

student leadership

The Student Leadership Training Program

Leaders walk their talk.

Linkage

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Only weeks away—the REE !

It's now just days away! AND it is not too late to register. You can still register without a late fee until November 15! The holiday and election day interfered with the registration process, so we have extended the deadline. However after November 15 — the registration fee will be \$20. And NO REGISTRATIONS are permitted at the door. All attendees must be pre-registered.

The ReEnergizer Conference is such a special event. We hope you will be among the entire SLTP family, together with all of their friends coming together at Nichols College.

Last year, the ReE hosted over 600 participants from nine different states and over 90 schools. From the looks of the way registrations are pouring in at press time – this year is going to be even bigger. Right now we are even exploring the possibility of a virtual conference link for SLTP Alumni visiting in France and Spain—last year you may recall we had a link to Spain and China.

If you have not already done so get your registration in as soon as you can. Registration forms can be found on the our website — www.sltplp.info—just go to the

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Mix it Up Day is November 15

Next week, more than 1,000,000 students are expected to accept the challenge to begin bridging social boundaries in their schools. On **Mix It Up at Lunch** Day 2005, there are plans in place all over the country to help students to step out of their comfort zones and sit somewhere new, with someone

new. We are aware of 36 of SLTP's member schools who plan to participate in this event.

On Tuesday November 15, Mix It Up at Lunch Day 2005, students like you are going to stir things up in their school cafeterias.

Take a chance on a Kaplan Course



preparation.

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

All of the attendees of last summers programs received an opportunity to get a shot at the course. Most of the parents took advantage. The final opportunity will be at the ReEnergizer Conference. During the lunches tickets

will be available for the special drawing. The tickets are \$10. (And since the test prep courses cost hundreds of dollars—this is a pretty good deal) The winner will be announced during the final ceremonies. All of the proceeds from the raffle will benefit SLTP camperships.

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

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

Alumni Association Elections at the ReE

The annual Alumni Executive Board Elections will take place at the ReEnergizer Conference.

To be eligible for election the candidate must be a student in middle school, high school or in college (undergraduate only) and must be a graduate of OTS, LTC or ALC.

To place your name on the regional ballot, Alumni need to register by email.

Registrations should include:

Alumni Name—
Conference attended/year (i.e.,

LTC2 / 2003); School; Grade level; Town; address; phone & email address

Election Registrations must be received by November 16.

Candidates will be contacted prior to the conference and will be expected to present a one minute speech at the ReE.

Each of the three established regions Region 1) Massachusetts; Region 2) Rhode Island; and Region 3) Connecticut — will elect three representatives to comprise Alumni Executive Board.

Expectations for the Regional Representatives—

1) to stage a regional differencemaker event prior to June 1, 2005.

2) to develop a means of communication between and among SLTP Member schools in their region to help alumni in their region.

4) to represent their region to the SLTP AB

5) to elect the SLTP Student Executive Officers

ReE Activity Fair—Sharing the Good Stuff



At the ReEnergizer Conference there will be dozens of tables representing key groups and activities from all across New England. Our intent is to display the best activities, ideas, and pro-

jects so that we can all benefit.

All not-for-profit community service organizations are eligible for a free presentation table.

All member schools and alumni are encouraged to set up a presentation table. (the tables will all be judged by a special committee and camp scholarships will be awarded for the best ideas and best displays)

There were over 50 groups participating in last year's Fair.

Please help us. Consider setting up a table to display and explain your group's best project.

Is your group interested in a space at the Fair?

If so, please tap to Jessa Loomis at activityfair@sltp.info

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.

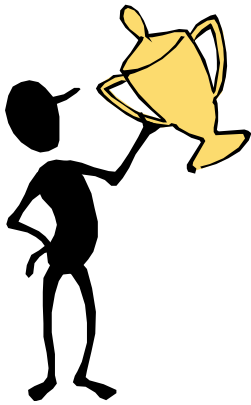
The mission of the organization is as follows: To provide educational experiences that give every child a sense of hope, a feeling of self empowerment, a love of learning, the joy of laughter and a desire to live up to Pharley's motto: It is up to us to make a difference. It is up to us to care.

