

September 29, 2014

To Whom It May Concern:

My name is Jennifer Giansiracusa. I am a teacher and 10th Grade Class Sponsor at All Saints Academy in Winter Haven, Florida. I have had the pleasure of working with Led2Serve on a variety of class trips and service projects, and I would like to take a moment to “sing their praises”.

Our school has been working in partnership with Led2Serve for the past two years. Each year, all of our upper school classes go on class trips. Led2Serve has been helping to plan and execute these trips. I have been nothing but impressed with Led2Serve—their organizational skills, ability to relate to teenagers, and commitment to service learning have been outstanding.

The 10th grade recently went on a Led2Serve trip to Key Largo, Florida. Not only did the folks at Led2Serve take care of all of the logistics, but the service learning component that was built into the trip was something we truly value at our school. While in Key Largo, Journey Leaders built on the students’ prior knowledge about local ecosystems and how to preserve them. Students participated in a scavenger hunt and a snorkeling excursion, both of which allowed them to immerse themselves in the local ecosystems and see the effects of human activities on those ecosystems first-hand. The trip culminated in a journey to the Dolphin Research Center in Marathon Key. Students learned about how human activities affect dolphins, manatees, and sea lions and their habitats. Students then engaged in a service project, where they worked in teams to apply an eco-friendly grout to the main walkway at the Dolphin Center. During this project, students formed strategies, leaders emerged, and they worked side by side toward a common goal. Not only did our group hone their teamwork skills, but the project was related to what we had been learning about all week, which gave them an opportunity for hands-on learning and giving back to the local community.

I can’t emphasize enough how wonderful it has been working with Led2Serve. Vanessa and her team are great with kids and easy to work with. I have always been impressed with their attention to detail in planning the trips and their commitment to service-based learning and “giving back”. This partnership has provided our students with rich service learning opportunities for the past two years.

Thank you for your time, and please let me know if you have any questions.

Best Wishes,

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