



District Grant Report

Rotary Club: Buena Park Rotary Club

Project Title: Digital Textbook Incentive Awards

Progress Report Final Report

1. Briefly describe the project. What was done, when and where did project activities take place, and who were the beneficiaries?

Buena Park Rotary Club, in cooperation with North Orange County Community Rotaract Club, provided college preparatory workshops during the school year and awarded \$3000 worth of Kindle Fires (which can be used for access to purchase digital textbooks at reasonable prices) to deserving high school seniors at Buena Park High School in the Fullerton Joint Union High School District and Savannah High School in the Anaheim Union High School District.

2. How many Rotarians participated in the project?

Five Rotarians, 10 Rotaractors, two Rotary Club Associate Members, four Interact Advisors, and 20+ Interactors

3. What did they do? Please give at least two examples.

Rotaractors designed and gave college preparatory workshops two times in 2015 at the Buena Park Library in order to make workshops accessible to students from both Buena Park High School and Savanna High School. The first workshop was on January 24 and was given by Daniel Biviano with the topic being: "Strength, Confidence, and You!" The second workshop was given by Sami Dwabe on March 14th with the topic being: "A College Preparation Exploration Workshop." Rotaractors and Rotarians did research about the Amazon Kindle options and the financial advantages of downloading textbooks onto Kindles as compared with hardcover buying textbooks. Rotarians and Rotaractors designed a Kindle Fire Scholarship Application which Interact Advisors, Rotarians, Rotaractors, AVID teachers, School Counselors, School Office Managers and other school personnel distributed to students. The college-bound senior applicants were required to provide a copy of their transcripts and write an essay or personal statement about their participations in Interact Club or other service organizations on and off campus. They were also expected to have attended at least one workshop that had been given by the North Orange County Community Rotaract. They were asked to state what colleges they would apply to. Applications were collected and scored by Rotarians and Rotaractors, who then hosted a luncheon at the school to present certificates to those who would receive Kindle Fires at their Senior Awards Banquet later in May. At that banquet, they will also receive Gold Medals on red-white-and-blue ribbons inscribed with "Buena Park Rotary Service Above Self Scholarship Award 2015."

4. How many non-Rotarians benefited from this project?

Approximately fifty high school students benefited from the workshops given by the Rotaractors both last year and this school year. A total of 18 Senior students at the two high schools received Kindle Fire machines for their college studies.

5. What are the expected long-term community impacts of the project?

Seniors and other students who attended workshops benefited by the advice given to them about professionalism, confidence, how to choose majors and minors, how to choose colleges based on the careers they wish to pursue, how to write a personal statement when applying for college, the differences between the UC, Cal State and Jr. college systems, and how to apply for financial aid for college. Some of these topics were covered by Rotarians, Rotaractors, and counselors when these students attended workshops at the Buena Park Goes to College event given each fall time by Rotary and Buena Park High School. The North Orange County Community Rotaract members are intimately involved with organizing and carrying out that event each year.

6. If a cooperating organization was involved, what was its role?

Buena Park High School personnel - sponsored and facilitated the workshops held at BPHS last year and the BP Goes to College event each year

North Orange County Community Rotaract - (see above descriptions)

Amazon.com - Gave a special price for our purchase of Kindles under an education partnership program, and shipped them for free

Buena Park Library - provided space for free for the workshops