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ABSTRACT

This report recounts that many impressive projects in Massachusetts Learn and Serve America school-based sites have been observed. The term "project" is used in the report to refer to community service learning (CSL) as it is incorporated into classroom instruction. In general, the report notes, the projects ranged from simple to complex, short-term to year-long, individual classroom to whole school, sometimes involving a schoolwide theme. It states that there are five Massachusetts school districts in which CSL implementation was intended as a systemwide initiative: Boston, Hudson, Sharon, Springfield, and Westport. The report adds that the community served ranged from the school itself to the world as community, addressing such universal issues as hunger and environmental pollution. The report outlines the criteria used for choosing examples of outstanding projects and then lists project examples in sections by elementary, middle school, and secondary levels. Since many projects involved collaborations between levels, some are listed at both levels in the report. A site contact list is provided at the end of the project listings to assist interested persons in obtaining information about particular projects. The report concludes with an index by topic to community service learning projects. (BT)



EXAMPLES OF COMMUNITY SERVICE LEARNING PROJECTS IN MASSACHUSETTS SCHOOL-BASED CSL PROGRAMS 1995-1996

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Prepared by L. Joan Brown and Ellen Bender For the Massachusetts Department of Education September 15, 1996





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EXAMPLES OF COMMUNITY SERVICE LEARNING PROJECTS IN MASSACHUSETTS SCHOOL-BASED PROGRAMS 1995-1996

We have observed many impressive projects in Massachusetts Learn and Serve America school-based sites. The term "project" is used here to refer to Community Service Learning as it is incorporated into classroom instruction. Although the term covers most CSL efforts, it is not completely appropriate because, in some school-based initiatives, CSL is utilized as an instructional methodology which is applied to an entire curriculum area and, in one instance, to all instruction offered at the grade six level. In general, however, the projects ranged from simple to complex, short-term to year-long, individual classroom to whole school, sometimes involving a schoolwide theme. There are five school districts in which CSL implementation was, from the outset, intended as a systemwide initiative: Boston, Hudson, Sharon, Springfield, and Westport. In many others, they began as grade level or building initiatives but are now spreading to other grades and buildings. These initiatives are characterized by staff collaborations within and across disciplines.

The community served ranged from the school itself to the world as community, addressing such universal issues as hunger and environmental pollution. There were also a broad range of partnerships with outside groups and individual who supported the projects and even brought project ideas and community needs to the attention of the schools.

In response to many requests from teachers to provide a list of projects, because we could not list all the projects we observed or heard about,* we have provided examples of various CSL models. We also observed a number of projects which were substantially similar. For instance, we observed perhaps ten different "Reading Buddies," so we listed several of those we found unique in some way. In choosing examples, we considered the following aspects of projects:

- The project is replicable (both at other grade levels and, sometimes, in other subject areas);
- There is a collaborative element (e.g. involving teachers, students, and community partners);
- There is a balance between service and learning;
- Classroom learning extends over time;
- The project is inclusionary in nature and engages students at all learning levels in a variety of multidisciplinary CSL experiences;
- The project engages students at a high level of learning expectations;
- Curricula connections are clear (e.g. the CSL projects support student learning with regard to specific curriculum topics);
 - * The total number of projects reported by grant recipients numbered over 1,155 for the current school year. The actual total is probably well over 2,000.



EXAMPLES OF CSL PROJECTS

- Community partnerships are an integral part of the project;
- The service truly addresses the needs of the recipients;
- The service component extends over time;
- Service needs are clearly understood by the students;
- The project provides leadership opportunities for students in developing, implementing, and evaluating CSL projects and in designing and evaluating curriculum;
- Reflection time is regularly scheduled to allow teachers and students to consider the progress and the quality of the CSL implementation effort;
- Teachers and students share student learning and service outcomes with the school community and the community-at-large by means of presentations, exhibits, showcase days, media coverage, local Cable TV, newsletters, videos, and professional workshops to other students, to school staff, school council, school committee, parents, community members;
- There is a learning and/or communication "product" (brochure, newsletter, performance, video, exhibit) prepared by students;
- Celebrations are used to acknowledge and recognize individual and group efforts of students, partners, and staff.

We have listed project examples in sections by elementary, middle school and secondary levels. Since many projects involved collaborations between levels, some are listed at both levels (e.g. a high school-elementary partnership will be found listed in both places). In some districts, grades five and six are considered elementary. In others, they are considered as middle school. They are listed here in either elementary or middle school consistent with the practice in the district named.

We hope for the sake of those whom we interviewed that we have described the projects accurately. Unfortunately, in such brief listings, the wider impact of these projects on teaching and learning, upon teacher renewal and student motivation, and upon community improvement is not developed here. For a discussion of these topics, please see the "1995-1996 CSL EVALUATION REPORT," also provided by the compilers of this listing.

A site contact list is provided at the end of the project listings to assist you in obtaining more information about particular projects.

Note: Many thanks to Dr. Susan Seigel, CSL Program Manager, Community Service Learning Center, Inc., to Margaret Collins, CSL Coordinator, Hampshire Educational Collaborative, and to Patricia Barnicle, Acting Director, Lincoln-Filene Center, Tufts University, for sharing project descriptions from their collaborating schools.

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L. Joan Brown, Ellen Bender September 15, 1996 for the Massachusetts Dept. of Education





ELEMENTARY PROJECTS

Grades: Elementary School, Schoolwide Theme

Curricula: Social Studies, Science, Math, Language Arts

Community Served: School and local community

Community Need: Improvement and beautification of school grounds; raising a vegetable garden to donate food to food banks and/or shelter

Outdoor Learning Park - The entire school population, as well as 15 partners from Northwest Mutual Insurance, participated in this multidisciplinary project. brainstorming, networking, discussing, and teaming, all staff were encouraged to become involved. The concept was for the park to maximize use of the school's outdoor grounds for students and the entire neighborhood. Most of the start-up projects involved taking surveys, gathering information, charting and graphing, problem solving, and learning to use appropriate community resources such as physical labor for planting and clean up. Areas under development include a vegetable garden, treed areas, walking paths, designated nature areas, jogging trails, reading spaces, picnic areas, basketball hoops, and an area for performing arts. There were many collaborators. A city-wide end of year celebration was held with dinner prepared and served by students from the Putnam High School culinary shop. Springfield Public Schools, Freedman Elementary School

