Service Learning

What is already in place?

- Onslow County does service learning with community partners. Examples-through the hospital—to y
- drive around Christmas time, blood drives
- Everything is done through Health Sciences Academy at the high school-goes through the director's office.
- NHCS-student groups accept proposals from other students for projects—have funding to share.
- Grants available through NC Communities in Schools for service learning. $13,000,coming out soon.
- Juvenile Justice System-NHC and Brunswick. Project with Arboretum .

What is needed?

- Not a real understanding in many schools of what service learning is and why it is needed. Need to understand the difference between service and service learning.
- Some universities have service learning as part of the curriculum.
- Health Academy is career-focused, curriculum embeded.
- Needs to be a recognition that service learning is a key to students at-risk for dropping out. Everything is so focused on testing. How can it be seen as a drop-out prevention strategy? How can it be valued?
- Health Academy uses recognition ceremony "white coat" for students to earn opportunity to participaate through service learning.
- Service learning as part of the curriculum with credit given for a structured course for both high and middle school.
- Building awareness that reflection is part of the learning process.
- Projects should be student-led.
- Difficult to do projects during school day. How do you connect it beyond the time meet with them in school. Blend community service with service learning.

How do we accomplish this work together?

- Get DPI involved.
- See it as "learning through service", refocus. Connect standard course of study, end-of-grade tests into the service. Activities need to be ongoing, learners see outcome, connection to learning.
- Kathy Berger Kay-coming to Wilmington March 31. Issue that service learning is added work for teachers. View it as a service learning experience that you can build upon year after year.