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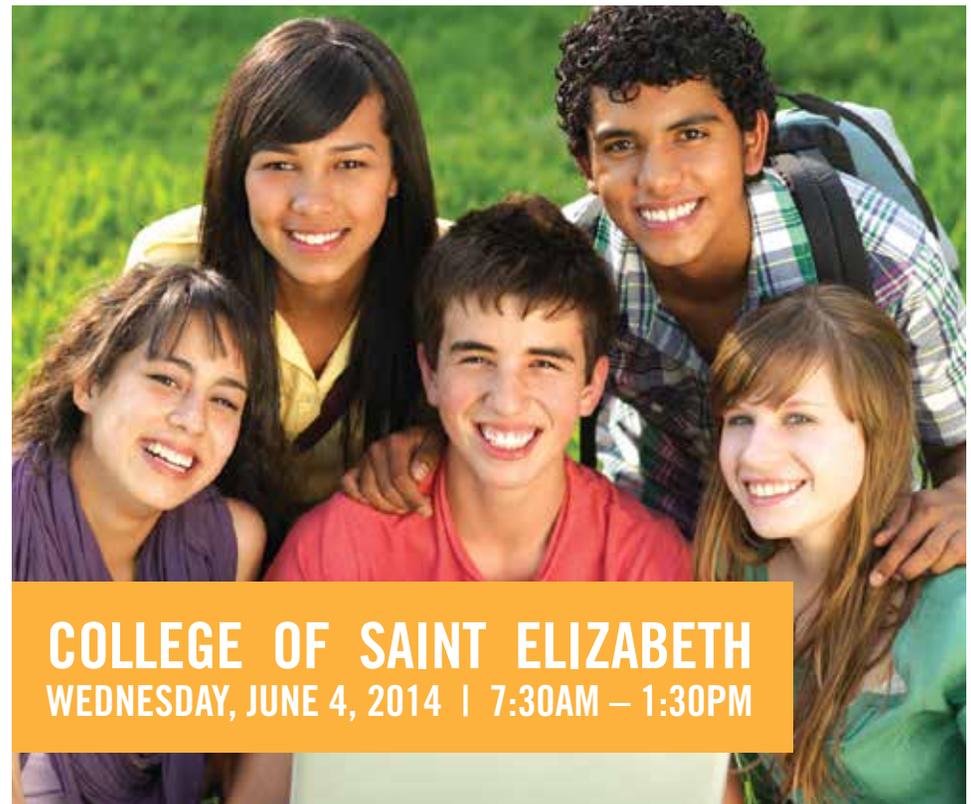
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GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER.

United Way
Youth Empowerment Alliance

YEA CELEBRATION!



COLLEGE OF SAINT ELIZABETH
WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4, 2014 | 7:30AM – 1:30PM

GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER.

United Way
of Northern New Jersey

UnitedWayNNJ.org/YouthEmpowermentAlliance

LIVE UNITED



TIME TO SAY “YEA!”



Welcome to the United Way *Youth Empowerment Alliance Celebration!* Throughout the last eight months, students have been hard at work creating positive change in their schools. Today we applaud everyone’s hard work!

WHO’S HERE?

Black River Middle School, Chester
East Hanover Middle School
Eisenhower Middle School, Roxbury
Frelinghuysen Middle School, Morris Township
Harding Township Middle School
Lincoln Park Middle School
Pearl R. Miller School, Kinnelon
Pequannock Valley Middle School
Richard Butler Middle School, Butler
Unity Charter School, Morristown

THANK YOU

The YEA Celebration is made possible through United Way *Youth Empowerment Alliance*, the Morris County Department of Human Services, and Municipal Alliance Initiative of Morris County.

Funding provided by the Governor’s Council on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse.



SAVE THE DATE

OCTOBER 15, 2014

Youth Summit. Find your voice!

For more information, contact Robyn Ulmer at 973.993.1160, x142 or Robyn.Ulmer@UnitedWayNNJ.org.



WHAT DID THE PROJECTS DO?



PEQUANNOCK VALLEY MIDDLE SCHOOL: PROJECT POSITIVE

Project Positive aims to improve school climate and create a stronger connection with the community. Students collaborated to deliver a bus-load of food to a local food pantry that feeds 478 people. Students also helped sort the donations at the food pantry.

Back at school, “Positive post-its” with encouraging words randomly appear around the school on windows, lockers, and doors throughout the school year. Class meetings have been held to create

a wall of positive words and phrases to be displayed in the hallways. “We got your back posts” will offer opportunities for students to write positive things about each other in the P.E. and Health classes.