Grades: Elementary

Curricula: Science, Art, Music, Language Arts

Community Served: School community, local community

Community Need: Education, beautification

Young Naturalist Almanac - The Sharon Garden Club approached the schools with the idea of collaborating on an almanac. Students were invited to contribute stories, drawings, poems, and word puzzles related to the science curriculum and local environment for publication in the almanac. The Garden Club sold the almanacs and contributed part of the proceeds to each school to be used for outdoor beautification. A tree-planting celebration in which students shared their learning was held. Sharon Public Schools, All Elementary Schools

Grades: Kindergarten

Curricula: Social Studies (learning about the community), Language Arts, Art, Health

Community Served: The local hospital and the community

Community Need: Meeting the special needs of young patients coming to the hospital emergency room for an attractive and welcoming environment

Children in Emergency Rooms - A kindergarten class visited the North Adams Regional Hospital to learn about Emergency Room Services. They learned that 35% of the patients coming to the ER are young children, and they found few toys and books to meet children's needs. With their teacher, they designed art work to decorate the ER, collected money for toys, wrote a "get well book" with pictures of themselves and messages of encouragement, and individually each wrote a second book to leave in the hospital for children. They also worked with the hospital custodian to learn how the wall decorations had to be covered with Plexiglas to help maintain a clean hospital setting. The hospital had a formal ceremony and celebration to accept the gifts from the children. As a direct result of this project, hospital staff embarked upon its own training project to make doctors and nurses more aware of the fears of young children entering the hospital. North Adams Public Schools, Sullivan School



Cardan William	T
Grades: Kindergarten	Hop-N-Ing - Kindergarten students learned about different
Curricula: Social Studies, Math	kinds of disabilities. They conducted a hands-on survey of the school building for wheelchair accessibility by trying to
Community Served: School and local community	transport their teacher in and out and around the building by wheelchair. Students identified a problem with entrance door sills, and the parent of a student corrected the sills to permit wheelchair access. Hudson Public Schools. The
Community Need: Improved understanding of disabilities; improved wheelchair access	wheelchair access. Hudson Public Schools, The Kindergarten Center
Grades: 1 and 3	Bat Buddies - In an interdisciplinary unit developed by a grade
Curricula: Science, Technology, Language Arts	I and grade 3 teacher, students learned cooperatively about bats. Students built bat houses, adopted a bat, wrote and presented reports about one facet of bat life, and wrote poetry about bats. They collected 1,000 recyclable cans representing
Community Served: School community, local community	the number of species of bats, the proceeds of which went to Bat Conservation International. They wrote a bat newsletter and, using Hyperstudio, created a computer presentation about
Community Need: Education; making local environment more bat friendly; improving ecology	bats. As a culminating activity, students held a Bat Fair with seventeen student-run interactive stations for the school and local community which was videotaped and shown on the local cable station. Sharon Public Schools, Cottage Street School
Grades: 1 and 4	Sofoti Ovilla Students and a sofot a like in 1
Curricula: Art, Language Arts, Health	Safety Quilt - Students created a safety quilt, with each square depicting one safety lesson. Students shared their work with other classes and groups. Boston Public Schools, Agassiz
Community Served: School community	School
Community Need: Safety education	
Grades: 1 and 4	Library and Reading Buddies - Fourth graders learned about
Curricula: Language Arts, Art	using the resources of the public library and developed projects (puppet shows, board games, etc.) to teach their first grade "reading buddies" about the library. The students then hosted
Community Served: School community	the first graders on an instructional tour of the library. North
Community Need: Reading encouragement and practice; library education	Adams Public Schools, Sullivan School
Grades: 1 and 5	Book Buddies - Fifth grade students read books about the
Curricula: Language Arts, Art	theme of overcoming adversity and held class discussions on the topic. Then 5th graders read 1st grade books on the same theme with their partners. The partners then discussed the book
Community Served: School community	and worked together to design posters illustrating the book's central theme. Hudson Public Schools, Farley School
Community Need: Reading encouragement and learning about themes in literature	contra dienie. Hudson Fublic Schools, Farley School



Grades: 1 and 5	English/Spanish Books - Students in a 1st grade inclusionar
Curricula: Language Arts	bilingual class together with 5th grade students, some of who were also bilingual, wrote or translated books, and create bilingual books with original art work which were presented to
Community Served: School community	both classes. Boston Public Schools, Ohrenberger School
Community Need: Bilingual books for students and their families	
Grades: 1 and 5	Community Postcards - As part of their study of Sharor
Curricula: Social Studies, Art	Students created original drawings of local sites on postcards. The postcards were sold at a CSL Marketplace and at a local Creative Arts Association Fair. The proceeds of the sales of the
Community Served: Local community	postcards went to support town activities such as Family Weel and the Fourth of July Celebration. Sharon Public Schools
Community Need: Financial support for special town events for families	Heights Elementary
Grades: Middle School and Grade 2	Reading Helpers - Students from the Chapter One reading program volunteered to work with second grade students as
Curricula: Language Arts, Art	"Reading Helpers." Middle school students chose and previewed a second grade book to read to their partners, kep journals to record their impressions, and reviewed each book
Community Served: Middle School and Grade 2 students	read. Second grade students drew pictures to illustrate what they learned from each book. In addition to the difference in
Community Need: Reading encouragement and practice; learning about multicultural themes	ages of the participants, there was also a multicultural aspect to the project. Partnerships were maintained throughout the year and the project culminated with a social gathering at the middle school. Community Service Learning Center, Marshall Middle School, Lynn
Grades: 12 and Grade 2	Spanish Partnership - High School Advanced Placement
Curricula: Spanish	Spanish students developed and presented interactive Spanish lessons to 2nd grade students. The lessons were integrated into the regular 2nd grade surgiculum incompanion to t
Community Served: School community	the regular 2nd grade curriculum, incorporating lessons in graphing, language arts, music, etc. The project will continue
Community Need: Education in world anguages at an early age	and expand in the coming school year. Sharon Public Schools, Cottage Street School and Sharon High School
Grades: 7 and 3	Student Science Mentors - Older children shared their
Curricula: Science	learning with younger children in cross-grade student mentor teams by designing, scheduling, and implementing learning
	games which complemented and reinforced science instruction (e.g. about identification of animal tracks and scat) for the younger children. Nashoba Regional School District,
l	Emerson School



