

UA Service-learning

Common Questions & Answers



How many UA teachers at elementary, middle school, and high school levels are involved in Service-Learning?

The UA Strategic Plan states that every teacher, every year will use service-learning as a teaching strategy. Currently, we have over 100 teachers trained and Service-learning Leaders in every building.

How many students across the district are involved?

The UA Strategic Plan states that every child, every year will be involved in high-quality service-learning; this is the goal. During the 2011-2012, we estimate that about 75% of the student body participated in service-learning projects.



What specific training do they receive that allows them to be involved?

Teachers are trained to plan and implement high-quality service learning projects:

- Helping Students Create Their Legacies Level One - annual graduate course available to all staff.
- Helping Students Create Their Legacies Level Two - annual graduate course seminar available to staff who have taken Level One.
- Annual New Teacher Training
- Service-learning 101 - 1.5 days in summer/fall
- Growing Together/AmeriCorps Training - 3 days in August; teachers paired with service-learning trained AmeriCorps volunteers
- Other: Staff meetings; October Professional Development day; participation in statewide/national conferences; Growing Together Critical Issues Summit



What is the connection between the local and national Service-learning initiatives, and is UA involved at both levels?

- Growing Together/AmeriCorps Network in Central Ohio
- One of 6 model programs in Ohio's Learn & Serve Program
- Nationally Benchmarked by the Hanover Research Council: *"As evidenced by Upper Arlington City School District's success in winning state and national recognition for its service-learning program, the initiative is quite advanced relative to the programs at other districts."*
- Recent Awards include:
 - ODE/School Innovation and Reform: Best District in Ohio 2010
 - State Farm Youth Leadership for Service-learning Excellence, National Award 2011 - UAHS Strides for Sudan
 - Ohio Philanthropy Award 2011 - Beat Michigan. Beat Cancer, Barrington
 - Best School Partner, LifeCare Alliance 2012 - Hastings Middle School



What are the visions for the future if the Service-Learning Program continues?

Service-learning has been an important part of our vision and culture for the past 30 years and has been identified as a key strategy in the last two strategic plans. We continue to recognize the value of these learning experiences for our students.

