**Source of Evidence 11: Leadership**

***The Leadership format is based on the Kentucky Teacher Internship Program. It has been modified for application to teacher preparation.*** Be sure to review carefully the Guidelines for completing the Leadership project.

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| **Discuss leadership ideas with your cooperating teacher and propose a project. Describe the ideas.**   * My leadership ideas were discussed with both Mrs. Ward, my cooperating teacher, and Mrs. Eubank, the administrator of Kentucky Christian Academy. I was interested in leading a family reading night. Mrs. Ward loved the idea and helped me plan a time to meet with Mrs. Eubank to discuss my ideas further. I was very impressed with the level of attention Mrs. Eubank provided me when determining my leadership project. She seemed very excited to have me lead an event that would involve the community and offer something fun for the school’s students and families. My concerns involved the level of participation and the determination of a feasible way to know the number of participants so an appropriate amount of supplies could be purchased. When expressing these concerns to Mrs. Eubank, she offered some suggestions to my original ideas. Instead of hosting a separate reading night, she recommended preparing literacy and other activities for KCA’s annual chili supper. This is one of the biggest events KCA offers families. Mrs. Eubank informed me that almost every school family attends the event. Tickets must be purchased so numbers are known. Families eat chili and explore the book fair set up in the gym. As an incentive for families to attend, a school survey is given. A dress code pass is given to each family who completes the survey. Mrs. Eubank stated that it would be wonderful to have various activities set up for students as caregivers complete the survey. We also agreed that the activities should be ones in which parents can be involved throughout the night. Mrs. Eubank was quite excited about the idea of offering more to families at the event this year. We discussed where to place the activities, how to involve the community, and how to plan activities appropriate for all age levels. | | | | | |
| **Identification of Leadership Project – a short description and rationale for selecting this project.**   * For my leadership project, I have decided to plan and facilitate five winter activities to accompany KCA’s annual chili night. The activities are designed to encourage students to read, serve the community, and provide opportunities for families to have additional fun. All five activities will be held in separate classrooms. Multiple members of the community will serve as volunteers in the classrooms. Shifts will be assigned to each volunteer. Volunteers will include students from Campbellsville University’s School of Education, professors and other students from Campbellsville University, and Campbellsville Baptist Church members. Activities will include read-alouds, sugar cookie decorating, a movie, crafts, and games. The first reason I selected this project was to provide more for families to do at the chili supper event. These activities will allow families to interact with one another. Another main reason I have chosen to provide these winter activities is to inspire students to read more at home and to encourage parents to read with their children. The read-alouds and winter book selection provided for families to explore will help meet these goals for the leadership project. This project also allows me to involve the community in three distinct ways. Parents will be involved. Volunteers from Campbellsville University and Campbellsville Baptist Church will be involved. Also, cards will be made in the craft classroom to be given to a local nursing home. This leadership project was chosen to provide more fun for school families, encourage both students and parents to spend time reading together, and involve the community in a variety of ways. | | | | | |
| **Leadership Project Work Plan**  **Using the template below, develop a Leadership Project Work Plan.** | | | | | |
| **Objectives/Learning Targets: What you plan to accomplish.**   * I plan to accomplish the following objectives when implementing this leadership project at KCA. * Objective One – Students will gain an increased desire to read at home. * Objective Two – Caregivers will be encouraged to read more with their children at home. * Objective Three – Families will leave the event having shared a special bonding experience by participating in different winter activities. | | | | | |
