bobby Knox, spoke to the students as a group. Students used their research to ask questions to determine the actual effect of the problems on the city and what solutions have already been attempted.
Collaborative Environment

- Project Adventure Leadership Training
- College Visits
  - Northeastern
  - Curry College
- Students split into four smaller groups based on their solution approach
  - 2 PSA Groups (Littering/Recycling and Graffiti)
  - 1 Direct Service Group (Littering)
  - 1 Policy Group (Graffiti)
Research Solutions and Decide on a Project

- PSA Groups
  › Critically analyzed PSA’s on Littering, Recycling, and Graffiti
  › Asked the Mayor about the Common Wealth Connect App
  › Students had access to MATV (Malden Access TV studio)
    - Each group chose to complete an educational commercial to help teach the community about the problems and ways to help
Policy Group

- Examined other policies and laws already in action
  - Explored solutions attempted in other cities
- Spoke with the Mayor and the Director of Public Works at City Hall to get input on some ideas they had
- Voted on a topic
  - All possible solutions had a common theme of some form of open space for the community to utilize
Research Solutions and Decide on a Project

- Direct Service Group
  - Created and analyzed a survey to determine where they would should focus their efforts
  - Students wished to find the areas in the city with the most litter and help to clean it up
Plan the Project and Implement the Plan

- **PSA Groups**
  - One commercial on Littering/Recycling
  - One commercial about Graffiti in Malden
  - Both groups focused on using the Common Wealth Connect App to help improve the problems
    - (View DVD)
Plan the Project and Implement the Plan

- Policy Group
  - Created a policy about utilizing an ‘Artists Open Space’ to help lower the amount of Graffiti throughout the city
  - Students created a Prezi and presented it at City Hall to the Mayor and the Director of Public Works
    - Graffiti Prezi
Plan the Project and Implement the Plan

- Direct Service Group
  - Students visited the Department of Public Works to borrow specialized equipment for litter removal
  - Utilized the KIDS framework to develop a presentation explaining their service learning experience
  - Created a Prezi to show the Mayor, Mr. Knox and their peers, what they were able to complete in the time frame they had available to them
    - [Direct Service Prezi](#)
Student Reflections

- Students worked in their groups to describe the process they took to in order to come up with a solution to their problem.
- Each individual student filled out a survey about the MAAP program in general.
“My favorite parts of MAAP was meeting new people and getting to do all the things we did. I liked it because it was all a fun experience.”

“I enjoyed cleaning up the area around the YMCA because we were able to help the community while having fun with our group.”
Student Reflections

- **Favorite parts:**
  - “Going to the colleges ‘cause now I can choose what colleges I want to go to.”

- **Change or do differently:**
  - “I would change how I treat my city. I will treat it with more respect.”

- **Eliminate:**
  - “I wouldn’t eliminate anything from the program because it helps us get to know the high school and our city better.”

- **Best memories:**
  - “Working together to solve a problem and figure it out/ and meeting new friends.”
Student Reflections

- **Eliminate:**
  - “I wouldn’t really eliminate anything because every single thing we did taught me more stuff and expanded my knowledge.”

- **Best memory:**
  - “My best memory is actually working together as a group even if we liked or disliked each other. We listened to each other’s opinions and ideas. It taught us how to work with others and help make it bearable.”

- The majority of the students also said they enjoyed Project Adventure (specifically zip lining)
PSA Groups
- The Mayor stated that he would make both commercials the official commercials for the Common Wealth Connect App

Policy
- During the question and answer portion of their presentation, the Mayor posed questions that he wanted the students to research more about and then present back to him
  - They did this on the last day of the program
- The Mayor and Director of Public Works asked for all the information the students put together this summer so they could put it on the official City of Malden Facebook page
Parents and friends were invited to the school on the last day of the program to see what the students had been working on all summer. We set up in the auditorium and each group presented their project. The Mayor and Mr. Knox were also in attendance.

Erin Craven, the director of the program, made a slide show depicting everything the students accomplished this summer (cd provided). Each student received a certificate and a t-shirt for their participation in the program. Cake, snacks, and drinks were provided at the end of the presentation.
Reflection by Teachers

- Overall the program ran exceptionally well and the positive impact on the city, via the Mayor’s office, was outstanding
  - “This program is fantastic, it’s too valuable to lose!” ~Mayor Christenson

- Attendance was over 90% everyday, on average

- In the future:
  - More whole group activities
  - Allow students more independent processing time