



“It’s NOT Soap!”

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Tahoe Truckee Unified
School District

North Tahoe High School
Lotion Bar Project

Tahoe Truckee Unified School District

- 723 square miles
- 3 Counties
- 2 High Schools
- 2 Middle Schools
- 5 Elementary Schools
- 2 Alternative Schools



NTHS SDC/Transition

- Dual SDC/Transition
- New Program
- New Community
- 1st year-3 students+
- 3rd year-6 students+
- Some work experience
- Wide range of abilities



Key Questions-Getting Started

- How to address vocational skills without job sites?
- What if any past student run projects worked?
- What product fits our market and student skill set?
- How will we cover our start up costs?
- Will this project be self sustainable?
- Will the District support the program?
- How will we account for profit and support students?

What is a lotion bar?

- Made with a mix of Beeswax, Coco Butter, Coconut Oil, Shea Butter and Essential oils.
- Like a soap bar, but NOT Soap
- 2 ways to use the lotion Bar
 1. Use after shower
 2. Use at your desk
- Great for airplanes!
- They Melt!



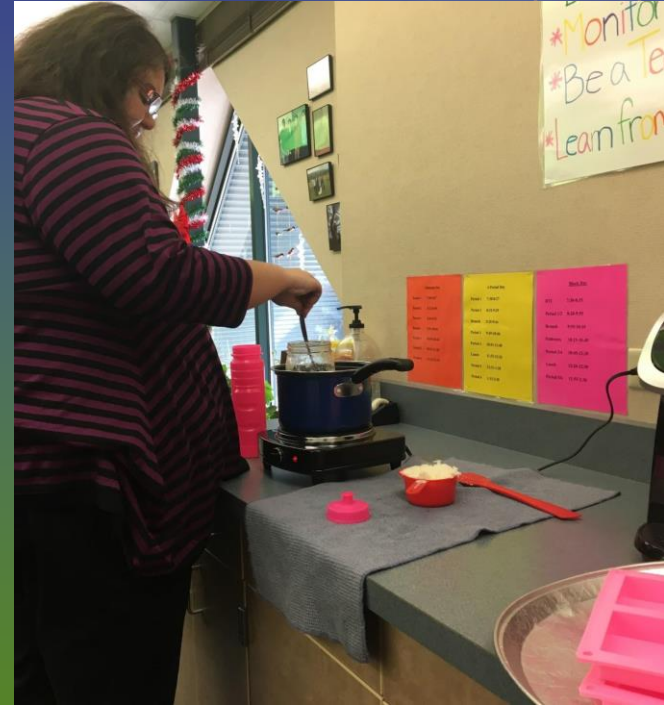
Year 1



- No kitchen - used hot plates in the classroom
- Made it work using a double broiler
- Created a test kitchen and trialed recipes and scents
- Hands on activities for students with heavy adult support

Hurdles We Faced

- Lack of Understanding
- Fire Alarms
- Health Concerns
- Lack of Appropriate Space and Tools
- Profits Raised Concerns



Lack of Understanding

- What are you doing again?
- Soap vs. Lotion
- Educational Benefit
- Purpose of Program

Fire Alarms-What we learned.

- Steam sets off fire alarms
- Setting off a fire alarm is bad
- Don't do it!

Health Safety

- Fumes can be hazardous
- Dangerous chemicals require an industrial kitchen
- Student safety is always a concern

Lack of appropriate Space



- No working kitchen
- No working ventilation in possible classrooms
- No working oven in only kitchen
- Made calls to churches/community centers/day cares
- Grant for adult education

Money

- Donation vs purchase
- Cash box in classroom
- ASB Account
- Receipts/Accounting
- Getting money
- Spending money



Year 2

- Less adult support
- Kitchen space with a real oven
- No chance for fire alarm
- Nailed the recipe
- Made visual supports to promote independence
- Famous people buy our lotion bars



Benefits – School Support



- Full school community integration and support
- Greater understanding of the program
- Improved the status and parent perspective

Benefits – Community support



- Job sites
- Community Recycle
- Volunteer site
- Field Trips
- Support for adults with disabilities

Benefits - Skills Learned

- Presentation and quality of work
- Self confidence
- Planning/organizing
- Professionalism
- Time management
- Communication skills
- Measuring and restocking
- Functional Money Skills
- Work ethic
- Team work
- Patience



Benefits - Community Based Instruction

- Planned trips with their profits
- Practiced Social Skills
- Developed Community Skills
- Created positive peer interaction with general education peers





Checking out the new donut shop and baseball game with our friends at Choices



Camping at Sugar Pine State Park



Visiting our animal friends at Blackberry Creek Animal Sanctuary



Catching a movie and pizza with our friends from Choices



Catching the Train from Colfax to Truckee

Plans for Year 3

- Revamp our display
- Add businesses
- Get more students involved-both special education and peer mentors
- Partner with general education classes to ramp up visual design and marketing



Elbow Activity

- What ideas do you have for student run projects in your school?
- How would the project benefit your students?
- What possible hurdles might you face?
- Do the benefits outweigh the problems?
- Who can you turn to for help and support?

**The work we do is
important.
Never give up!**



Don't hesitate to reach out for help!
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