

Kenmore -Town of Tonawanda school district Innovation Contest
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The Proposal.

Organization of a debating club/ society in the Ken -Ton Schools from
4th grade to the 12th grade.

Description of the proposal/ project

Individuals involved in the project include organizing group of parents, staff and the
participating students.

Projected cost;

Since this is a project that does not require any special equipment or material there is
almost no cost involved to the school system except for providing the space. However,
this project would require commitment of time and energy by parents, staff and
students. There may be some miscellaneous costs – (mailing letters etc).

Since there is never an activity involving children that does not call for
some refreshments we could include it in the cost to parents!!

Time line:

Presenting the proposal to various groups:

- Present the proposal to the Kenton schools.
- Present proposal to PTA, Staff
- Send letters to parents and get their input.
- Tentative starting date is Jan 2019.We can plan an event every
other month.

At the presentation to the staff the following details will be discussed:

- Which departments are interested
- Who selects the students?
- How do you select students?
- How many students
- How long is the debate?
- Who selects topics?
- Will it be After school /during school?
- Awards /certificate

Anticipated outcome:

- Improving students' ability to research various topics
- Improve listening skills
- Improve students critical thinking skills
- Presentation of ideas to an audience (an important skill for the future)
- Listening to and acceptance of an opposite point of view
- Improve ability to have polite disagreement with discussion/dialogue/debate

Participating in a debate will improve communication skill, and in turn self-esteem,

Measurements to evaluate effectiveness:

- Pre and post activity surveys to parents, staff and students.

The skills developed here may be difficult to measure quantitatively. Improvement and enhancement of self-esteem is not a tangible entity. It is a long-term investment in our future citizens.

In the next few decades if the young men and women in the community are more accepting of differing points of view the objective of this activity has been achieved. This will contribute to having debate about important local, national and international issues. Hopefully this school will share the credit for having provided this skill.

Pre and post activity surveys may give us a glimpse into what we might be able to achieve