

Citizenship Award for Team LEAD

Members of Team LEAD, a leadership and mentor program, were the recipients of the second Citizenship Award presented by the School City of Hobart School Board. In addition to highlighting achievements on the elementary, middle, and high school levels, each student and adult mentor were honored with a certificate.

The certificate jacket summarized one of the ideals of Team LEAD:

The Power of One

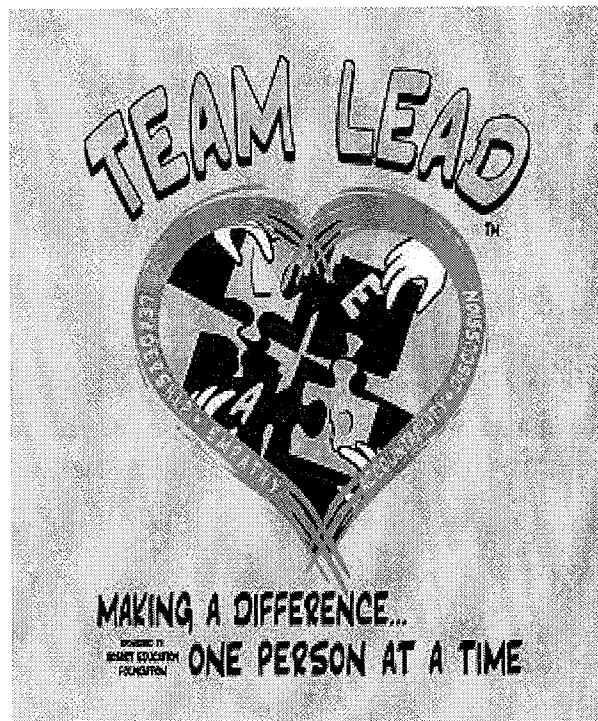
*The little things you do each day have the power to affect a great many people. You inspire us with your willingness and ability to help others. You take on the world, one day at a time, continuously searching for a way to make things better, seizing the opportunity to improve everyday life. **You make a world of difference!***

The certificate stated:

WORLD OF DIFFERENCE

School City of Hobart, in recognition of outstanding citizenship that has made a positive impact on the learning community, presents this award to.....

The school board members presented the certificates to each member in attendance and Dr. Buffington reminded the students and sponsors that they were, "Making a difference....one person at a time."



Denise Koebcke, Team LEAD consultant, began the presentation with an overview of the program. She spoke about the philosophy of Team LEAD, and she explained the beginnings at the high school, the movement to the middle school, and the work with the elementary schools. Student mentors represented the elementary schools, the middle school, and the high school. Many expressed feelings about the accomplishments made in each school. Most students commented that Team LEAD changed THEIR perspective of the environment around them. They found themselves becoming more aware of other students needing a "helping hand."

The scope and sequence of the Team LEAD program became much clearer to the audience. One parent summed up the presentations:

"....the Team LEAD presentations left me feeling WOW! Both (of my children) are part of Team LEAD, but it was so important to see how it all fits together. Last night made me review what I want in my professional life – that feeling of making a difference with a purpose."

In addition to the certificates given, the Hobart Education Foundation as Team LEAD sponsor gave continued support. Envoy Construction Managers also presented Team LEAD with a check for \$1000 to help defray the costs of continuing the program.

Some future plans were highlighted, including high school activities: teen nights once a month; a DIVA (Determined, Intelligent, Valuable, Awsome) Day; opening of a bookstore; freshman blitz; freshman forum; service projects; in-house mentoring; mentoring continuing at middle school and elementary schools.

Training Day at the high school is scheduled for September 5, 2008 and Freshman Blitz is scheduled on September 16, 2008.

One high school mentor mentioned that she was not an original adult mentor but "nagged until they had to let me work with them. I was so jealous of those participating and so thrilled with the program that I finally got to be the 'official cheerleader' for Team LEAD!"

Students and sponsors are looking forward to another year of "**making a world of difference!**"

The new trademarked Hobart Logo proudly includes Hobart Education Foundation's sponsorship.