Grades: 3	Rain Forest Project - Following study of the South American rain forest, each student chose a letter of the alphabet, and
Curricula: Technology, Science, Language	selected a plant or animal from the rain forest beginning with
Arts, Library, Art	that particular letter. Using Hyperstudio, the student then
	entered an original drawing of that object onto the computer,
Community Served: School community	and by combining students' entries, created a group rain forest
Community Need: Education about need to	alphabet book and a rain forest calendar. The book or calendar may be used as a fund-raising tool. Boston Public Schools,
protect the rain forests and what can be done	Conley School Service
Grades: 3 and all elementary	Waste Oil Project - After receiving a presentation from a
	member of the local conservation committee, all third grade
Curricula: Science, Math, Language Arts	students in each elementary school assisted the local
Community Served: Local community	conservation committee with a survey project. Students wrote and distributed surveys to all elementary parents to determine
Community Served. Escal community	how waste oil was being recycled, and to determine if there was
Community Need: Gathering and analyzing	a need for waste oil recycling containers in Sharon. Grade 3
information about citizens' waste oil disposal	students made presentations to every class in each elementary
practices and possible need for town waste oil	school to explain the importance of proper waste oil disposal.
recycling containers; students' involvement in	Using methods learned in math, students analyzed the data
and contribution to local government efforts	collected, and presented their findings at a Sharon Conservation Committee meeting. The following year, a high school student
	did an internship with the conservation committee conducting
	further research into the various possibilities for obtaining and
	locating a waste oil recycling container for the town. Sharon
	Public Schools, Cottage Street School, East/Alternative
	Elementary School, and Heights Elementary School
Grades: High School and Grade 3	Conflict Resolution Program - Members of Drury High
Grades. Fright School and Grade 5	School SPIRIT (Students Promoting Involvement, Respect,
Curricula: Conflict resolution	Individualism, and Tolerance) developed a violence prevention
	and conflict resolution curriculum and taught it to 250 third
Community Served: Local and broader	graders in North Adams and in neighboring towns. North
school community	Adams Public Schools, Drury High School
Community Needs Need to make asked a	
Community Need: Need to make schools a safe place for children; developing personal	
responsibility	
Grades: 4	Puerto Rican History Project - Students began this project by
	making a large map of Puerto Rico for the school library. They
Curricula: Social Studies, Language Arts,	also worked together researching and constructing a large
Math, Spanish	Puerto Rican flag for the school. A celebration of Puerto Rican Heritage was held with ethnic foods and schoolwide viewing
Community Served: School community	of a video about Puerto Rico. As a final product of the year-
Sommany Served. School community	long project, students worked together in teams researching and
Community Need: Multicultural education;	writing a book on Puerto Rican history. Springfield Public
celebrating one's heritage	Schools, Margaret M. Ellis School



Grades: 5	Bunker Hill Monument Project - Students studied how the
	Bunker Hill Monument was founded and learned that it was
Curricula: Social Studies	only partially finished until a woman and her friends collected
	enough money to have the monument completed. There was no
Community Served: Broader community	information at the monument about this. The students picketed
	the monument, shared their reports, and information about the
Community Need: Improving accuracy of	
available information at an historical site,	Boston Public Schools, Harvard Kent School
especially concerning the importance of the	
role of women in developing the site	
Grades: 5 and 6	New Horizons: Music for All Ages - This unit established
	relationships between students and elderly retirement
Curricula: Music, Social Studies	community residents through singing and personal contact.
	Students taught older people their songs as they visited and
Community Served: Residents of a local	conducted interviews with the elderly residents to learn about
retirement community	the music of their lives. Songs of different cultures, styles and
	eras were performed. As a final activity, students and elderly
Community Need: Intergenerational activi-	performed together, sharing one another's songs. Springfield
ties; opening the school to the community	Public Schools, Gerena Community School
Grades: 5 and 6	Cafeteria Composting - Working with the Center for
	Ecological Technology, teachers created lesson plans and
Curricula: Science, Math, Language Arts	activities to introduce students to composting concepts through
	a variety of subjects and to develop students' ability to train
Community Served: School community	other students in the operation of the composting system. The
	goal of the program is to help reduce school cafeteria waste
Community Need: Environmental educa-	generation by 50% and develop a service and environmental
tion; leadership training for students	ethic in participating students. Hampshire Educational
	Collaborative, Westhampton Elementary School
Grades: 5 and 9	Heroes Project - Fifth and ninth grade students participated in
Grades. 5 and 5	a partnership to explore the themes of courage and heroes.
Curricula: Language Arts	They read literature related to the theme, looked for examples
Curricula. Emiguago / 1113	in their own lives, and heard from courageous members of the
Community Served: School community,	Sharon community. As a culminating activity, they held a
local community	ceremony inducting local recipients into the Sharon Ordinary
Toom community	Heroes Hall of Fame. Sharon Public Schools, Heights
Community Need: Understanding of themes	Elementary School and Sharon High School
in literature; appreciation of local heroes	
The state of the s	
Grades: Elementary and High School	Measurement in Math and Algebra - Algebra students
, ,	designed lesson plans and taught math and measurement skills
Curricula: Algebra and Grade 4 Math	to fourth graders through the construction of three-dimensional
	figures. North Adams Public Schools, Drury High School
Community Served: School community	
-	
Community Need: Practicing algebra and	
math skills collaborative teaching	

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Grades: Elementary and High School

Curricula: Social Studies, Violence Prevention Program (conflict resolution)

Community Served: School community

Community Need: Peace studies; improving school environment; making schools a safe place for students; developing personal responsibility

