

# STUDENT ADVOCATE PROJECT

## 2023-2024

### Upper Elementary

We are excited about providing this opportunity to do some research and get involved in something you care about. Student and parent feedback has indicated this is a very meaningful and exciting project to participate in. We will be covering each step in class prior to your child completing each step of this project!

**Student Advocate:** A student who actively works to positively affect environmental, economic, or social change.

“Leave this world a little better than you found it.” ~~Scout’s Rule~~

As human beings, in general, we find great joy in putting to use our passions to help others; giving without expecting something in return, just because it is the right thing to do. Even if you have yet to explore this side of yourself, you will find that giving can transform and lighten your heart.

As a student advocate you will be asked to look into your heart and pick an issue facing our community, environment, or world. Then choose a cause, or organization, associated with that issue. You will research your issue and the organization you have chosen to get involved with. You will then be asked to DO SOMETHING about the issue you selected.

Important Virtues we would like to see develop through completing this project:

- **Commitment:** The firm carrying out of purpose.
- **Charity:** Generosity and helpfulness, especially toward the needy or suffering. Aid those in need.
- **Empathy:** Identification with and understanding of another’s feelings, situation, or motives.
- **Integrity:** Moral soundness; Integrity is consistency of values and actions.
- **Service:** Work done by one person or group.
- **Compassion:** Sympathetic awareness of others’ distress together with a desire to alleviate it.

\*If you are looking for ideas and tips to get you started, please view the attached document that provides issues and organizations, titled “Student Advocate Resource Page”.

#### **Due Dates**

**Wednesday, March 13, 2024 – Plan of Action**

**Wednesday, April 17, 2024 – Check-In and Progress Report**

**Wednesday, May 1, 2024 – Final Project and Oral Presentation**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Plan of Action – Wednesday, March 13, 2024**

Must Include:

- \_\_\_ The issue you have chosen
- \_\_\_ The “cause/organization” you will be working with
- \_\_\_ The steps you are going to take to make a difference
- \_\_\_ A timeline (with dates) for finishing each step (You must have a minimum of four steps in your project)
- \_\_\_ Background research (description below)

- Your background research about the issue and the organization you have chosen needs to include:
  - History of organization
  - Locations/ areas organization serves
  - Reasons why the organization was started
  - Mission statement

\*This written plan of action should be about one page in length typed, doublespaced, 12-point font, and Times New Roman.

\*Staple this piece of paper to your written Plan of Action and turn it in to your teacher no later than Wednesday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

**Score: \_\_\_\_/10**

\*To help students raise awareness for their cause CMP will be hosting a CMP Marketplace on Thursday April 11<sup>th</sup> (more details to follow). This may be a good time to sell handmade crafts, pass out free items, or sell other goods to families, staff, and friends.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Check-In and Progress Report – Wednesday, April 17, 2024**

- Your “Check-In and Progress Report” must include:
- Current Progress (At least one paragraph) ○ Are you on track with your timeline?
    - Have you had any set backs/challenges along the way? If so, how did/can you get past the obstacles you’ve encountered?
  - Steps to Complete (At least one paragraph) ○ What do you still need to complete? ○ What, if any, additional support do you require to finish your project.
  - Reflection (At least one paragraph) ○ What have you learned from this project so far?
    - Do you think you will continue to support this cause in the future?

\*This written “Check-In and Progress Report” should be detailed enough to fill about: 1 ½ - 2 pages in length, typed, double-spaced, 12-point font, and Times New Roman.

\*Staple this piece of paper to your written “Check-In and Progress Report” and turn it in to your teacher by no later than Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

Score: \_\_\_\_/10

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## **Final Project and Oral Presentation - Wednesday, May 1, 2024**

### **Slideshow Presentation**

- A 5-10 slide PowerPoint, Prezi, Google Slides, or other electronic slideshow presentation that highlights all the steps you took to complete your project. Your electronic presentation should include:
  - Research
  - Steps you took to complete your project
  - Photos and documents of evidence of advocacy highlighting the project
  - How others can help or get involved
  - Reflection- Any other information that you feel is important to include.

\*This piece of paper is to be used as a reference, you do not need to turn it in.

# Student Advocate Resource Page

A short list of issues facing the world, to help you choose, include:

- hunger (world/community)
- pollution
- homelessness
- disease (cancer, diabetes, heart disease, etc.)
- injured wildlife (rescue)
- the elderly (lonesome, abused, etc.)
- animal abuse
- habitat destruction
- poaching
- underprivileged children

Here are some charities and organizations that may provide you with a starting point.

- Sierra Wildlife Rescue <https://sierrawildliferescue.org/volunteer/>
- El Dorado County Food Bank <https://foodbankedc.org/>
- Fat Kitty City <https://www.fatkittycity.org>
- Cameron Park CSD <https://www.cameronpark.org/volunteers>
- Just Serve <https://www.justserve.org/>
- Snowline Hospice <https://snowlinehospice.org>
- Loaves and Fishes <http://www.sacloaves.org/>
- Hands 4 Hope <https://www.hands4hopeyouth.org/>
- American Cancer Society <https://www.cancer.org/involved/volunteer.html>
- Foothill Dog Rescue <http://foothilldogrescue.org/>
- Upper Room Dining Hall <https://upperroomdininghall.org/>

You are not limited to the above issues or organizations mentioned. Please follow your heart and find a cause that you are passionate about!

Ideas from advocacy projects in the past include donating food to Loaves and Fishes or creating care packages for the sick in hospitals. Some students raise money and support rescue wildlife, some help local animals in shelters. Students can play games and visit elderly in a care home. Children can help a retired Veteran, an older neighbor, or an individual with a disability. Brown bag lunches can be made and handed out to the homeless population.