

Logic Model

A Garden of Possibilities: Lori Sakalian, Tim Larrabee, Sarah Bruha Avondale/Oakland University Partnership School 1/11/15

Problem Statement: Students will learn by leveraging and strengthening their connection to their communities through student driven, place-based experiences.

Goal: Students will engage in authentic experiences that will empower them to lead and make change in their communities.

Rationale:

- Research says that when students are given the opportunity to guide their own learning they are more engaged, retain and learn more about their topic of study.
- When students are engaged in real world problem-solving that is directly related to their community, it increases their engagement and the depth and breadth of their learning.
- When the community, including parents, become actively engaged in the educational process then more meaningful connections are made and the learning becomes more relevant to students.

Inputs:

- Community/family support & participation
- Oakland University Partnership
- Students
- Classroom teachers
- Administrators
- Superintendent office
- Pre-service teachers
- Fundraising support
- Earth Force
- Chamber of Commerce

Activities:

- Classroom visitations & observations
- Archive personal narratives from students, pre-service teachers and classroom teachers experiences with Earth Force.
- Meetings and professional development to spread awareness.
- Share past projects successes and challenges
- Educate stakeholders
- Grant writing
- Fundraising

Outputs:

- Students will produce various Earth Force portfolios aligned with standards grounded in place-based/community-based education.
- Students will lead in presenting their projects.
- Facilitators and stakeholders will share their experiences during PD, conferences, meetings etc.
- Use social media/web based platforms to preserve student projects and create resources for those facilitating future projects.

Outcomes:

Short Term: 1st year

- Develop social media/web based presence to support others.
- Create an Earth Force task force.
- Develop in-house professional development to oriente faculty, educators and administrators to the Earth Force curriculum and place-based education.
- Establish criteria to measure and document student growth and outcomes.
- Integrate Earth Force curriculum with existing school culture.
- Pre-service teachers will be engaged in authentic teaching experiences with real students and with challenging curriculum.

Medium Term: 3rd year

- Extend students experiences, projects and outreach into the community.
- Bring Earth Force to other schools in the district.
- Expand science methods college courses to various sites around the district to provide engaging, authentic teaching experiences for more pre-service teachers.

Long Term: 5th year and Beyond

- Create place-based/community-based magnet school.
- Become a Earth Force leader in the county and extend reach to other surrounding schools in the district.

External Environment: limited resources (time, teachers, money), how much time do we have in a teaching day for this project?

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