Peace Initiative - Using the violence prevention program conducted in grades 4 and 5 as the basis, students created peace posters and books. As part of the student council, a peace committee was formed which met on a weekly basis and included representatives from all grade levels. Students discussed ways to create a peaceful atmosphere in school. Students from each grade were encouraged to make a classroom book about conflict resolution, which was shared with other grades. Fourth and fifth graders met with high school students who helped them in a discussion and sharing of ideas about creating peace in the world by making good choices in their lives. In celebration at the end of the year, a large group of 4th and 5th graders put on their presentation at the regional CSL Showcase. Springfield Public Schools, Liberty School and Central High School

Grades: Elementary and High School

Curricula: Art, Language Arts, Social

Studies

Community Served: School community

Community Need: Active learning experiences for students including both cross-age and museum collaborations

Art Pals - Through a year of sharing letters and samples of various art media, high school students were able to build positive relationships with elementary school youngsters. The experience allowed both older and younger students to learn new skills, communication modes, and appreciation for various art genres. Students also made historic observations about how people lived in the past. High school students planned and developed activities for younger students incorporating art work throughout. One event involved a student committee developing a museum scavenger hunt for the art pals to complete together, one on the high school level, and one on the elementary school level. Springfield Public Schools, Homer Elementary School and High School of Commerce.

MIDDLE SCHOOL PROJECTS

Grades: Middle School

Curricula: Integrated Arts and Language

Arts

Community Served: School community and

local neighborhood

Community Need: Improved safety in the school neighborhood; beautification inside and outside the school building; need to develop stronger ties with the neighborhood community

The Environment and Public Safety - Students studied ways to beautify the school environment, and implemented a number of painting and decoration projects inside the school. In looking at the school's surroundings, students became aware of the high speed of traffic in the streets outside of the building. They made inquiries at Town Hall and found that a "one-way street" sign had been missing for years. Through their efforts, the sign was restored, and the area became much safer for students and for preschoolers located in the same building. Outside beautification tasks were also accomplished. Little House Alternative School, Federated Dorchester Neighborhood Houses, Inc.



Grades: Middle School Native American Arts Festival - This celebration brought parents, students, agencies, and neighborhood together to Curricula: Totally integrated curriculum; celebrate learning and diversity. Students did research in student-centered connection with a social studies project about different cultures and shared their study of native cultures with the community Community Served: Students, parents, and through exhibitions. Their interest in Native American cultures local community led students to create displays showing what they had learned and to create a number of artistic projects illustrating Indian dress, crafts, sculpture, pottery, and other Native American Community Need: Broader understanding style art works. Little House Alternative School, Federated of multiculturalism; increased sense of community Dorchester Neighborhood Houses, Inc. Grades: Middle School "JFK News Program" - Students help produce a news program which heightens community awareness and highlights students, faculty, and school events. Hudson Public Schools, Curricula: Technology, Language Arts JFK Middle School Community Served: School and local community Community Need: More information highlighting student, faculty, and school events Grades: Middle School Homelessness Unit - Middle school students connected their study of The Family Under The Bridge or Slakes Limbo with Curricula: Integrated issues raised in social studies about homelessness. They interviewed residents of a homeless shelter who agreed to come to Social Studies, Language Arts, Math, Science school, and planned and organized a holiday party for residents. Also, students researched the origins of government housing Community Served: Residents of a local programs, compared Lynn's housing programs to those of surhomeless shelter, and the broader low-income rounding communities, and learned about community problems population caused by a lack of affordable housing. Students also wrote to their Congressmen and Senators requesting more housing Community Need: Improved understanding programs and better paying jobs. They also studied nutrition of issues regarding homelessness and health problems that could affect homeless families and constructed a family budget. Community Service Learning Center, Marshall Middle School, Lynn Grades: Middle School Reading Helpers - Students from the Chapter One reading and Grade 2 program volunteered to work with second grade students as "Reading Helpers." Middle school students chose and Curricula: Language Arts, Art previewed a second grade book to read to their partners, kept journals to record their impressions, and reviewed each book read. Second grade students drew pictures to illustrate what Community Served: Middle School and Grade 2 students they learned from each book. In addition to the difference in ages of the participants, there was also a multicultural aspect to Community Need: Reading encouragement the project. Partnerships were maintained throughout the year and the project culminated with a social gathering at the middle and practice; learning about multicultural themes school. Community Service Learning Center, Marshall Middle School, Lynn



Grades: Middle School	Colonial History Day Project - Students and community
Curricula: Social Studies, Art, Language Arts	members shared a wealth of information about the colonial history of their region through numerous presentations and living history exhibits presented by students during a day-long
Community Served: Middle School population and local community	colonial history celebration. This day involved collaborations with Plymouth Plantation and Deerfield Village. The entire school participated or attended as did many community members. Central Berkshire Regional School District,
Community Need: Education /celebration of local history; developing closer community ties and collaborations with other educational groups	Nessacus Middle School
Grades: Middle School	Music in the Community - Students worked with community
Curricula: Music Dept., Art, Social Studies	volunteers to produce an original student musical on the theme of what one generation can learn from another. The project
Community Served: School population, local community, local senior citizens	resulted in several performances for the school and the community and a special performance for senior citizens. Central Berkshire Regional School District, Nessacus Middle School
Grades: Middle School	Solid Waste Advisory Team (S.W.A.T.) - Within the context
Curricula: Social Studies, Industrial Technology	of social studies and industrial technology, 100 students were involved in an ongoing effort to control cafeteria waste. Students produced a SWAT newsletter and a television show
Community Served: School population, local community	with town officials responsible for solid waste. Central Berkshire Regional School District, Nessacus Middle School
Community Need: Environmental education and improved recycling practices	
Grades: Middle School	Transition Video - Middle school students produced a video
Curricula: Technology, Language Arts	for elementary students on the transition to middle school so they would be better informed in advance about changes in their schedules, programs of study, activities, and school rules.
Community Served: School community	Hudson Public Schools, JFK Middle School
Community Need: Sharing information; easing transitions for younger students	
Grade: 6	Neighborhood Safety Project - Students initiated a public
Curricula: Social Studies	safety project to put house numbers on houses in the school neighborhood and in their own neighborhoods so that emergency vehicles might more easily locate 911 call houses in
Community Served: Local community	an emergency. This project involved collaborations with the Police Department and a local business, the latter supporting
Community Need: Identification of homes for rapid response by emergency services	students' efforts by providing the numbers for the houses. Attleboro Public Schools, Brennan Middle School



