

Eureka High School Midterm Report

Project Ignition

- ***Message and delivery:***

Eureka High School's ***Drive 2 Stay Alive*** Program is educating soon-to-be, new or experienced teen drivers about the dangers and realities of distracted or impaired driving. In order to foster greater depth and meaning, our project is focusing on every academic department on campus. Drive 2 Stay Alive is part of campus wide thematic unit, to get the message across to not only the students but also to the staff at Eureka High School. Our message to our community is simply ***Drive 2 Stay Alive!*** While driving one should have "1" focus, and that is driving; "2" or more distractions or impairments while driving can potentially result in major consequences and none the less one is not "Driving 2 Stay Alive".

- ***Current Status:***

Our "***Drive 2 Stay Alive***" Program has overcome unexpected challenges to implement a series of powerful student led activities that have influenced our entire campus. Though we have had to venture off our original timeline, we feel our project has been extremely successful.

Administrative changes at our school resulted in a loss of planning time with teacher teams. Nevertheless, we are on course to complete everything we have set out to do and have already made our campus more aware through an impressive set of activities, demonstrations, and outreach.

Thus mile-stones of ***Drive 2 Stay Alive*** thus far have been:

- Every student at Eureka High School had a chance to create a *card detailing an incident of distracted driving* that resulted in accident for themselves or someone they know. The creation of cards fostered conversation in history and English classes. These cards will be laminated then placed on a wall in our main building. Individual stories from these cards have been used in educational posters and in our PSA's.
- ***Drive 2 Stay Alive*** hosted a driving simulation in our school parking lot using a go-cart. Students completed a driving course undistracted and then again with various distractions. A traffic patrol officer was on hand to administer sobriety checks for students wearing "fatal vision goggles". Students were interviewed prior to and following driving course. Footage will be featured in our film.
- A wrecked car was put on display next to the path that all students took to get to our homecoming rally. Project directors placed driving statistics detailing

the dangers of distracted driving on the car. The car received a great deal of attention in part because it was wrecked by one of homecoming queen nominees. This same car will go on display at another school in the coming weeks.

- In conjunction with homecoming, Eureka High School students were challenged to sign a banner as a pledge not to drink and drive or drive distracted.
- Math classes have created graphs and posters using from driving statistics.
- ***Drive 2 Stay Alive*** is hosting a safe driving poster contest. All students in the graphic arts classes took part. The winners will be duplicated and placed on display in our school.
- Bulletin boards on campus have featured safe-driving message since the beginning of the year.
- The *Slow for the Cone Zone* car from Cal Trans was on part of a lunch time event for all students.
- ***Drive 2 Stay Alive*** has solicited the community for funds to create t-shirts sharing our message. One local business pledged \$1000 for the production of shirts. Fourteen-hundred dollars has been raised thus far. T-shirts will feature the project message.

Our next steps require coordination and cooperation from the entire community. The following events will happen over the next six weeks:

- The City of Eureka, the Eureka Police Department, Humboldt Driving School, and students from ***Drive 2 Stay Alive*** are working in coordination hold a driving simulation event at our local drag course on November 19th & 20th. Participants will be driving in the Humboldt Driving School vehicles through a course designed by the Eureka Police Department. Comparative results will be documented for students driving with and without distractions and impairments. In order hold this event ***Drive 2 Stay Alive*** directors had to get approval from the Eureka City Council. The local television station has agreed to do a major feature story about this event.
- Students will give presentations to younger peers in elementary school, middle school, and in our high school Health and Safety Classes. Student presentation teams will present the facts to these classes and challenge them to sign the safe-driving banner.
- Student filmmakers will complete our film documenting our project. In addition this team will create 60 & 30 second PSA's for radio and television

stations.

- ***Drive 2 Stay Alive*** will continue to put up driver safety signs in our school and community.
- The Humboldt County Board of Supervisors has agreed to issue a proclamation making this the year for safe driving.
- Project Ignition Day will take place in December. This day we will submit all of our finding in an assembly for the school to see and observe all that has taken place in the last 3 months

For more events on the horizon please see the project timeline.

You can determine more about the impact of our project on our community by examining recent articles concerning ***Drive 2 Stay Alive***.

