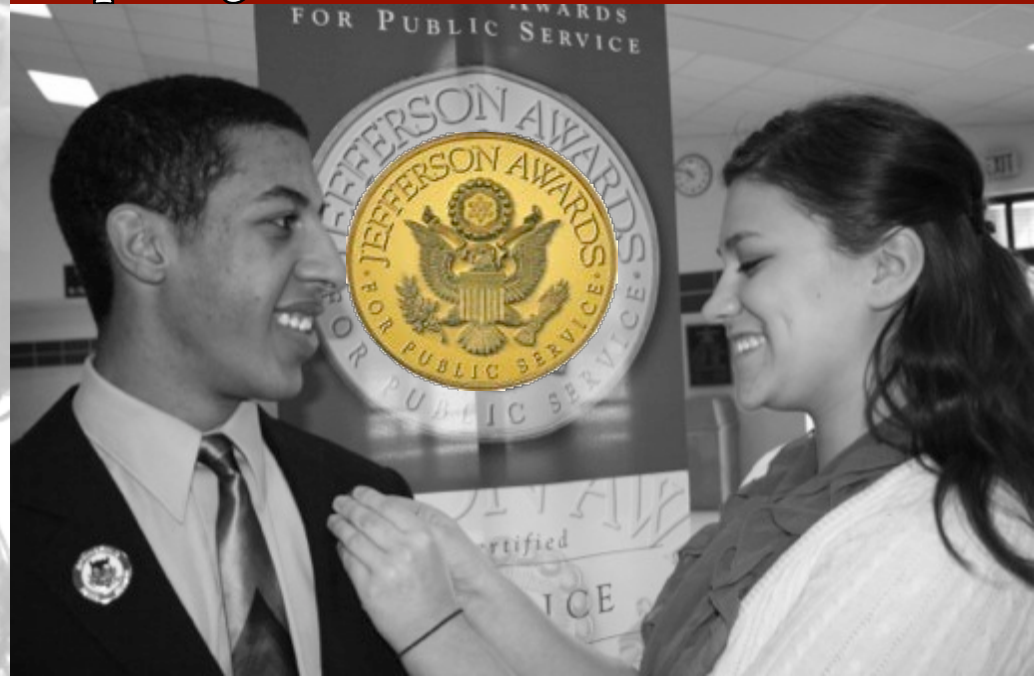


Springfield
Local Schools



Springfield Students In Action!





**Making
the**



**Commitment
to service**



“If you want to live in a good community, you need to step-up and find a way to serve that community.”

Colonel Jim

Coomler







Springfield Local Schools
has a **strong commitment** to
and **reputation** for caring
for our community . . .





Many students are first exposed to “service” by their parents and family members.

Like in most school districts, this initial exposure is often enriched and enhanced thanks to the guidance provided by faculty

and staff...

Prior to the 2000-2001 school year, Springfield lacked an organized, strategic/systemic plan to engage K-12 students in community service.

During that year, the Board of Education was approached by the chair of the high school English Department to *require* five hours of service per year per student



Teachers assigned an essay/paper allowing students to detail the impact of their experience . . .



The success of the “assignment” remained *random* until . . .





Students in Action (SIA)

- SIA was created by the national Jefferson Awards for Public Service (*Nobel Prize for Public Service*) to encourage and recognize ordinary high school students for extraordinary service to others
- The greater-Toledo community was invited to be the fifth community in the nation to offer the initiative
- Springfield High School was one of only four high schools selected to pilot the SIA initiative; SIA is facilitated locally by Leadership Toledo





What we learned from the pilot:

- SIA must be seen as an *initiative* and available to each student (not as a club/organization)
- SIA should be student led
- SIA must reflect the unique personality of each school
- Criteria and timing for awards should be determined by the schools



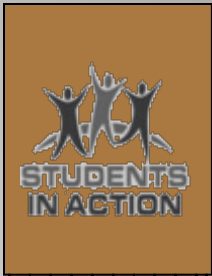
We also learned that:

- Springfield High School lacked a common definition for “service”
- If you can't measure it, you can't manage it . . . so, there needs to be an easy way to collect student's service hours
- Students want to share their time, talents, and treasures, yet . . .



Banners

Solutions



STEP ONE: identify leaders

Invite students from:

- All major school clubs
- All major school organizations
- All sports teams
- Teachers/Advisors
- Area churches/organizations





STEP TWO: Selection Criteria



Students suggested that awards be based on:

- Responsibility
- Leadership
- Initiative
- Community Involvement




Students in Action/Youth Jefferson Awards


“Determine never to be idle...it is wonderful how much may be done if we are always doing.”

We are determined.
 We aren't waiting for "tomorrow!"
 We are *Students in Action*



On “Freshmen Mentoring/Orientation Day” student leaders explain SIA and service requirements by using a Jefferson nickel card! It is refreshing that every student returns the nickel – others even a little more!

Springfield High School's student leaders are using SIA to redefine the *culture* of their school to one that promotes service proving that they do not have to wait for "the future" to make a difference . . . they are caring for others and their community – *today!*



It is “Students” In Action after all . . .
Here is what they want you to know!

Support/Recognition From the Rotary Club

Knowing that Rotary's mission is *Service Above Self*, Springfield High School's **Students In Action** leaders met with members of the Holland Springfield club and received their commitment for a \$50 honoraria to be donated in each winner's name to the charity of his/her choice.





serving
our
community



awards and recognition

National Honors

In both 2010 and 2012, Springfield High School's SIA initiative competed and won the opportunity to represent the *Toledo Region* at the national Jefferson Awards for Public Service's annual celebration in Washington, D.C. Jefferson Awards underwrites travel/accommodations for two students and the advisor!



Thanks to community support, additional students were able to travel to Washington, D.C. where they learned their initiative was named one of the top three in the nation! This award earned them the *Ambassador-level* status.



Springfield High School remains one of only five *“Ambassador Level”* SIA initiatives in the country.



They will retain this designation through 2014 – and remain challenged to “do more” and to “do better. . .”

Visit with two of the school’s leaders at the *Student Achievement Fair* later today. No doubt – they have a lot to share!



For information on Youth Jefferson Awards/SIA, please contact:

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