Grades: Middle School Custom House Maritime Museum and Boat Shop Project -Middle school students learned about the history of Newbury-Curricula: Social Studies, Science, Industrial port and planned and designed an exhibit for the museum. Arts Students constructed a Grand Banks Dory which will become part of a fleet of three used by the schools to enable students to Community Served: Local and broader do water testing and other environmental research projects. community Students also produced a video of the projects. Newburyport Public Schools, Rupert A. Nock Middle School Community Need: Local history; developing an on-going educational relationship with a local museum; improving resources for environmental research Grades: Middle School Spencer-Pierce-Little Farm Project - Middle school students worked with several historical organizations in studying the Curricula: Social Studies, Technology, house, farmland, and historical evidence for the purpose of Language Arts writing original historical fiction. With the alternative education teacher, they also produced a video documentary recording Community Served: School and broader historical points of interest from the students' perspective. community Newburyport Public Schools, Rupert A. Nock Middle School Community Need: Active learning about local history Grades: 5 and 6 New Horizons: Music for All Ages - This unit establishes relationships between students and elderly retirement Curricula: Music, Social Studies community residents through singing and personal contact. Students teach older people their songs as they visit and conduct interviews with the elderly residents to learn about the Community Served: Residents of a local retirement community music of their lives. Songs of different cultures, styles and eras are performed. Ultimately students and elderly perform together, sharing one another's songs. Springfield Public Community Need: Intergenerational activities; opening the school to the community Schools, Gerena Community School Grades: Preschool and 6 Preschool Project - Sixth grade students were brought together with preschool students in a mutually supportive way. They Curricula: Language Arts read to their younger partners, played games, and developed relationships with younger children who were not siblings. Community Served: Local preschool They also researched the kinds of books young children like and created their own books to give to their partners, as well as Community Need: Understanding younger designing other activities to engage the younger children. children; support for a local preschool proaddition, students collected money to buy two chairs for the preschool and redid the school's brochure to give to other gram volunteers. Attleboro Public Schools, Brennan Middle School



Grades: 5 and 6	Cafeteria Composting - Working with the Center fo
Commission	Ecological Technology, teachers created lesson plans and
Curricula: Science, Math, Language Arts	activities to introduce students to composting concepts through
Community Samuel Calcal	a variety of subjects and to develop students' ability to train
Community Served: School community	each other about waste and waste management and about how
Community Needs Francisco	to operate the composting system. The goal of the program is
Community Need: Environmental education and personal responsibility	to help reduce school cafeteria waste generation by 50% and
tion and personal responsionity	develop a service and environmental ethic in participating
	students. Hampshire Educational Collaborative
	Westhampton Elementary School
Grades: 6	Trash Man - Students studied problems of trash disposal
	applying math skills to gain an understanding of the size of the
Curricula: Science, Math, Language Arts	problem. They designed a "trash man" sculpture and collected
, , ===8==8==	different kinds of trash and recyclable materials to use in its
Community Served: School and local	construction. They kept journals keeping track of their
community	activities, what they learned, and how they felt about the
	project. They collaborated with a local museum, eventually
Community Need: Environmental educa-	displaying the giant (6 ft.) trash man in front of the museum.
tion and personal responsibility	Attleboro Public Schools, Brennan Middle School
Grades: 6	Vernal Pools Project - This unit, developed by a team of 4
	teachers, involved studying the need for identifying, certifying,
Curricula: Science, Social Studies, Math,	and protecting vernal pools through the Natural Heritage and
Language Arts, Health	Endangered Species Program of the Massachusetts Division of
Community Co. add I. d.	Fisheries and Wildlife. Prior to the inception of this project,
Community Served: Local environment	none had been certified in Dalton. Various agencies
Community Need: Environmental educa-	collaborated on this project. Staff have developed a curriculum
tion; certifying and protecting vernal pools	outline in the major subject areas utilizing the standards in the
tion, certifying and protecting vernal pools	Curriculum Frameworks. The lead teacher is a PALMS
	specialist as well. Central Berkshire Regional School District, Nessacus Middle School
	District, Nessacus Middle School
Grades: 6	Math in Life - Students toured a local food pantry and
	learned what its needs were, how much food was processed,
Curricula: Math, Social Studies	and how the problems of collection and distrubtion were
	handled. They then collected food for the pantry and learned
Community Served: Local Food pantry and	decimals, percents, and graphing techniques by studying the
Community Meals Site	nutritional values listed on cans of food collected for the food
	pantry. On their own time, students chose to serve meals to the
Community Need: Understanding hunger;	needy at the local Community Meals site. The teacher made
support for local food pantries	arrangements and set up a schedule to enable students to extend
	the project in this way. Community Service Learning
	Center, Greenfield Middle School



Grades: 6	AIDS Project - Students researched AIDS to discover "facts
	and myths" about the illness. They produced a pamphlet to
Curricula: Health, Language Arts	share with other children and raised \$300 which they donated to the Attleboro AIDS Consortium. Attleboro Public Schools,
Community Served: School community, local community	Brennan Middle School
Community Need: AIDS education, support for the AIDS Consortium	
Grades: 6	Feed the Future - This was an effort to meet an assessed need
	in the community (hunger) by collaborating with local
Curricula: Social Studies, Math, Language Arts	organizations The project combined studies of social needs reflected in the community and utilized math and language arts skills to compile data concerning students' collection of food
Community Served: Local community	for a local food pantry. Attleboro Public Schools, Brennan Middle School
Community Need: Understanding hunger; support for local food pantries	
Grades: 6	Capron Zoo Project - This project is a continuing effort to
	assist the Capron Park Zoo in becoming accredited. Students
Curricula: Social Studies, Language Arts	studied zoo animals' habitats, exchanged information with other zoos through informal letter writing, and produced and
Community Served: Local community	shared a video about the zoo. They considered their responsibility toward the environment and the protection of all
Community Need: Accreditation of the local zoo; developing personal responsibility	life forms. Students will also complete visual aids for younger children to make the zoo visit more meaningful for them. Attleboro Public Schools, Brennan Middle School
Grades: 6	Computer Tutors - Sixth grade students tutored seniors interested in computers. The project has been so successful
Curricula: Technology	that it has continued into the summer for the students and senior
Community Served: Local elderly residents	citizens. Newburyport Public Schools, Rupert A. Nock Middle School
Community Need: Computer training for elders; strengthening community ties	
Grades: 6	River Restoration Project - Sixth grade students participated in a collaboration with a biology professor gathering data about
Curricula: Science, Language Arts	the watershed and sharing the information with the professor. This project included habitat awareness and students produced a
Community Served: Local and broader community	brochure about Westport. Westport Community Schools, Westport Middle School
Community Need: Improving local ecology; sharing information with the community	



