

## The Service Learning Link

The FBISD Service Link is presented to promote and encourage service learning throughout the school community to encourage maximum involvement.

**Service Learning** is a teaching and learning strategy that integrates meaningful community service with instruction to teach civic responsibility and to strengthen communities. It actively engages participants in meaningful and relevant service activities. Through service-learning, young people use what they learn in the classroom to solve real-life problems.

Students build character and become active participants as they work with others to create service projects in areas such as education, public safety, and the environment. The following activities address real community challenges using knowledge and skills learned in the classroom:

### January

**This month, as we start a new year, youths will discover what it means to set a goal and set resolutions for the coming year. Examples of a few service learning projects are provided below:**

#### **Make a Resolution and Stick to it!**

With the New Year beginning, it's time to make sure we follow through with our resolutions. Creating a personal, or community-focused goal is always important to make sure we start the year on the right track.

#### **Cookies, Candy, and Cakes! Oh My!**

After all the holiday meals, it is important to make sure that we keep giving to those who are in need. Bake sales are a great way to raise money for local organizations, and it will also keep the holiday joy going for just a little longer.

#### **Pick a Cause and Make a Change!**

There are so many deserving causes and organizations that are in need of help. This month, pick a cause or organization that speaks to you and help them make a difference. This can be by simply volunteering your time, or even getting the word out there. It only takes one person to start change.

#### **Make Social Media Work for You!**

Wouldn't it be great to make social media work for you? Start an online newspaper, blog, or even a news related show right in your classroom. The community and your schoolmates would be interested to know what is going on in your classroom! Share updates, good news, and anything else you think might peak the school's interest.

#### **Put Your Best Dance Move Forward**

Consider organizing a community dance for a worthy cause. This will not only raise money for local organizations, businesses, and causes, it will also bring the community together for a fun and different type of event. Everyone must bring their dancing shoes!

Consider participating in or initiating a service learning project in your school and community to kick off the New Year; it will prove to be a worthy endeavor that will serve as an example for others to follow.