



STANDARDS OF EXCELLENCE PROGRAM PROJECT SUMMARY SHEET

SCHOOL: West Windsor-Plainsboro High School South

ACTIVITY: Dancing with the Stars: Pirate Edition

DATE(S): March 20th, 2014

CATEGORY: Educational

ADVISOR NAME: Brandy Moncada

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PROVIDE A BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THIS PROJECT:

A fun event, modeled off the the television show “Dancing with the Stars.” Student representatives from each grade audition with a dance of the genre of their choice to participate in the show. Teachers then volunteer and are assigned different dance genres and a student council helper to help choreograph the dance. Teacher pairs and student pairs perform dances during the show and in the end we crown winners after a round of final dances with a trophy. We were able to incorporate the HERO campaign into the show by showing the organization’s video and having a guest speaker during the show and laptops set up in the commons for people to take the pledge.

DESCRIBE THE PLANNING & EXECUTION OF THIS PROJECT:

In order to plan for the dancing with the stars event, we made sure to have every student council member sell tickets for over a week. Along with that, we had a facebook page and made sure to tweet out all of the information. We had the council brainstorm the types of dances and amount of participants and decided that it would be best to do student pairs and teacher pairs. Our council brought in representatives from the HERO campaign association to speak to the audience and explain their goal. We played a video during the event regarding the HERO campaign and had computers set up outside for people to take the designated driver pledge. The judges had scoring sheets and there were also two hosts; a teacher and a student. Prior to the event, we had a dress rehearsal and made sure to audition each dancing pair to make sure their act was appropriate. We had two winners after they went through the second round and gave out a trophy! It was a very successful event.

DESCRIBE THE BENEFIT OF THIS PROJECT BENEFIT TO SCHOOL AND/OR COMMUNITY:

As our winter fundraiser, this event was able to raise a large amount of money for the state charity of the time, the HERO campaign. Not only were we able to raise money but we were also able to raise awareness of what the organization is and their mission. Also, by having the laptops set up outside of the theatre we were able to have people take the pledge of the HERO campaign to be a designated driver. This in many ways was the most successful part of the night because we were able to show the community the dangers of drunk driving through our guest speaker and video, and then give them a way to elicit change in their community and themselves by signing the pledge.

EVALUATE THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THIS PROJECT, REFLECTING ON ANY POSSIBLE CHANGES YOU MIGHT CONSIDER:

This was one of the most successful events throughout South Student Council history. We raised about two thousand dollars and everything went very smoothly. The only thing that we would consider improving on is the amount of teacher pairs that are prepared to perform.

There were many teachers that backed out at the last second and it would have been helpful to have backups.