We recommend and endorse this worthy cause.

Visit: www.thejester.org

Remember, if you decide to sponsor a read-a-thon, please keep us posted. We want to honor your achievements.

Recognizing YOUR Champions



All across New England in every community there are ardent advocates for youth whose support and advocacy is not due to any self interest. Since 1993, The Student Leadership Training Program through its staff and graduates have sought to recognize the contributions of these special community leaders. Without the support of these champions, the goals of community involvement and community service that most student activity programs set would be unattainable.

The idea behind this award program is simple. SLTP hopes to assist local student leaders in their efforts to recognize community support. Essentially this award is about catching people doing things right.

The criteria for this award must vary from school to school, as each school's circumstances are different. However, the effective criterion must not be changed. This award is intended for community leaders who are **ACTIVELY** committed to making a difference for youth. SLTP suggests that : No more than ONE award be given annually to any individual. **All Alumni and Staff** of the Student Leadership Training Program are eligible to nominate individuals for the awards.

As leaders we have a

special responsibility to nominate Champions. Certainly part of that responsibility comes from it being the right thing to do. But a more important part of that responsibility is to increase the awareness in EVERY community of the great and good things being done for the youth in the community. Please do not hesitate to nominate. There are so many people doing so many things in our communities that go unrecognized.

Keep in mind the advice from Pharley—"it is up to us to make a difference, it is us to us to care."

Reach out to your classmates. Tell them who you nominated. Seek more names.

And when you nominate keep in mind the basic guidelines. To be effective this program must be implemented with the full cooperation and involvement of the school administration. Involve everyone in the school that is actively involved in the community.

Publicity is vital. Remember praise is much more effective as a form of recognition when it is public.

Yet, this recognition is much more than a certificate and a press release. This recognition offers an opportunity to celebrate and enrich school support. If possible, host an assembly or reception. Provide gifts and/or flowers. Create an event.

To nominate a community leader, please submit: their name; a brief profile; and a brief explanation of the reasons for

the nomination. Send that to Stacey Hurd: champions@sltp.info

SLTP will publish all of the award winners names and profiles on a special website and on the pages of our newsletter. There are two opportunities to celebrate your community Champions. The first will be at the ReE on November 26. Additional Champions will be feted in the spring at the InterLead Student Leadership Forum.

The Final Deadline for submitting names and profiles for recognition at the ReEnergizer Conference is November 16, 2005.

Bring your Champion to the ReE with you. Allow them to hear the applause from their peers, that is from other difference-makers.

While we would prefer to celebrate your champion at the conference, it is not necessary that the award winners attend the ReE. If their schedules do not permit—don't worry we will still provide you with the packet to add to celebrate their honor.

Champions will receive a packet which contains their certificates, press release information and special scholarships to SLTP which will be created in their name.

How to Mix it Up

At many schools around the country, the cafeteria at lunch-time is a social map of the whole school. It's a map with many, many boundaries.

These boundaries exist for many reasons — habit, friendship, status, fear, prejudice. The simple space of a cafeteria table is, for many of us, a comfort zone where we can be ourselves with those who know us best. The simple fact is that most people sit where “they always sit.”

For others, the lunchroom with all its boundaries is a world with its own pressures — a world of familiar strangers and rigid expectations. And for more than a few — the cafeteria is a site where humiliation and ostracism are the norm.

But, on November 15, students across the country are going to stir things up in their school cafeterias. And you can do it, too. Here are some ideas to help you Mix It Up at Lunch.

1. Reach out

All it takes is one person venturing outside the comfort zone to stir things up, but on November 15, 2005, why not have a whole crowd sitting someplace new?

Ask your friends to join in. Pitch the idea to the clubs, sports teams and other groups

you belong to. Invite other clubs to participate. Get teachers and administrators on board. Publicize the event.

2. Plan

How are you going to “do the day?” Here are 5 ways to mix up lunchroom seating.

