

student leadership

The Student Leadership Training Program

Leaders walk their talk.

Linkage - special edition

VOLUME 5 ISSUE 10 THE SLTP ALUMNI NEWSLETTER JUNE/JULY/AUGUST, 2005

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From where I sit by Jim Fitzgerald

Today I received the most interesting inquiry in a long, long time. A guidance counselor at an International School in Tokyo tapped an email asking for SLTP to bring a training program to Japan.

While that is not technically possible—it certainly has my

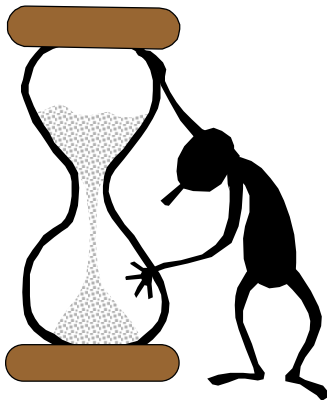
mind going click, click, click. It would be fun—although the plane ride would certainly be long.

Next weekend, we will kick off our sixteenth year of conferences. This summer, we will host our 6,000th delegate. Wow, It is amazing to look back but the

view I like best is the one ahead.

I got out this special edition of the newsletter to remind everyone that this is still time and to say I hope to see you all this summer.

Time is running out



In just a few days will be throwing open our doors to welcome hundreds of kids to the experience of their lifetimes.

Don't be left out!

Come and join us again this summer. Bring your friends. Send in your application now. The applications have rolled in and this will be our largest camp enrollment in years. Choices are limited so call ahead.

If you are thinking about Session One — call before Weds June 28.

If you are thinking about ALC — there are just 6 spaces left.

If your officer team is considering OTS — we have just 4 spaces left but you must call by Weds the 28th.

If you want to come later this summer, there is still room, but that might not be true later on because for the first time in our history, we will have to turn away campers once the maximum for each session is reached.

We have a staff shortage this year due to lots of complications and that will cause us to close session when the number has been reached.

The best way to find out if we have room — is to call.

Please don't be left

out — and don't let your school go un or under-represented.

Visit our website for more information or for more applications.

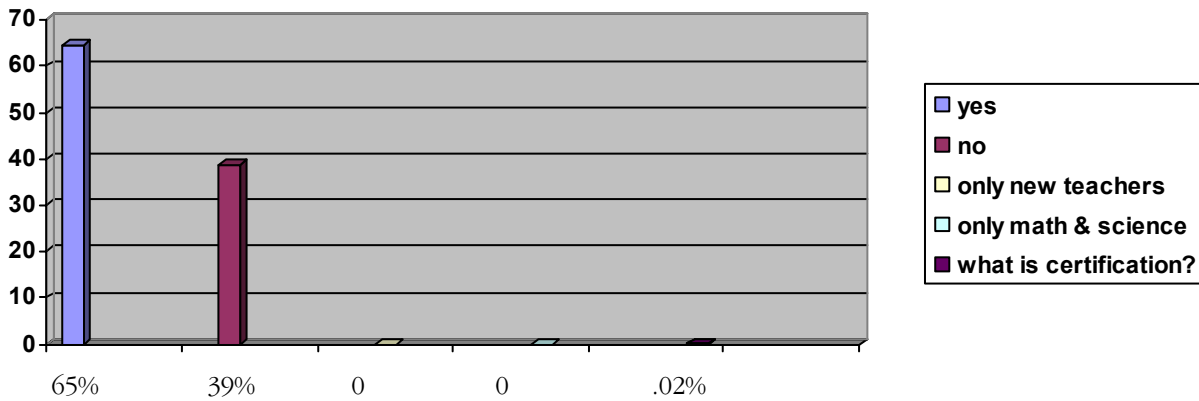
All of our applications are available on line as PDF files, and every school in New England received the final packet of applications this month. Visit our website for more information or for more applications.

www.sltp.info

And the Survey says ...

