



Akron Bar Association
Street Law Newsletter - Fall 2011

What Is Street Law?

Since September 2000, the Akron Bar Association Street Law Committee has partnered with area schools, the University of Akron School of Law and various community organizations and government offices to establish Street Law as a high school elective course. Street Law, Inc. is a nonprofit organization dedicated to providing practical, participatory education about law, democracy, and human rights through strategies that promote problem solving, critical thinking, cooperative learning, improved communication and conflict resolution skills, and the ability to participate effectively in society.

The Akron Bar Association obtains grant funds from area foundations to offer Street Law field trips at no cost to the schools. We also can provide textbook to schools who are not able to purchase them. All we ask in return is a commitment from the schools to teach Street Law with a teacher who is on fire to teach law-related education. The course can be taught for a full year, one semester, or even as a unit in a social sciences course.

What has Street Law Done Lately?

Fall 2011 - Supreme Court Field Trip

Fourteen students from Revere High School with their teacher joined us this year on the Supreme Court Field Trip on a bus trip fully funded by the Street Law Committee. We had an extremely educational experience watching an oral argument as well as having the opportunity to de-brief with one of the attorneys who gave the argument. The students were able to ask any questions that they had and even participated in a spontaneous debate amongst themselves over the legal issue in the case argued. After lunch we visited the Ohio Statehouse where the students were able to experience a historical tour of the building. This was a memorable trip for all who attended!

Spring 2010 - Justice Day

We had students from both St. Vincent-St. Mary High School and Kenmore High School attend our Justice Day this past Spring. The day began at the Summit County Juvenile Court. Next, the group traveled to Summit County Common Pleas Court where a judge spoke to us about the court system as well as provided a probation officer and several other court staff to give the students a well-rounded perspective of how the legal system works. Next, we went to the Summit County Jail where the students were able to take a tour and experience a "jail lunch" (supplemented with snacks we provided, of course). The day concluded back at the Summit County Juvenile Court where speakers from Oriana House talked with students about electronic monitoring, alcohol and drug abuse, and mental health. The trip was fully funded by the Street Law Committee.

Interested? Contact Us!

Street Law Volunteers

If you are currently teaching Street Law, you have been matched with a volunteer law student who will be contact with you via phone or e-mail to schedule a time to meet with you to discuss Street Law teaching strategies as well as to collect the surveys that are included in this mailing.

If you are not currently teaching Street Law, we will be in contact with you to discuss the surveys included in this mailing, and to answer any questions you may have about Street Law.

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