- Create a “calendar” out of 12 tables and sit by birth month or by Zodiac signs.
- Number several tables and draw your seat assignment from a hat.
- Draw colored candies out of a bag and sit with the matching tablecloth.
- Find a table where you don't know more than two people.
- ◆ Give each person a “ticket” that matches the color tag on a chair.

3. Act

The day has arrived. It's November 15th, and you're sitting at a new table staring at a bunch of people you don't know. What now? Here are 5 ideas to jump-start the conversation.

- What's the last CD you bought?
- Imagine you rule the world.

What's the first law you'd make?

- What's the craziest thing you ever did in public?
- You're signing autographs. What are you famous for?
- ◆ You're the principal. What's the first class you drop -- and what class do you add?

SLTP member schools have made the most of this activity. The day creates a spotlight and develops an awareness. The awareness can and will enable frank discussion between faculty, students and administration concerning inclusion issues.

Don't expect 100% success. Remember how human beings react to change. Denial, anger, bargaining, depression and finally acceptance. The most common reactions to Mix It Up Day are Denial and Bargaining.

Be ready. Now go make the difference!

For more information and materials visit: www.tolerance.org

Earliest Birds and Early Birds

Already we have lots of kids registered for next summer. There are nearly 30 students who have signed up for LTC and ALC and it is barely November.

In the student packets at the REE, there will be special applications. These applications are the “Early Birds” and they include a discounted tuition with a January Deadline.

Like the Earliest Birds, these applications offer significant discounts and will NOT be available on line. Only those students who attend the ReE or their friends will have access.

Next summer is shaping up to be SLTP's largest ever. We have added staff and we are exploring every means to increase our capacity.

But the best advice we can give is to register EARLY.

A Place to Play

Bullying and abuse toward women—these are the issues dramatically brought home by our plays “stop, look and listen” and “silence is NOT an option.” We have been lucky enough to take these plays on the road bringing them to state conferences and to several schools.

Recently we filmed “stop, look and listen” and we plan to film a future production of

“silence.” The films will be made into DVDs and we hope to make those available nationally.

As you can imagine it is difficult to bring our casts together. Our staff are spread out all over the US as they attend their respective colleges and high schools. Getting them together to present a play at a school is incredibly difficult. As all of our players must miss a day of school and

travel to wherever the play is to be presented.

To get around this, we have staged the play in August, we have staged the play during collegiate breaks and we have staged the play on Saturdays. Still the juggling of schedules and juggling of roles make things pretty difficult on our actors.

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Ask the doctor

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

Dear Doctor SLTP,

Our group is completely flat. We started out the year doing very well. We were all really involved in the freshman orientation and in the Homecoming rally. But we have run out of gas. Our last two meetings we had less than half of the members.

What can we do?

Getting lonely in MA

Dear Lonely,

When there is nothing to do, and no urgency, members will move on. Remember that all of your members belong to other organizations too, so they are constantly being pulled in many direc-

tions. If there is no action, they will go where they feel most needed.

That's the key. Getting everyone to feel needed.

Perhaps you need to plan a lock-in or get some kind of gathering together where your members can ignite their passion.

Utilize the ReEnergizer for that purpose. Get everyone to go. We'll give 'em all the necessary booster shot you need.

Dear Doctor SLTP,

We have a new math teacher. He began the year by explaining that he has no time for questions. He said he has too much to cover in each class, so he expects

that if we can't understand something, then we should make an appointment to meet him after school.

The problem is that when students come to him for help, he belittles them for not understanding simple math. Two of my close friends are failing and I know a whole bunch of students who have given up.

I spoke with our vice principal who promised to look into it. Yesterday, the math teacher told me that since I felt the subject was too hard, he was recommending that I be transferred out of his class. When I asked what he was talking about. He informed me that he did not like

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Final Call — Photo CD

2005 Photos

In your manual and on the Crew CD you will find an order form for the Camp Photo CD.

The Photo CD includes both of the slide shows featured in the Closing Ceremonies as well as all of the photos taken by the staff throughout the week – from Dorm Squad through closing circle. This summer the staff took over 6,000 pictures!!!