Last month on the SLTP home page, we asked the question:

Should schools be required to identify to students and to the community teachers working out of their certification area?



I voted yes by Helen Fitzgerald, SLTP Staff—CASA Executive Director

Teachers should be certified in the area they teach. From time to time it becomes necessary for schools to ask teachers to teach something outside their area of certification but well inside their area of competence. But when they do schools SHOULD notify the students. That is only common courtesy.

For example while I am not certified to teach sewing, I am an expert, so it would not be out of the

realm for me to teach sewing. The same is true for computers.

Unfortunately expertise rarely has anything to do with some teaching assignments. I have served on accreditation teams all over New England, and I have found many, many teachers teaching subjects that are NOT in the realm of their expertise. There is no question that those students get short changed.

The usual culprit is the budget. Sometimes it is blamed on a so called teacher shortage. The reality is that the administrations in those schools do not work hard enough to find or keep qualified and certified teachers.

I voted no by Debra Alworth, HS Vice Principal, SADD Adviser

The budget demands on today's schools often force difficult choices. Sometimes it is necessary to ask a teacher to teach outside their certification.

It would be grossly unfair to that teacher to set them up for public ridicule and second guessing by listing them on any list of uncerti-

fied teachers.

That would be the same as creating a blacklist. The phone calls and complaints that would result would be too harsh and be too filled with emotion.

Virtually all teachers today except for the newest have Masters De-

grees. They are in effect master teachers, so teaching virtually any high school course is well within their level of expertise.

Ask the doctor (send your questions to: askthedoctor@sltp.info)

Dear Doctor SLTP,

Is it important to visit the colleges I am interested in— my friends say that college visits are a waste of time. The tours are all the same.

Confused in NJ

Dear Confused,

Websites and catalogs are not enough. They are the place to start — and the same goes for testimonials from friends or relatives. It will give you part of the picture. So will the tour that the college gives you. BUT the person to most trust is YOU. Looking around and getting the feeling of a school is the BEST way to judge how it feels to you.

Dear Doctor SLTP,

My social studies teacher (US History) insists that leaders are

born. He goes further to assert that all leaders are megalomaniacs who desire power and fame above all else. A lot of my classmates agree with him, and when I talked it over with my Dad—he agreed too!

Disturbed in CT

Dear Disturbed,

There is a bumper sticker that asserts: "Education is a terrible thing to waste." I am afraid it was wasted on your social studies teacher. The study of history allows for ample examples of both power and leadership. He should know better.

For most people, power and leadership are often confused. It is a difficult concept that we have explored many times in this newsletter and one of the subjects for discourse during The Leadership Center.

As to the concept of "born

leaders," there are always those people who feel entitled to lead, who believe it is their birthright. And there is a great deal of confusion between the traits of an extrovert and actual leadership skills.

Being an extrovert will only get you so far. Learning leadership skills takes you all the way.

Now as to your father—try this. Ask him the difference between being a leader and being a boss. Ask him about the worst bosses he has had in his life. Ask him how many of them felt entitled to lead. He will come around.

A new opportunity for SLTP Alumni

At the most recent meeting of the Administrative Board (the governing committee for SLTP), a proposal to dramatically expand the outreach of SLTP was heard and acted upon.

This summer the students attending SLTP will be given information about a very new and most exciting opportunity to exercise STUDENT leadership back in their schools and communities.

CASA will sponsor the

Leadership Action Grant Program. In a nutshell, this program is designed to provide funds for a specific project designed by an SLTP graduate.

We all know many ideas for wonderful service projects do not get off the ground because funding cannot be found.

While it will not be possible to fund every idea an SLTP graduate has (at least not yet), we hope to be able to fund several pro-

jects this coming Fall..

Details about the program and the grant application process will be available on line as soon as they are finalized. All of the information about the grant program has been included in the Crew Photo CD and in the Parent Orientation Packets for this summer.

Leadership Action Grant Program

The CASA Leadership Action Grant Program has been established to further empower students who graduate from the Student Leadership Training Program by providing the means to engage them as a resource to bring positive community change by supporting their initiative.

