

Final Report : Youth-2-Youth Program 2009/2010

Budget : \$5000

Number of high schools: 1

Number of high school students who participated: 16

Number of elementary schools: 4

Number of elementary students who participated: 240

Summary:

In the 2009/2010 school year SOLOS implemented the *Youth-2-Youth* Program at Ecole Mission Secondary School (MSS). Teens taught internet safety to elementary school children from their feeder schools. The support of the funder was acknowledged on all handout materials, during the presentations and in press releases regarding the Project.

SOLOS staff met with teens in their classrooms three times and worked together with them to develop the content for a one hour lesson plan. Then the teens, with the supervision of MSS support staff, presented an internet safety presentation and resources to children at local elementary schools. After the presentations, teens completed a 500-word report reflecting on their experience and the outcome of their work. (This 500-word report was submitted to SOLOS and will assist the teens in satisfying the B.C. high school students' graduation requirement: "youth are to complete 30 hours of volunteer work in their community".) Upon completion of the SOLO program, the teens will have completed ten hours toward this requirement.

The focus of this program was that youth speaking to children is more effective and has more impact than training delivered by adults because;

1. High school youth internalized the Internet safety messages better when they had to teach them to younger youth.
2. Children responded better to older youth than they might have done to adults teaching the same message.
3. The program acknowledged teens as having excellent online skills, which in most cases are better than elementary teachers.

Date	Elem. School	# of Children	# of Teens
Nov. 8/09	Albert McMahon Elem.	60	3
Nov. 23/09	West Heights Elem.	90	6
Nov. 24/09	Christine Morrision Elem.	60	4
Feb. 17/10	Mission Central Elem.	30	3
	4 Elementary Schools	240	16

Comments from teen reports:

- The students were excited about the topic because it related to the world around them .
- We were amazed at how many kids did not think about safety when they are online.
- The most inspiring aspect for us was the number of questions that kids had during and after the presentation.
- We were surprised about how many students posted their personal information online, not realizing that anyone with unsafe motives could reach that information and become a threat.”
- The kids were very hungry to know more about how they should keep themselves safe online.
- The information we were giving the kids was a surprise to them.
- It seems they know how to use a computer, but don’t think enough about safety.
- It was surprising how many kids had Facebook and Twitter accounts even though they are underage.
- We were surprised at how interested they were in the things we do online.

Questions the children asked the teen presenters:

- “Do you have an account on Facebook, and if you do, what do you do with it?”
- “Why is being safe online so important?”
- “How old do you have to be to be on Facebook?”
- “What is so risky about the internet?”
- “Who would I go to, if there was a problem online?”

INFO that CLICKS!

What the teens would do to improve on the workshops next time:

- “We would want to have more time and to get a chance to reach more kids with the same message.”
- “We wished we had more time to get our points across about safety and the ways to handle bullying and fair treatment of others online.”
- “We would like to break the students into smaller groups if we had more time. It seemed like some of the q’uieter students had more questions for us but felt shy about it.
- If we were to change anything about this workshop it would be to spread the awareness by going to more schools to talk to other kids about online safety.
- We needed longer than one hour for the workshop.
- We wished that we had taken more time to answer questions because the students were so intense about our presentation.

Final Budget

ITEM	COST	TOTAL
Project Staff	80 hrs X \$20/hr	\$2000
Project Supervisor	25 hrs X \$30/hr	\$750
Transportation	500 kms @ .5	\$250
Resource Development	24 hrs X \$30/hr	\$720
Handout Resources	\$800 (\$2/participant)	\$1280
		\$5000

For more information about this Program,
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