Grades: 7 and 3 Student Science Mentors - Older children shared their learning with younger children in cross-grade student mentor Curricula: Science teams by designing, scheduling, and implementing learning games which complemented and reinforced science instruction (e.g. about identification of animal tracks and scat) for the Community Served: School community Nashoba Regional vounger children. School District, Community Need: Active learning, relating Emerson School science education to local environment Grades: 7 Student Watershed Awareness Project - Teachers were trained and in turn trained over twenty volunteers who took 7th Curricula: Science grade students and 6 teachers out on the river to do chemical water testing, macro-invertebrate sampling, and stream Community Served: Local environment and This data was shared with the Fisheries and assessment. local community Wildlife agency. Nashoba Regional School District. Emerson School Community Need: Understanding ecology; collecting data to share with agencies Grades: 7 Housatonic River Project - A 7th grade social studies class studied the history of the river as a community resource, Curricula: Social Studies, Technology examined the uses and misuses of the river, along with efforts to improve river quality, and the river's potential for Community Served: Local and broader recreational use. A live teleconference with students in other community schools allowed viewing students to question students involved in the study about what they had learned. A narrative video was Community Need: Information about the also prepared and aired on public access television to inform river's history, ecology, and potential as a the public. Central Berkshire Regional School District, community resource Nessacus Middle School Grades: 7 City Sites Project - Each student selected a local service agency for one-week internship to learn about services provided Curricula: Integrated Social Studies, Math. for community members. Students worked in committees Science, and Language Arts based on the type of service selected to develop and complete learning tasks. The team of four teachers utilized "the learning Community Served: Grade 7 students and web" to help students articulate goals for student performance the school community and learning outcomes. This project raised students' level of understanding concerning the world of service work, the need Community Need: Improved understanding for it, and its impact upon the community. An exhibition of of the work of local private and governmental student work shared students' learning with parents and other social service groups; improved understandstudents. Skills in all major subject areas were enhanced, and ing of community needs art projects were included as part of the exhibition of learning. Each student designed and decorated a tile to illustrate something important about his/her particular site. Cambridge Public Schools, Graham & Parks Alternative School



Condon 7	C. H. D. C. C. T.	
Grades: 7	Scallop Restoration Project - Grade 7 science classes in the	
	third year of this project continued the study of the adequacy	
Curricula: Science	of the river to support the reseeding of scallop beds. For	
	several years, no scallop fishing was permitted because of the	
Community Served: Local community	severe depletion of scallop beds. The original study of water	
	and scallops and sources of pollution has now extended to the	
Community Need: Restoration of scallop		
beds to help rekindle the local scallop indus-		
try; improving ecology and protecting marine		
life in local waters	licenses in the spring of 1996. Collaborators include the Water	
The arrowal waters	Works Group, the Watershed Alliance, and town government.	
	Westport Community Schools, Westport Middle School	
	Westport Community Schools, Westport Middle School	
Grades: 8	Globe Program (Global Learning and Observations to	
	Benefit the Environment) - Eighth grade students made	
Curricula: Science, Technology	observations and measurements of the environment around their	
, , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , , ,	schools. They shared the data with schools in the GLOBE	
Community Served: Local and broader	program through America Online. Teachers instruct the students	
community	and help them understand the significance of these global	
Community		
Community Needs Co. 4 th discuss 1	observations. Students communicate with other 8th grade	
Community Need: Contribution to and	students worldwide about important issues involving the	
access to international environmental data;	environment. Over 2,900 schools participate worldwide.	
improved environmental education	Westport Community Schools, Westport Middle School	
HIGH SCHOOL PROJECTS		
Grades: High School	Pet Therapy Project - In collaboration with a community	
	partner (Jeff's Companion Animal Shelter), four nursing	
Curricula: Social Studies, Science	homes, and Harvard Medical School, high school students help	
,	provide documentation of the effect of pet visits on elderly	
Community Served: Local and broader	patients. Westport Community Schools, Westport High	
community	School	
	School	
Community Needs: Improved quality of life		
for nursing home patients; student participa-		
tion in research and data collection		
tion at 1990mon and data concention		
Grades: High School	Carpentry Project - Students assisted elderly residents by	
<u> </u>	responding to requests for assistance in winterizing and	
Curricula: Industrial Arts	repairing homes. They also built cabinets and shelves in other	
	schools. Westport Community Schools, Westport High	
Community Served: Local elderly residents	Schools Westport Community Schools, Westport Figure	
and school community	SCHOOL	
and school continuity		
Community Need: Individual assistance for		
elderly residents; improving school facilities		
organizationia, improving school facilities		