| **Assessment:** How will you determine the impact of your project on student learning and/or school environment?   * In order to determine the impact of this leadership project, a survey will be given to a caregiver of each family. The survey will include four simple tasks and will be given to caregivers for completion as they leave the school. I will analyze the surveys to determine how well my leadership project objectives were met. One of the purposes of this project is to increase students’ eagerness to read outside of school. Such an eagerness to read will lead to improved reading skills which will further students’ learning in all subject areas. Another purpose of the project is to build the relationship between students and caregivers. KCA desires to create a school environment that is positive, exciting, and intentional about building a sense of community. This sense of community is created through the interaction of families within the walls of the school building. In addition to the survey given to caregivers, I will meet with Mrs. Eubank, Mrs. Ward, and other members of the faculty and staff to determine the success of the leadership project as a whole. Below are the tasks that will be on the survey for caregivers. * Please ask your student(s) if they have an increased desire to read at home due to the winter reading activities. Please write their response(s). * How much did the winter reading activities encourage you to read with you student(s) at home?   A lot Some A little None   * Did the winter activities allow you to have a special bonding experience with your student(s)?   Yes No   * Please mark how the activities met your expectations.   3 – Exceeded Expectations  2 – Met Expectations  1 – Below expectations  0 – Did Not Participate in Activity  Chilly Read-Alouds 3 2 1 0  Winter Books and Snowflake Cookies 3 2 1 0  *The Magic School Bus Arctic Adventure* Movie and Popcorn 3 2 1 0  Icy Crafts 3 2 1 0  Frosty Games 3 2 1 0 | | | | | |
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| Activities | Timeline | People Involved  and Roles | Resources Needed |
| Meeting with Mrs. Ward – discussed leadership project ideas | October 26, 2016  12 – 12:30 | Mrs. Ward  (provide suggestions) | Leadership Notes |
| Meeting with Mrs. Eubank – discussed and determined leadership project | October 28, 2016  1:00 – 1:30 | Mrs. Eubank  (approve project) | Leadership Notes  School Calendar |
| Meeting with Mrs. Eubank – finalize all activities  Scheduling Volunteer Shifts | January 9 – 13 | Mrs. Eubank  (provide ticket numbers)  Volunteers  (selecting shifts) | Leadership Plan  Leadership Volunteer Shifts Chart |
| Preparing Winter Activities  for Implementation | January 16 -20 | Mrs. Eubank  (answer any questions) | All Supplies for Classroom Winter Activities (listed in below sections) |
| Chilly Read-Alouds – Volunteers will read a variety of winter books to students and their families. | January 24, 2017  5:00 - 7:00  (come and go) | 4 volunteers  1 volunteer per shift  4 30-minute shifts | Winter Read-Aloud Books |
| Winter Books and Snowflake Cookies – Families will decorate snowflake-shaped cookies with frosting and sprinkles. As families eat their cookies, they may sort through a winter book collection and spend time reading together. | January 24, 2017  5:00 – 7:00  (come and go) | 2 volunteers  1 volunteer per shift  2 1-hour shifts | Winter Book Collection  Snowflake Cookies  Frosting  Plastic Knives  Paper Towels  Sprinkles |
| *The Magic School Bus Arctic Adventure* and Popcorn – The movie will continuously repeat during the two-hour event. Popcorn will be served by a volunteer. | January 24, 2017  5:00 – 7:00  (20 minute movie) | 2 volunteers  1 volunteer per shift  2 1-hour shifts | Smart Board  YouTube Movie Showing  Popped Popcorn  Brown Paper Bags  Napkins |
| Icy Crafts – Families will be encouraged to place a blue thumbprint on a snowflake canvas to be hung within KCA. Card making supplies will be provided for families to make winter cards for the local nursing home. | January 24, 2017  5:00 – 7:00  (come and go) | 2 volunteers  1 volunteer per shift  2 1-hour shifts | Snowflake Canvas  Light/Dark Blue Ink Pads  Baby Wipes  Construction Paper  Markers and Crayons  Stickers/Foam Shapes  Scissors/Glue  Card Collection Basket |
| Frosty Games – Families will play “Pin the Carrot Nose on the Snowman.” A bookmark will be given as a prize for participation. Students will also guess the number of snow balls (cotton balls) in a jar. The student with the closest guess will win a gift card. Other games such as winter word searches, mazes, and crossword puzzles will be offered. | January 24, 2017  5:00 – 7:00  (come and go) | 2 volunteers  1 volunteer per shift  2 1-hour shifts | Snowman Cut-Out  Carrot Nose Cut-Out  Sticky Tack  Blindfold  Bookmarks  Snow Ball Jar  Guess Collection Basket  Pencils  Word Searches  Crossword Puzzles  Mazes |
| Results Meeting – leadership project results will be discussed with Mrs. Eubank, Mrs. Ward, and other members of KCA’s faculty and staff | The First Week of February | Mrs. Eubank  Mrs. Ward  KCA Faculty and Staff  (provide feedback) | Winter Activities Surveys  Leadership Analysis Chart |

