Chicano Advocacy Action Research

A major component of the Chicano Literature course is the senior action research advocacy project. Students will begin by identifying a social problem in the Latino community that affects a large majority, and that impedes success. Students will research the long and short-term effects, and they will develop a solution to the problem. In groups students will then conduct the action research, in which they select a group, develop theory questions, collect data, implement the change, then collect data and analyze the results. Students will use qualitative and quantitative data to determine if their modifications have changed the behavior and/or perspectives of the target group.

Objectives
* To apply research skills and produce presentations, written defense, and advocacy about global issues
* To select, utilize, and be proficient in 21st Century communication and technology
* To prepare for college level research and writing
* To become an active participant in the community and society

Resources:
• Internet (list of resources will be given by teacher and found by students)
• Elementary and middle school Dual Language teachers and classrooms

Assignments:
- Research paper
- Overview of research assignment
- Pre/Post Surveys
- Findings/ Results Charts
- Agendas and notes from meetings
- Mission statement
- Vision statement
- Thesis and Theory of action
- Flyer
- Contact List

Advocacy Examples:
- Workshops
- Fairs
- Presentations to lower grades
- Community Service

Sample Topics:
- Health and Wellness
- Cultural Identity
- Confidence
- Education/Career
- Importance of Community Service
- Importance of Empathy

The Oral Presentation:
The culminating activity for the advocacy project is a presentation. In May, students will present their Portfolio at the Dual Language End of the Semester Meeting. Students will make a formal presentation to a panel of judges including parents, community members, teachers, administrators, and DL students. Students should plan to be rehearsed and professional in your manner, dress, and appearance.