Grades: High School Lawrence Then and Now: A Picture History - Ungraded students created an exhibit for the entire community Curricula: Social Studies, Art highlighting the unique history of the immigrant city. Classroom and field activities included: investigation of Community Served: Local and broader archives; observation and collection of information about the community city (past and present) at various public facilities; preparation of timelines and charts; photography; and study of the Community Need: Improved understanding relationship of Lawrence history to national and international of local history; preparing and sharing learnhistory. Lincoln Filene Center, Lawrence High School ing with the community Grades: High School Lake Siog Park Fundraising - In this multifaceted project, students produced a video to demonstrate the potential, the Curricula: Social Studies, Technology, facilities, and the present programs at Lake Siog Park. In Science addition to the video, able-bodied student worked with people with disabilities to construct a garden for the blind with Community Served: Local and broader botanical labeling in Braille, and they also made nature trails community wheelchair accessible. Lincoln Filene Center, Tantasqua Regional School District Community Need: Improved access to nature trails for local blind residents Grades: High School. Secondary School Life - ESL students in an "Experiences in American Living" class considered what new foreign students Curricula: English, ESL and their families needed to know about local school culture. They designed and produced a brochure using original graphic Community Served: High School. ESL designs to explain various aspects of secondary school life: students and their families school calendar, school rules, explanation of grading system, building plan, athletic activities, club opportunities, and where to get answer to different questions. This is an on-going project Community Need: Information for new ESL students and their families about school with different topics added each year. Framingham Public culture, opportunities, procedures, and rules Schools, Framingham High School Grade: High School, Preschool Intergenerational Collaboration - This project was a fourgeneration collaboration (preschool children, high school Curricula: Consumer Education, World students, teachers, and senior citizens). Five different classes Food, Psychology for Living, Early of H.S. students provided a variety of activities for preschool Childhood Education, Family Living children and senior citizens including interviews of senior citizens, two luncheons and a fashion show for seniors. Community Served: Preschool children. Curriculum connections: World Food class studied the senior citizens, nursing homes, and the senior nutritional needs of elders and prepared and served the center luncheons; the Psychology class studied Erikson's life cycle model ("integrity vs. despair") in interviewing and learning Community Need: Understanding the aging about nursing home residents; Family Living learned about the process; improving relationships with elderly history of this country and the Framingham area during and residents; learning about local history of prior to World War II from senior citizen interviews. Framingham during this century Framingham Public Schools, Framingham High School.



Grades: High School Waterfront Beautification -Art students worked in collaboration with the Waterfront Commission and the Garden Curricula: Art Club and studied Monet's garden for color arrangement. They selected containers, planted flowers at the waterfront, and then Community Served: Local and broader painted the scene. Newburyport Public Schools, community Newburyport High School Community Need: Active learning in art; beautification of the waterfront Grades: High School Oral Histories - High school students in collaboration with local newspapers, town government and others interviewed Curricula: Social Studies, Language Arts, citizens about Newburyport of the 40's and 50's. This project was shared with the community in a number of different ways, Technology including weekly articles in the Newburyport newspaper, and presentations in booths at the annual Newburyport Fair this Community Served: Local elderly residents summer. Newburyport Public Schools, Newburyport High School Community Need: Active learning of local history; developing closer ties with the commuity Grades: Elementary and High School Peace Initiative - Using the violence prevention program conducted in grades 4 and 5 as the basis, students created peace Curricula: Social Studies. Violence posters and books. As part of the student council, a peace Prevention Program (conflict resolution) committee was formed which met on a weekly basis and included representatives from all grade levels. Students discussed ways to create a peaceful atmosphere in school. Community Served: School community Students from each grade were encouraged to make a classroom book about conflict resolution, which was shared with other Community Need: Peace education; need to make schools a safe place for students; grades. Fourth and fifth graders met with high school students personal responsibility who helped them in a discussion and sharing of ideas about creating peace in the world by making good choices in their lives. In celebration at the end of the year, a large group of 4th and 5th graders put on their presentation at the regional CSL Showcase. Springfield Public Schools, Liberty School and Central High School Grades: Elementary and High School Art Pals - Through a year of sharing letters and samples of various art media, high school students were able to build Curricula: Art, Language Arts positive relationships with elementary school youngsters. The experience allowed both older and younger students to learn new skills, communication modes, and appreciation for various Community Served: School community art genres. Students also made historic observations about how people lived in the past. High school students planned and Community Need: Active learning experiences for students including both cross-age developed activities for younger students incorporating art work and museum collaborations throughout. One event involved a student committee developing a museum scavenger hunt for the art pals to complete together, one on the high school level, and one on the elementary school level. Springfield Public Schools, Homer Elementary School, High School of Commerce.



Grades: High School and Grade 3 Curricula: Conflict resolution Community Served: Local and broader school community Community Need: Need to make schools a safe place for children; developing personal responsibility	Conflict Resolution Program - Members of Drury High School SPIRIT (Students Promoting Involvement, Respect, Individualism, and Tolerance) developed a violence prevention and conflict resolution curriculum and taught it to 250 third graders in North Adams and in neighboring towns. North Adams Public Schools, Drury High School
Grades: 5 and 9 Curricula: Language Arts Community Served: School community, local community Community Need: Understanding literary themes; appreciation of local heroes	Heroes Project - Fifth and ninth grade students participated in a partnership to explore the themes of courage and heroes. They read literature related to the theme, looked for examples in their own lives, and heard from courageous members of the Sharon community. As a culminating activity, they held a ceremony inducting local recipients into the Sharon Ordinary Heroes Hall of Fame. Sharon Public Schools, Heights Elementary School, Sharon High School
Grades: 10 Curricula: Language Arts, Social Studies, Art Community Served: Nursing home residents Community Need: Active learning in social studies; improving the quality of life for nursing home residents	Intergenerational Chinese Culture Project - Tenth grade students in an inclusionary, cross-disciplinary course (English and Global History) learned Chinese arts and crafts to enhance their study of Chinese culture and traditions. Students applied what they learned by teaching a particular Chinese craft to residents of a local nursing home. Sharon Public Schools, Sharon High School
Grades: 10 Curricula: Business, Math, Social Studies Community Served: Families, broader community Community Need: Understanding the differences between a democracy and a dictatorial government; learning about governmental services in this country and how to access them	Government Process Project - Bilingual students produced a video survey of their school and home neighborhoods documenting things that needed to be improved. A bilingual teacher and a business teacher collaborated with students to develop a questionnaire for students to take home and complete with their parents. The parent survey identified parents' basic needs for community services. Each student was given an address book and collected names of government agencies, phone numbers and contact names relating to particular service areas. Students then role-played calling the relevant service agency. Nearly every student called and effected some community improvement which was beneficial to his/her family and to the neighborhood. Boston Public Schools, Hyde Park High School



