Community Service Learning
Summer 2008

Pittsfield Public Schools
Adventure-Based Curriculum
Community Gardening
Ethnic Cookbooks
ELA
Math
Assessments
Supports
Enrollment

- (28) incoming 9th graders enrolled
- Offered to 15 additional students
- (12) 10th-12th graders
Staffing

- Coordinator
- ELA Teacher
- Reading Teacher
- Math Teacher
- Horticulture Teacher
- Culinary Teacher
- Peer Mediator
- SAC’s
- Absolutely Experiential Counselors
Class Sizes

8:1 ratio throughout the program
Assessments

- DIBELS
- Galileo
- TOWRE sight word efficiency
- GRADE for comprehension
Structure

- Referrals from guidance
- Registration
- Parent meetings
- Student orientation
- Day 1 assessments
- Weekly reflections
- Homework 3 times a week
- Nightly parent signatures
- Progress review parent meeting
Positive Behavior Support

- SHARE
- Safe
- Here
- Accountability
- Respectful
- Engaged

- Expectations taught
- Daily points awarded
This year the district has decided to introduce a new methodology of teaching and learning. The school committee accepted the proposal to use Service Learning as an alternative to the traditional classroom model. Three projects were completed during the summer program.
Why

- To try to correlate data that using a service learning model will help improve MCAS scores
- Re-engage students
- Help apply classroom knowledge to the community in which we live
When

- Summer 2008
- Pittsfield Public Schools offered a 5 week program which ran from early July to mid-August
How

- Held a planning meeting with secondary Principals and interested faculty
- Recruited teachers in a variety of content areas
- Multiple planning meetings to focus on student needs
Data

- Unsuccessful on MCAS
- Poor academic grades
- Attendance issues
- Discipline referrals
- Referrals to one or more outside agencies
Academics

- 1 hour daily of Math
- 1 hour daily of ELA
- 1 hour daily of Reading
  - The Ultimate Gift
  - Night Hoops
Vocational

- 2 hours of Culinary
- 2 hours of Horticulture
- 1 hour Strategies for Success
Project 1

*Week 1 Adventure-Based Learning with a focus on diversity and ELA*

www.tolerance.org
www.Pbskids.org/zoom/action
Project 2

Community Gardening with a focus on math

www.kidsgardening.com
www.bestbuddies.org
Ethnic Cooking tied together with ELA and Math

QuickTime™ and a MPEG-4 Video decompressor are needed to see this picture.

www.strength.org
Question and Answer