Any student who has completed LTC, ALC or TLC and any adviser who has completed our Adviser Certification Conference is eligible to apply for a grant to fund an action plan of their design.

Proposals should be submitted on the forms provided and must

be submitted by September 30. The CASA Administrative Board will select proposals based on the feasibility and community impact. CASA will offer support, advice and various levels of funding to help implement the action plan.

Grant Requirements

- Must be initiated by a graduate of SLTP (LTC, ALC, TLC or Adviser Certification Conference)
- Must be planned and carried out by school aged youth
- Must improve or benefit the com-

munity

- Must have at least one adult supervisor
- Must submit complete grant application by deadline
- Must interview with the Grant Committee
- Must make available a presentation to the SLTP community to discuss the successes and failures

The 2005 SLTP Conference Schedule

Where leaders learn HOW
to make a difference!

- **Officer Training Seminar**
July 1 - 2
- **Leadership Training Conferences (4)**
July 5 - 9; July 12 - 16; July 26 - 30;
Aug 2 - 6
- **Advanced Leadership Conferences (3)**
July 13 - 16; July 27 - 30; Aug 3 - 6
- **The Leadership Center**
July 6 - 9
- **Adviser Certification**
August 3-6
- **The Core Adviser Seminar**
October 17
- **The ReEnergizer Conference**
November 26

Don't be left out!

We're on the
Web!
www.sltp.info
Information for
Parents, Teachers,
Students,
Administrators
Applications *
Photos

The 2006 SLTP Conference Schedule

Where leaders learn HOW
to make a difference!

- **Spring Leadership Forum**
April 1
- **Officer Training Seminar**
July 6 - 7
- **Leadership Training Conferences (4)**
July 11 - 15; July 18 - 22;
Aug 1 - 5; Aug 8 - 12
- **Advanced Leadership Conferences (3)**
July 19 - 22; Aug 2 - 5; Aug 9 - 12
- **Leadership in Athletics**
July 24 - 25
- **The Leadership Center**
July 12 - 15
- **Adviser Certification**
August 9 - 12
- **The Core Adviser Seminar**
October 16
- **The ReEnergizer Conference**
November 25

The Jester and Pharley Phund



The Jester has lost his jungle is among our favorite stories. Reading it at camp after the differencemakers is one of the highlights for

every CC and Director.

The Saltzman family has created an opportunity for you to bring your favorite book to kids in the

hospital suffering with cancer. It is called "the Reading To Give" Program. It is a read-a-thon to raise funds to bring copies of the Jester to those kids in the hospital.

The mission of the organization is as follows: To provide educational experiences that give every child a sense of hope, a feeling of self empowerment, a love of learning, the joy of laughter and a desire to live up to Pharley's motto: It is up to us to make a difference. It is

up to us to care.

We recommend and endorse this worthy cause.

Visit: www.thejester.org

Keep us posted on your results.

A Gift from a friend



SLTP recently received the gift of a test prep course from Kaplan. The course can be any one of the excellent prep courses that Kaplan offers from their SAT prep course to any of the courses they offer

for graduate school test preparation.

This was and is an enormous gift as these courses cost hundreds of dollars.

All of the attendees of this summers programs will get an opportunity to get a shot at the course. Details will be available during the socials, the parent orientations and during the Closing Ceremonies of each session.

Add one more item to the list of benefits for SLTP Alumni!

Principal and Adviser Program



Every principal and adviser of all of our attending schools for this summer were recently mailed an invitation to a special reception

and luncheon at Nichols College on July 14. The reception will include awards for their schools and there will be workshops as well.

The subject of the workshops is "Empowering Student Leaders." We hope to inform and encourage every principal and adviser to maximize the development of their student leadership.

We will also give them a "peek

behind the curtain," which will enable them to better understand the environment we create at SLTP.

Please encourage your principal and adviser to attend. We think you will be glad that they did.