	·
Grades: 11 and 12	"Latinos en Accion" - Latinos in Action is an after-school club
	and support group formed by a guidance counselor with Latino
Curricula: After School Support Group	students. The goal of this group is "to raise their academic
(tutoring and mentioning for ESL students	achievement level and support each other through the arduous
provided by older ESL students)	college application process." The initial grade 12 group has
	expanded to grade 11, and a study group is now also provided
Community Served: High School ESL	for grade 9 and 10 Latino students. Parent meetings were held
students	prior to the regularly-scheduled Open House with a supper for
(Program will be expanded to Middle School	Latino parents to make them feel more welcome. A visit to a
this coming year.)	college campus is a highlight of the year's activities. This
	group has been successful in having Latino students go on to
Community Need: Need to provide role	college by having students act as role models for one another
models and stronger motivation for Latino	and by reaching out to support new students and younger
students to attend college; need to develop	students. An end-of-the-year dinner including parents
closer ties to Latino parents	celebrated students' successes and encouraged Latino parents
	"to spread their learning to other parents in the community."
	Framingham Public Schools, Framingham High School
Grades: 10	Hunger Curriculum - Students were introduced to the Hunger
	Curriculum provided by The Food Bank of Western Mass.
Curricula: Social Studies, Health	They also had guest speakers, visited the food bank and the
	food bank farm, studied issues of hunger and nutrition in the
Community Served: Local Food Bank	context of health education, and explored the historical
	implications that hunger has caused, both in the U.S. and the
Community Need: Understanding hunger;	world. Students involved in the project planned the different
developing personal responsibility for service	types of community service work they wanted to undertake,
to needy residents	kept journals reflecting upon their learning and service, and
	published some of their reflections at the end of the semester.
	Hampshire Educational Collaborative, Smith Academy
Grades: 12 and Grade 2	Spanish Partnership - High School Advanced Placement
Grades. 12 and Grade 2	Spanish students developed and presented interactive Spanish
Curricula: Spanish	lessons to 2nd grade students. The lessons were integrated into
Curricula. Spansii	the regular 2nd grade curriculum, incorporating lessons in
Community Served: School community	graphing, language arts, music, etc. The project will continue
Community our real behoof community	and expand in the coming school year. Sharon Public Schools,
Community Need: Education in world	Cottage Street School and Sharon High School
languages at an early age	Cottage Street School and Sharon Figu School
iaigaagos at air oaily ago	
Grades: Elementary and High School	Measurement in Math and Algebra - Algebra students
	designed lesson plans and taught math and measurement skills
Curricula: Algebra and Grade 4 Math	to fourth graders through the construction of three-dimensional
-6.77	figures. North Adams Public Schools, Drury High School
Community Served: School community	, , , ,
Community Needs Deposition alonhor and	
Community Need: Practicing algebra and	
math skills collaborative teaching	

L. Joan Brown, Ellen Bender September 15, 1996



CSL INITIATIVES FUNDED UNDER LEARN AND SERVE AMERICA DURING THE 1995-1996 SCHOOL YEAR

CSL SITES	CONTACTS	TELEPHONE/FAX
Attleboro Public Schools	Carlton Legg or Anjan Nath, CSL	Phone: 508-222-6260
	Implementation Team	508-223-1550
Grade 6 Initiative, now	Brennan Middle School	Fax: 508-223-1555
expanding systemwide	135 County Street	
	Attleboro, MA 02703	
Boston Public Schools	Barbara Locurto, Impact II Director	Phone: 617-635-9440
	The Impact II Office	Fax: 617-635-6571
Systemwide Initiative	School to Career Cluster 13	
	Madison Park Building I	
	55 New Dudley Street	_
	Boston, MA 02120	
Cambridge Public Schools	Len Solo, Principal	Phone: 617-349-6612
Camorage I done seneous	Graham & Parks Alternative Public School	Fax: 617-349-6615
Grade 7-8 Initiative	15 Upton Street	1 44.
Grade 7-6 Hithative	Cambridge, MA 02139	
Central Berkshire Regional	Thomas Potter, Asst. Supt. of Schools	Phone: 413-684-0780
School District	Central Berkshire Regional School Dist.	Fax: 413-684-1520
School District	P.O. Box 299	1 ax. 413-084-1320
Middle School Initiative	Dalton, MA 01227-0299 and/or	
	Lee Brown, Principal or Amy Carmel, CSL	Phone: 413-684-0780
	Coordinator	Phone. 413-084-0780
	Nessacus Middle School	
	120 First Street	
G is G is I as is	Dalton, MA 01126	DI 412 724 6057
Community Service Learning	Carol W. Kinsley, Executive Director	Phone: 413-734-6857
Center, Inc.	and/or	Fax: 413-747-5368
Middle Schools Initiative serving	Susan Seigel, Program Director	
5 middle schools in Boston,	CSLC, Inc.	
Greenfield, Lowell, Lynn, and	333 Bridge St., Suite 8	
Springfield	Springfield, MA 01103	
Little House Alternative School,	Anne Nee, Director and/or	Phone: 617-282-2180
Federated Dorchester Neigh-	Marianne Kimball	Fax: 617-474-1137
borhood Houses, Inc.	The Little House Alternative School	
	275 East Cottage Street	
Students aged 13-16	Dorchester, MA 02125	
Framingham Public Schools	Charles Sposato, CSL Coordinator	Phone: 508-620-4963
	Framingham High School	Fax: 508-877-6603
High School Initiative	115 A Street	
	Framingham, MA 01701	
Hampshire Educational	Margaret Collins, Director	Phone: 413-584-0867
Collaborative	Hampshire Youth 2000 Coalition, % HEC	Phone: 413-586-4900
All grade levels, collaborating	30 Industrial Drive East	Fax: 413-586-0180
schools in Hampshire County;	Northampton, MA 01002	
Amherst Public Schools -		
Systemwide Initiative		



INDEX BY TOPIC TO "EXAMPLES OF COMMUNITY SERVICE LEARNING PROJECTS IN MASSACHUSETTS SCHOOL-BASED PROGRAMS, 1995-1996"

Projects are listed by major subject area. Some are listed under two topics. Grade levels are designated as E, MS, HS. However, since many projects involve cross-disciplinary collaborations, integrated instructional units, and are replicable at other levels, it may be useful to screen through all of them.

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[also Braille Trail, wheelchair access, and video]

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