To order a Photo CD simply mail a request for the specific week you desire to Helen together with a check for \$12.50

Photo CDs will be delivered at the ReE!

Mail to:

Helen Fitzgerald

Photo CD

108 Observatory Waye

Marshfield, MA 02050-4101

make the check payable to CASA-Lead

A place to play continued from page 5

Another major issue our alumni have is with their administrators, who want to see the play first before committing to staging it at their school. It is hard to argue against that logic.

We'd like to stage the play so that lots of principals, advisers and student leaders can see it. We'd like to do this in the evening, so our cast does not miss any school. We'd like the site to be free of charge, in fact we'd like to be able to utilize the presentation to fund some scholarships to SLTP. That means we'd like to charge a small admission fee or have some organization sponsor the production. We'd also like to be able to film the production for inclusion in the DVD.

If you think your principal or

your organization would like to host a presentation of one of our plays under those circumstances, then let's get the ball rolling and start setting it up.

We envision three regional presentations—one this Fall, one this winter and the final one in the spring. Since we mentioned this in last month's newsletter we have had a lot of interest and are close to finalizing a couple of venues.

Check your school calendar. Discuss the situation with your adviser, your principal and with the folks in charge of the auditorium / theater.

We'd need access to the auditorium / theater on Friday afternoon for rehearsal. The play would go on that evening. Your faculty, ad-

ministrators and student leaders would have free admission. A full list of our AV needs will be provided well before the production.

Most auditoriums are busy throughout the entire year, and especially on Friday nights. So it may not be possible, which is why you need to do your homework before you get back to me.

Tap to me: jim@sltp.info

The 2006 SLTP Conference Schedule

Where leaders learn HOW
to make a difference!

- **The Core Adviser Seminar**
October 17
- **The ReEnergizer Conference**
November 25
- **InterLead—the Inter-State Student 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 (4)**
July 12 - 15; July 19 - 22;
Aug 2 - 5; Aug 9 - 12
- **Leadership in Athletics**
July 27 - 28
- **Adviser Certification**
July 27 - 28
- **The Leadership Center**
July 12 - 15

We're on the Web!

www.sltp.info

Information for
Parents, Teachers,
Students,
Administrators
Applications *
Photos

Ask the Doctor

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tattletales.

What should I do?

Lost in RI

Dear Lost,

First things first—talk to your parents. Then make an appointment to see your principal. This is way out of hand and NO ONE should be forced to endure the anxiety you are facing.

Dear Dr. SLTP,

When I try to explain SLTP to family or friends, I am often told

that I don't need leadership training because I am a "born leader." I try to explain that leadership is not something a person is born with, but no one listens. My history teacher took a whole class period to take apart the concept of leadership training. He talked about how in the army they tried to teach enlisted men to be officers and produced something called "90 day wonders" who all failed except those who were born leaders.

Frustrated in CT

Dear Frustrated,

To begin with, the military understand better than any organization that leaders are made not born. The service academies spent hundreds of hours teaching leadership skills.

There are 141 identifiable skills that a leader should master. Your history teacher's lack of understanding of this concept mystifies me, as history provides more than ample evidence that the ability to lead is not genetic.

The ReEnergizer

continued from page 1

Conferences page and click on the REE, you'll find a pdf file.

In case you've forgotten - the REE is scheduled for **Saturday November 26** at Nichols College.

The ReE comes at just the right time of the school year. First term is over and done. Traditionally the busiest term of the year for school activities is Second term and the ReE provides the necessary "booster shot" of motivation and positive energy to keep yourself and your organization on the right track.

Bring lots of friends - bring your whole student council and even the "cookie cupcake

club." You should also bring lots of enthusiasm and bring ideas to share and questions to be answered.

Due to the size of the crowd - we will begin and end the program at the athletic center in the big gym. Plan to park in that parking lot. There is lots of room there for your school bus. To get to the athletic center, drive to the Remillard dorm turn left and follow the noise and signs to the gym parking area.

