

**Region 9 Service-Learning Consortium**  
**Meeting Agenda**  
**August 21, 2008**  
**11:00 – 1:00**

Welcome to the second annual Regional Service-Learning Consortium meeting for Orange County and San Diego County. Volunteer Center Orange County and Volunteer San Diego are pleased to host this networking and resource sharing event. We are excited you could join us.

We would also like to send a special thank you to Coco's Restaurant for the meeting space.

11:00 Introductions

- Why are we all here? What brought us here?

11:20 The State of Service-Learning (Bette's notes are attached - "State of the State", and below are links to the 3 reports)

- Engaged for Success - <http://www.civicenterprises.net/pdfs/service-learning.pdf>
- Engaging At-Risk Youth - [http://tools.ysa.org/downloads/modules/Engaging\\_At-Risk\\_Youth\\_in\\_Service.pdf](http://tools.ysa.org/downloads/modules/Engaging_At-Risk_Youth_in_Service.pdf)
- The Silent Epidemic - <http://www.gatesfoundation.org/nr/downloads/ed/thesilentepidemic3-06final.pdf>
- Solving California's Dropout Crisis - <http://www.lmri.ucsb.edu/dropouts/index.htm>
- Service-Learning Regional goals overview for 08-09: Drop-out Prevention; Outreach; Learn & Challenge Week
- CalServe – For the first time all Regional Leads with Youth Service California and CDE (CalServe) are getting on the same page. This is the first year there is a lot of focus on common language, goals, vision
- There is now the beginning of a statewide focus on one message – Service-learning is an effective dropout prevention tool.
- Also matches with the State Superintendent – starting to track and combat drop out rates (did the student move, finish school at a later date, get their GED, etc?)  
<http://www.sacbee.com/111/story/1088866.html>
- The Dropout Rate: What is it? How can service-learning be a preventative tool?
  - What is happening at the state level? Why is this so important?
  - Service-Learning is a tool in preventing dropouts (not necessarily the silver bullet, but a great tool)
  - Service-Learning engages students, and as a result, students have better attendance and become more interested in school and thus less dropout
  - Businesses could get behind this effort, especially looking at economic impact of dropout rates and engaging students to be civically and economically responsible.
- Learn & Serve Challenge Week
  - Report out on events for Learn & Serve Challenge Week
  - How to use Learn & Serve Challenge Week to leverage service-learning outreach
  - Post what you are doing for Learn & Serve Challenge Week (<http://www.learnandservechallenge.org/acceptthechallenge.php>)
  - Send out flyers, a survey, a service-learning fact sheet, etc.

- Volunteer San Diego is hosting a free event: [Engaging Students: Fall Service Event](#)
- Share Outreach Materials?
  - Fact sheet, outreach strategies, survey, etc.
  - Establishing similar language, one message will help when outreaching. We hope to create materials that can represent efforts in Southern California.
  - Volunteer San Diego has refocused trainings and outreach language. We are now focusing everything on Engaging Students in Service. All of our trainings, coaching/consulting, outreach materials, events, etc. are centered on engaging students
  - Attached to this email is also examples of the VSD survey, as well as the VCOC materials (survey, fact sheet, FAQ)

#### 11:40 Breakout Sessions

- Similar language on FAQ sheet, fact sheet, etc. (Bette & Kim)
  - What can this look like for Orange County? San Diego County?
  - Similarities and differences/brainstorming (mixed groups)
  - How can we utilize Learn & Serve Challenge for further outreach?
  - The Volunteer Center of Orange County has been working on a survey, fact sheet, and a FAQ section for their website/Volunteer San Diego has sent out an outreach survey, created a website (one stop shop for service-learning [www.sdservicelearning.org](http://www.sdservicelearning.org))
  - The fact sheet (attached to this email) includes an introduction to service-learning, answers “why service-learning?” for educators, students and the community.
  - As for the VCOC survey (also attached to email), it is broken down and easier to understand. This will be used as an awareness tool as well as getting the word out about Service-Learning and how the Volunteer Center of Orange County can provide resources for educators, schools and the community.
- Dropout Rate – What can we offer as supporting actions for service-learning as a dropout prevention tool?
  - How can we utilize Learn & Serve Challenge for further drop prevention?
  - Word of mouth marketing
  - Service-Learning peer leadership for students in the next year, use student voice and have students who did service-learning in the past mentor students now doing service-learning
  - Acknowledge success stories with media, districts, County Office of Ed.(C)
  - Students doing PR letters and letters to elected officials
  - Capitalize on the Olympics –unity – global community as a way to engage students in service-learning global projects
  - Students share success stories to media, school board, parents, etc.
  - Correlate service-learning and dropout prevention in outreach by sharing. Stories of student success, then stats and research. Reasons for dropout, what and how service-learning impacts dropout
  - With in the Council and Consortium create working teams to focus on area – reasons for dropout, empower teachers to do service-learning, make connections where we are (find out who in our groups are already connected and use those connections to further our message)

- Networking resources ideas – communication and PR/Marketing (School Board, Media, partner with service-learning students at college to write to media)
- Identify weak links in SL implementation and work to strengthen SL
- Get a handle on local stats to relate this state issue to a local story
- Work with school district & COE – dropout task forces
- Find SL champions in schools & districts
- Create or find a forum to share data about SL and dropout
- Create students as shareholder in school/not just recipient of service
- Service-learning graduates come back with success stories
- College students to advocate for service-learning in high schools
- Consider a computer based meeting, with a facilitator for SD & OC to keep meeting on this topic and share resources

12:50 Wrap up and final thoughts for a great year

- Santa Ana – Presented to Santa Ana College for 10 years of Service-Learning
- Jenny Sims- Model practitioner & Susan Davis Award for an adult empowering students to serve