- This article introduced Project Drive 2 Stay Alive to the Community. <http://www.eureka-reporter.com/article/081004-ehs-students-earn-2000-grant-to-promote-safe-driving>
- An article focused on the Service Learning efforts of the Director of Project Ignition, Koral Heinzman. <http://www.eureka-reporter.com/article/081024-teen-devotes-time-to-service-learning>
- This recent article detailed our effort to secure sponsors for the project t-shirts as well. <http://www.eureka-reporter.com/article/081018-ehs-drive-2-stay-alive-seeks-t-shirt-sponsors>
- This article from the spring describes the Seeking Solutions EAST Lab, the service-learning program in which our students are working on Drive 2 Stay Alive. This is the first time that the project was mentioned. <http://www.eureka-reporter.com/article/080607-ehs-east-lab-teaching-the-path-of-service-learning-to-future-leaders>

- **Timeline for Completion:**

- November: 6th through January 16th-Video Collaboration

We are collaborating all of the events that have taken place through our project.

- 12th-Powerpoint Presentation to Health and Safety Classes

Colt Tuel and Matt Susavilla will present PowerPoint Presentations to Eureka High School's Health and Safety classes on the topic of impaired and distracted driving.

- 12th and 14th-Proclamation Revision and complementation

As a group we are writing a county wide proclamation to submit to our county supervisors for a declaration of a year long campaign to drive safe

- 13th through the 21st - Statistics wall get hung up!

We'll hang up our statistic wall made up of all of the statistics that our students wrote down on cards and display them around our school district.

- 19th and 20th - Drag Strip Simulation

We are collaborating with Eureka Police department to put on a simulation for teen drivers to drive impaired and distracted. We are hoping that through this event we can implement safer ways to drive and the do's and don'ts while driving.

- 25th through Dec. 5- Door decoration contest

This contest is a door decorating contest that will be featured in every fourth period class that is willing to participate. They will make a door that signifies what safe driving is and the consequences of not driving safe.

- December: 5th - Final day of the door decoration contest

This day will embrace the final touches of the classes competing to prepare their doors for they final judging contest .

- 8th- Door Decoration Judging

Project members and Administrators will walk around during fourth period to judge the door decorating contest, take pictures, and choose a winner!

- 8th and 12th- Jeopardy Driving Week

Students will play the jeopardy game by competing to see which student has the most knowledge about teen driving in California.

- 12th - Have PSA's completed

Have Television and Radio PSA's out on the air for the a visual and hearing aids of how our project is effecting others and how one can drive safe.

○ 12th- Project Ignition Day

This day we will submit all of our finding in an assembly for the school to see and observe all that has taken place in the last 3 months.

➤ January: 5th through the 9th- Preparation and delivery of final Project

We will conclude all that we have done through the project with our final preparation for the submission of our final mission

Note: Student Organizers are already working an Every 15 Minutes Program for the Spring and connections to make presentations to schools outside our district.

● **An outline of how the project is meeting service-learning criteria and learning objectives:**

Drive 2 Stay Alive is meeting the service-learning criteria and learning objectives by connecting project activities to elements of the California State standards. At Eureka High School academic departments have agreed to complete activities connected to their curricular goals. The activities completed thus far include:

- Algebra 1 students examined a detailed list of driving statistics for Humboldt County which were provided by our Public Health Administrator Dawn Arledge. We then had students continue their work by going to our schools computer lab to create graphs from the statistics they received. We then collected all of the statistics from their class and hung them up on our hallway bulletin board.
- Graphic Communication students put their attention towards teen driver safety and made awareness posters of why to drive safe. We challenged the students by only telling them the name of the project and what our project objective was. This challenge gave students the skills they will need in the real world to create graphic images with only a little fragment of information, this enables students to utilize their imagination and make an impact by being originally.
- History Classes are being challenged to find teen driving laws to integrate into a jeopardy game thus all History classes will participate in playing. This game will not only help the students gain a greater understanding of the laws but help students to know their limitations

and possibly learn something they might not have.

- Language Art classes will receive two surveys each week for the next 3 weeks. Each survey will feature short questions intended to be answered in less than five minutes. These questions are will test the knowledge of every student in our school and be the basis for future discussion.
- Filmhouse EAST, the film students in the service-learning class at Eureka High, are currently crafting PSA's in the Community Access Television studio.
- Science classes will conduct a demonstration using a melon for the damage that can be caused by accidents at different speeds for our student body.

Some of the barriers and challenges that we have faced include:

- The lack of the expected planning period each week. This limited project organizers contact with curricular departments.
- The economic downturn has impacted our ability to raise funds for t-shirts.
- Insurance (ironically) for our planned events. This factor necessitated approval by the Eureka City Council.
- The fact that all the team members are not in the same period. Communication is always a challenge.

Send to info@sfprojectignition.com