Among the many other activities and planned for the conference there will be: an Activity Fair, the Alumni Student Election,

a presentation of a new SLTP play that focuses on the students who are left behind or left out (bring your administration, advisers); Community Leader recognition and much, much more!

When

November 26

9:00 to 3:00

Where

Nichols College

Tuition

\$15

Try this one—judgments

Here's a discussion starter to use if your group has developed the habit of judging others.

Mix up a pitcher of invisible Kool-Aid. Invisible Kool-Aid is regular Kool-Aid just without the color. After you mix it up and let it sit, it

turns completely clear.

Ask your group what they think it is. When they answer water, pour everyone a cup. Watch as they taste it.

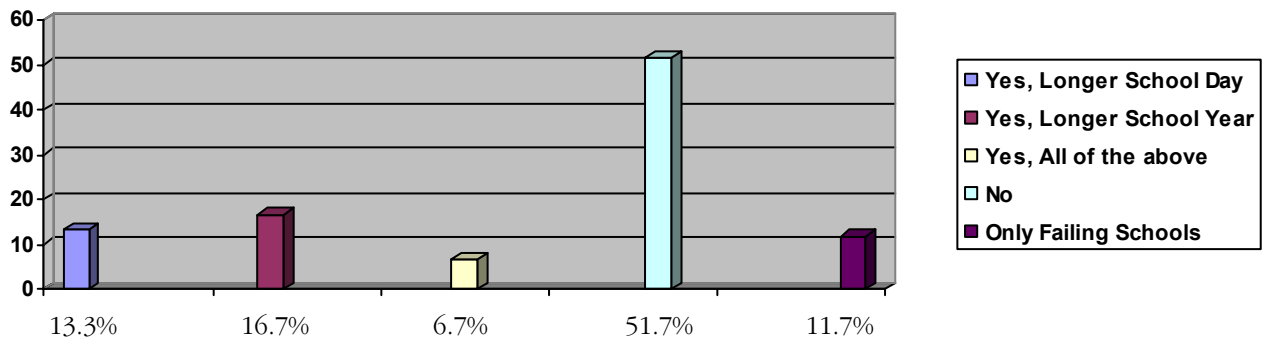
Keep them guessing until you finally explain. Then ask about the judgments they

are making. Ask about first impressions.

Ask how they can give everyone a chance to express their "flavor" without pre-judgment.

And the survey says . . .

This month's on-line survey asked: **Should students spend more time in school?**



Yes, but . . . by Helen Fitzgerald, CASA Executive Director

Survey after survey on the national level informs us that schools are not offering enough challenges to high school students. One of the most recent surveys informs us that less than 20% of students feel challenged academically by their high school classes. And less than 10% feel that the curriculum is relevant to today's world.

We need to offer more. We need to provide challenges. We need to develop relevant curriculum.

Those things would mean REAL reform. Not this test-ology that we have come to call reform in the last 6 years.

Time can be added to the day creatively as most corporations have done in the past 20 years. Flex time schedules that take into account after school jobs, community service and of course student activities.

Adding time to the school year makes no sense. The school year

is long enough. Don't bother me with comparisons to Japan. I am not impressed.

If we stay the course with what we are doing now — then we should not only shorten the school year but we should shorten high school by two years. For the most part we are spending too much time on irrelevant learning. We need to treat time as the valuable resource it is.

No by Claire Dupont, HS History teacher

While every teacher wishes there were more time, and we all do everything we can to stretch time, the reality is that the school year and school day are more than long enough to get things done.

Most high schools start way too early for their clients as it is already. Recently even the New England Journal of Medicine has published a study of the need for

sleep among teens and among their recommendations were later starting times.

Given the state of the economy and the need for teens to raise money for college, extending the day later is also counterproductive. Let alone the havoc that would create with sports or extracurricular activities.

So that leaves us with a longer school year, and anyone who has toiled in a high school knows that 180 days is about all the students and teachers can handle.

A longer school day or a longer school year will not solve any problems, it will create problems.

A Special Supplement—page 10, 11 & 12

The 2005 ReEnergizer Conference

What’s happening?

