

Over 1,000 Canutillo ISD Students Participate in Service Learning Projects

Over one thousand Canutillo Independent School District (CISD) students participated in sixteen different Service Learning Projects over the past year. The Service Learning Projects were funded through the Texas Center for Service Learning Grant and S.T.A.R.S. of Texas Grant, which provided \$30,000 to fund mini-grants through the 2008-09 school year.

The purpose of the S.T.A.R.S. of Texas Grant was to create models of excellence utilizing the Service Learning framework: **S**tudent leadership, **T**houghtful service, **A**uthentic learning, **R**eflective practice and **S**trong partnerships. Service Learning provides students the opportunity to apply what they are learning in the classroom to a real world problem in their own community. Each year campuses compete for classroom mini-grants that range from \$500. to \$3,000. Qualification for funding of a mini-grant is based on clear and authentic connections to the Texas Essential Knowledge and Skills and CISD Goals.

In addition to the initial \$30,000, CISD was also awarded \$5,000 through a State Farm - Ready, Set, Drive Grant and an additional \$5,600 from the Texas Center for Service Learning, making it possible for Service Learning to fund over \$40,000 in mini-grants. Projects included: Financial Literacy Project; AVID Planning Our College Dreams; Canutillo 50 Years In The Making; Super Science Spectacular; Culinary Arts-Let Them Eat Cake; Flowers, Flowers, Everywhere; DAEP-Caring For Canutillo; NECHS Garden Club Project; Eagle Eyes on Safety; AVID Lends a Hand; Friends Don't Let Friends Text and Drive; Project Warmth; G2 Garden Habitat; Canutillo Child Crisis Care Packs; Canutillo Virtual Museum; and Water Conservation Project.

“It is our goal is to double the number of students participating for next year,” said Denise Clevenger, Service Learning Coordinator. “It is through the efforts of projects such as these that Canutillo Service Learning and Canutillo ISD have continued to be the model for Service Learning in El Paso and Region 19,” she added.



Canutillo Independent School District Board of Trustees and Dr. Pam Padilla, Superintendent, recognized student participants from the Service Learning programs held throughout the school year.