Possible Community Volunteers:

* Meika Hamblin (CU SOE student)
* Kayla Hisel (CU SOE student)
* Cassie Emery (CU SOE student)
* McKenna Hill (CU SOE student)
* Cullen Byrne (CU SOE student)
* Lacy Walker (CU student)
* Maddie Ferriell (CU student)
* Oksana Marquez (CU student)
* ED 300 CU SOE Students (any student in need of family interaction field experience)
* Dr. Jeanette Parker (CU Professor)
* Dr. April Sholty (CU Professor)
* Ms. Blevins (CU Professor)
* Mr. Virgil Parker (CBC member)
* Justin McDonald (CBC member)
* Jessica McDonald (CBC member)

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| **How and with whom will the results of your project be shared?**   * A meeting will be set with Mrs. Eubank, Mrs. Ward, and other members of KCA’s faculty and staff to discuss the results of my leadership project. Both the positive and negative results will be shared during this scheduled meeting. We will then discuss possible changes that could be made to better the activities for the following year. |
| **Reflection** |
| **Evaluate your own performance level with respect to the four indicators for KTS 10.**   * I would personally score myself as a three for each of the leadership indicators. This plan clearly reveals my ability to identify a leadership opportunity that enhances learning and strengthens the school environment. My leadership project encouraged students to spend more time reading at home with their families. All of the winter activities provided families the opportunity to spend time with one another during KCA’s annual chili supper. I believe the school environment was more lively and inviting as a result of this leadership project. This document demonstrates my ability to develop a specific leadership plan to implement in a school system. I paid close attention to details and created a timeline which was strictly followed. Resources and volunteers were explicitly listed. I successfully implemented this leadership plan on January 24th. My estimate is that over 50 children participated in my planned winter activities. There were families participating in the activity classrooms from the very beginning of the chili supper all the way until 7:00. There was never a time when no family was participating. Activities were properly set up. Volunteers were effectively organized. I received several compliments from KCA faculty, staff, and families during my implementation of this project. After the completion of this leadership project, I analyzed the family winter activities surveys which were completed by KCA families. The survey responses allowed me to evaluate the effectiveness of my leadership efforts. The feedback I received was very positive and appreciative. The data revealed that families truly enjoyed the activities and look forward to spending more time reading with their students at home. |
| **Reflect on what your project accomplished regarding student learning and school environment.**   * I believe my leadership project accomplished a lot. Families were given more options during the annual chili supper. Students were given a variety of activities to complete along with the chili supper and book fair. Families were provided more opportunities to interact as they met each other in different winter activity classrooms. The environment was filled with excitement and anticipation as families moved from one classroom to the next. Students learned some about the science of winter by watching the Magic School Bus Arctic Adventure. In the craft classroom, students learned the importance of caring for those in need by making cards for the local nursing home. Most importantly, students were reminded of the fun of reading. Families were observed sharing a special experience with their student through the reading of a book. Eight surveys revealed that students agreed that they have an increased desire to read at home due to the winter reading activities. One survey included the response “very much so.” Another survey included the following statement, “It made me want to read more because they were great books.” The survey asked adults to rate how much the winter reading activities encouraged them to read with their student at home. 10 adults responded with “a lot.” Seven adults responded with “some.” 3 adults responded with “a little.” No adult responded with “none.” All adults agreed that the winter activities allowed them to have a special bonding experience with their student(s). The vast majority of the survey responses reveal that each classroom activity exceeded the expectations of the families. The results from the surveys depict that this leadership project was a great success and accomplished a great amount for families.   **What did you learn from your leadership experience – what worked, what did not, and why?**   * I learned a lot from planning and implementing this leadership project. This project was both time-consuming and costly. Although I could have chosen something much simpler for my project, I enjoyed implementing this leadership plan. Seeing the smiles on the students’ faces and the joy of the families made me realize that all of the work and energy had been worth it. The set-up of the classrooms, the organizing of volunteers, and the communication with families all successfully worked the night of the event. There was no activity that simply did not work. Each activity was effective for the intended purpose. There was nothing that specifically didn’t work. However, there are two things I would have done differently. First, I would have asked volunteers to keep a tally of the number of students and families who participated in their specific winter activities. I would have liked to know numbers. Even though I don’t know the exact numbers, checking on the classroom volunteers throughout the evening gave me the opportunity to observe the number of families in each classroom. Also, the number of homemade cards, canvas thumbprints, and snowball guesses provided me with a good estimate regarding the number of students who enjoyed the night’s activities. As mentioned previously, I estimate that over 50 students participated in my planned family winter activities. Second, I would have purchased less supplies. There was obviously no way for me to know the number of families who would be participating. I wanted to have too much instead of not enough. Although there were not a lot of leftovers, some money could have been saved. Due to the success of this project, there is very little I would change. |