- ◆ Four separate action tracks for students, for collegians, for parents and for advisers with skill-shops designed for each.
- ◆ A new theatrical presentation addressing **inclusion** and **diversity** and confronting the issues facing student leaders that those subjects create
- ◆ An ideation session to develop student action plans
- ◆ Celebration of Champions for Youth from across our region
- ◆ A massive Activity Fair offering ideas, explaining programs and providing opportunities for student leaders
- ◆ Election of the state representatives to the Alumni Association

What does the schedule look like?

8:15 - 8:55	Registration Activity Fair / Games / Meeting & Greet	<i>GYM</i>	All Hall	Working Lunch Idea share & Elections	<i>Dining</i>
9:10	Confluence Introduction / Expectations / Mixing	<i>GYM</i>	<i>College/Parents/Advisers</i>	General Session "What difference doe it make?"	<i>Dining Hall</i>
9:40	Welcome Opening Ceremonies Welcome / Pledge of Allegiance Star Spangled Banner / Getting Started	<i>GYM</i>	All torium	Connections presentation "if not you—who?"	<i>Audi-</i>
All	Skills Clinic # 1 Inter-group communication workshop	<i>Assigned Rooms</i>	Students	DifferenceMaker Service Ideation	<i>Dining Hall</i>
All	Skills Clinic # 2 Project communication workshop	<i>Assigned Rooms</i>	2:05	Closing Session Campership Drawings; Awards & Recognition / Wrap / rap	<i>GYM</i>
			3:11	Departure	

Skillshops for High School & Middle School Student Leaders

Communication breakdowns are high on the list of difficulties faced by scholastic student leaders. Communication is difficult at best because “getting the word out” isn’t easy.

Projects are the lifeblood of student activities, yet project planning is often ignored. Projects are simply done the same way as the year before or are survived through “on the job” training.

The topics for this year’s skillshops are Communication and Project Planning. The scholastic skillshops will address these skill sets from the point of view of the reality of everyday life. For example, in high school communication to the entire student body can take the form of a morning announcement or through posters on the wall—which makes it easy for the message to be misinterpreted or lost.

The skillshops have been designed to be delivered in the SLTP style. That means they will be experiential and fun.

We will be making every effort to mix your group so that your entire delegation will get the opportunity to meet and share ideas with as many people as possible.

Skillshops for Collegiate Student Leaders

Collegians have widely different leadership possibilities, opportunities and difficulties than do their high school counterparts. Fundamentally the roles converge in theory but are widely divergent when it comes to application.

The high school and collegiate skillshops at the ReE will examine the same skill sets, but from very different viewpoints.

The topics are Communication and Project Planning. The

collegiate skillshops will address these skill sets from the point of view of the reality of everyday campus life. For example, in high school communication to the entire student body can take the form of a morning announcement — which is hardly possible in a college setting.

Although it may seem weird for any collegian to be up and in “class” that early on a Saturday, we promise it will be

worthwhile. We plan to provide the motivational booster shot to carry you through finals and into second semester.

Please make sure when you register that you add the word “college” to the registration form, as well as the name of the school that you attend.

Parent, Principal and Adviser Programs at the ReE

There will be a special presentation for parents, advisers and principals at the ReEnergizer Conference. Our own Dr. Jim Fitzgerald will present “Helping teens to help teens who are hurting.”

Today’s student leaders face very real challenges and need real support systems to be able to “take back their schools.” Jim will share what he has learned traveling around the country from successful practitioners of student based activity programs.

We offer these session not only because many advisers, principals and parents do the driving to get our students to the ReE, but we offer them because we want to do more to enable our student leaders to develop as much as possible.

The aim of the special workshops for advisers and principals is simple. We hope to inform and encourage every principal and adviser to maximize the development of their student leadership. Additionally there are special workshops for parents that are geared to

their needs as the parents of student leaders.

We will also provide both groups a “peek behind the curtain,” which will enable them to better understand the environment we create at SLTP and how they might be best able to empower their student leaders.

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

