



Katie L. Dixon Women & Girls Leadership Endowed Fund

Dixon Girls Forums Accomplishments and Objectives

August 2014



Third and fourth graders from Fox Hills Elementary use their Written Communication Skills to send thank you notes to volunteer firefighters.

- During the 2013-2014 school year, two new schools — Dual Immersion Academy and Canyons Transition Academy — were added to our active list of schools participating in the Dixon Girls Forums. We welcomed our youngest participants in the history of the program when we held Dixon Girls Forums for 3rd through 4th graders at Fox Hills Elementary. The eager participants understood the concept of leadership and engaged with open discussions and activities. The Dixon Girls Forums encourage participants to see themselves as leaders at every age.

“You made me more confident in myself when I’m around others. Thank you so much for changing my point of view and helping me be more positive about myself.”
—Sophia, grade 8

- We set a new record this year as we reached over 500 Dixon Girls Forum participants. We owe this achievement to our 35 dedicated community volunteers, an amazing College of Social Work practicum student, Lowell L. Bennion Community Service Center student volunteers and an intern, and our newly-formed Dixon Advisory Board.

“As much as the discussions got me to think, so did the leaders that were running the forums. You got me to open up my insecurities and realize that they are so small no one even notices. This experience also got me to realize that everyone has their doubts about themselves, even adults. Once again thank you for the opportunity to share and learn more about myself than ever before!”
—Jillian, grade 8



A combined schools Forum held at Murray High School put together 400 hygiene kits for The Road Home, Midvale Food Bank, South Valley Sanctuary, and YWCA. Items were donated by DOVE and Silver Baron Lodge.

- Community awareness and volunteerism is essential in leadership development. The Advisory Board, Forum participants, and community and student volunteers engaged in six community service projects:

Hser Ner Moo ‘Family Day’
Midvale Food Bank Day Care
Midvale Food Bank Pantry
Silver Baron Lodge Hygiene Kits
Thank You Letters
Murray (Combined Group) Hygiene Kits

“I really enjoyed the activities that we did because they built up my self esteem. I also enjoyed the talks that we had because they were very open and I learned a lot about everyone in my class.”
—Yulisa, grade 7

- Working diligently with the Lowell L. Bennion Community Service Center at the University of Utah over the past 10 years led to partial funding for an intern in the Spring Semester of 2014. The intern worked closely with the director, learning leadership and business skills as well as how to conduct forums. For the 2014-15 academic years, we welcome Erica, a former volunteer and first-year Bachelor of Social Work student.

“One of the most important things that I enjoyed about the forums is that I had fun, and that I looked forward to coming every week.”
—Ari, grade 7



Odyssey Charter School participants practiced their Group Dynamic Skills during a courage and trust activity.

- Congratulations to our Murray High Sterling Scholars Marisa and LeAnn, both STEM students, who received scholarships to attend the University of Utah and were accepted into the Access and Leadership Program. Both attended the forums for six years and will continue as volunteers. Way to go!!

“I feel like I learned how to have a more positive reflection of myself and others. I feel if you came back, I would gain even more confidence. I wish I was the teacher so I could invite you back!”
—Killian, grade 7

The Dixon Girls Forum staff express their deep gratitude to everyone who has supported the forums with a financial contribution or the gift of personal time. The College continues to seek funding for this endowment in order to support and maintain the many Forums currently conducted, as well as respond to new requests for forums from schools in our community.