

*"Do not go where the path may lead.
Go instead where there is no path and leave a trail."*

- OLIVER WENDEL HOLMES

SPRING MADE IT (finally & hooray!)

Welcome to our May 2002 edition of the Power of One News & Updates. During our October '01 edition, we covered a number of current projects and we are happy to report that they have all been growing. Here's the latest on the Po1 Action Projects:



Project Get Ready

Project Get Ready ("PGR") continues to be improved as a way to have specially trained Po1 members work with freshmen to help them succeed as they adapt to high school life. The idea was born during the spring of 2001, developed during that summer, with a first round delivered on September 6th. Based on our evaluation, adjustments were needed and PGR specific focus groups were held on October 24, 2001 (photo above). The resulting data helped us redesign, retrain and redeliver a better service on several days in early 2002. Opportunities are growing and a special summer edition is on the way, as prompted by a PGR presentation to the Juvenile Justice Board on April 8th.

Training continues

On May 8th, an expert in school violence prevention and *master drummer*, Joakim Lartey from the New York State Center for School Safety held a fun and interactive safe school training session. Ongoing general sessions continue monthly, with project specific sessions occurring as well, including **PGR** and **Lead Team** preparation to improve alliances with administration, staff and others. Right now, a **RETREAT** is being planned for May 31st - June 1st.

Want to join?

We are expanding opportunities for new members, driven by a +300% increase in attendance during some general sessions and our retreat last Fall. If you want to join, check with Mrs. Pietras and get on the list.

Student Center

We've been talking about a student center since November 2000. The idea came from Focus Groups where students told us that they wanted the skills and a place to help each other. After November 2000, this idea came up again and again during our retreats and planning for Project Get Ready so we started putting together design ideas..

We are excited to announce that a big new grant was just awarded for working with NFHS and also building on the success of Power of One's past achievements. Part of the grant is dedicated to designing and starting a Student Center.

Road trip: On April 11th & 12th a team of 4 students, 2 staff and 2 consultants traveled to see the STUDENT ASSISTANCE CENTER ("SAC") at East Hartford High School in Connecticut, that's been gaining national recognition over the past few years.

This photo shows our four Power of One students and the interns and student workers from the SAC. There is a detailed report and many more pictures on our growing power of one website (www.nfhs.net) that covers the trip and details about the findings that we will use in our design.



Trip report from East Hartford High's
STUDENT ASSISTANCE CENTER

**Check back soon for
updates and new NEWS**

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