RICHARD BUTLER MIDDLE SCHOOL: EIGHTH GRADE INDEPENDENCE

Students are doing the necessary legwork to change some school rules and offer eighth graders an opportunity to eat lunch outside. This project aims to offer the older students more independence, reward positive behavior, and help them learn about what it takes to make a change.

UNITY CHARTER SCHOOL: BRIDGING THE GAP

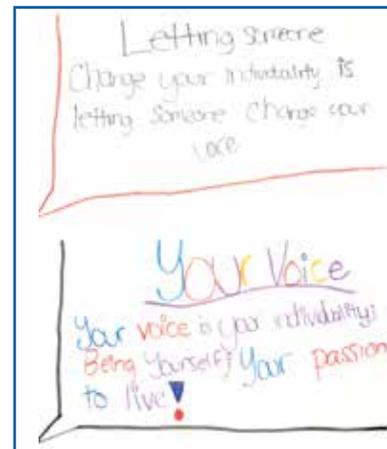
Building on a project started last year, students continue efforts to further unify

the school by participating in positive causes. A school-wide pep rally to kick off the annual students vs. staff basketball game bolstered school spirit and connections between kids and adults. Students are also holding a fundraiser for the Philippines where they guess teachers’ baby pictures.

WHAT’S HAPPENING TODAY?

WE HAVE A FUN-FILLED DAY FOCUSED ON THE STUDENTS!

TIME	ACTIVITY	PLACE
7:30am	Arrive and mingle	Xavier Center
8:15am	Welcome	The Octagon
8:30am	Student presentations	The Octagon
10:50am	Lunch	Xavier Center
11:20am	Student presentations continue	The Octagon
1:15pm	Closing remarks	The Octagon



WHAT DID THE PROJECTS DO?

Students who participated in the **Youth Summit** last fall identified an area they wanted to explore to improve their school climate and culture, and they engaged others to make it happen. Here is what each school chose as its focus!



BLACK RIVER MIDDLE SCHOOL: SCHOOL SPIRIT

In order to strengthen school spirit, students hosted pep rallies for all three grades. Each grade-level pep rally included a game show featuring students vs. staff. As they have done in past years, they created opportunities for students in all three grades to come together after school to play pick-up games in various sporting events to maintain connections between students of different ages.

EAST HANOVER MIDDLE SCHOOL: BULLYING “BLACK OUT”

Students held an all day “black-out” to further educate students, faculty, and staff on the different forms of bullying and harassment, and their possible consequences. Approximately 30 students wore black and didn’t speak at all during the day. Later that day, an assembly explained the black-out and impact of bullying and harassment on kids.

EISENHOWER MIDDLE SCHOOL: PROJECT X

To reduce cyberbullying in their school, students raised awareness about cyberbullying. Project X aims to “X out” bullying in the school.

FRELINGHUYSEN MIDDLE SCHOOL: I GOT YOUR B.A.C.K.

Students continue to promote the “I Got Your B.A.C.K.” message from previous years. This year’s focus is on informing new sixth graders and refreshing the message with seventh and eighth graders. “I Got Your B.A.C.K.” is now a four-year-old bullying awareness program to eliminate bullying in the school community. Students hope to bring the program to fifth graders in the future.

HARDING TOWNSHIP SCHOOL: SCHOOL UNITY

In an effort to improve school climate and culture, students have sought to strengthen relationships between the upper and lower grades. Throughout the year, students engaged in a variety of collaborative activities, including social and academic partnerships. Most recently, students participated in fundraising efforts, including a Penny Wars competition, to send one of their teachers to Poland this summer with Habitat for Humanity.



LINCOLN PARK MIDDLE SCHOOL: HOUSE DAY

Lincoln Park divides students into “houses” based on homerooms. Eighth grade students brought together all of the houses for one day of activities. The goal was to increase connectivity in the school community and provide opportunities for students and staff to get to know everyone in their house. Students hoped to positively impact school climate and boost school spirit.

PEARL R. MILLER SCHOOL: SPIRIT-BOOSTING

Students want to improve school spirit and inspire unity between the sixth, seventh, and eighth grades. So far, they have run a school-wide student vs. staff basketball game with announcements and friendly competition. Participating students were chosen in a lottery to play against the staff. Working closely with the Student Council, they have also coordinated a spirit day and mini pep rally activity leading up to a staff vs. student volleyball game.

