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Dragon Talks: A one-of-a-kind "passion project" for seniors

An article that describes the annual Dragon Talks senior project at FTHS. Provides coverage of the event, comments from teachers, and students. Describes why the project is unique and important. Provides explanations about several of the speeches.

<http://foothilldragonpress.org/dragon-talks-a-one-of-a-kind-passion-project-for-seniors/>

Extracurriculars

I am in a highly competitive piano program outside of school. We enter many competitions and do Certificate of Merit which includes memorizing 4 pieces and taking a theory test. There are a total of ten levels and I have finished all of them.

Skills

I have earned many skills throughout this year with Journalism. I learned independent action: to take action when you need to and whenever you need to. Whether it be lunch, on the weekend or at 12 am, if I need to do something for the Dragon Press, I will do it. Need an event covered on the last day on school? I'll do it. I have also learned to be very organized. with journalism. Especially when you are in the news section, you need to be very organized because many articles will have a 24 hour deadline. So you have to be very organized in order to get all your interviews and quotes and get the article done by 24 hours. Some other skills I learned include: AP style, ethics, and coding.

Integrity

I possess the trait of integrity. I have always had a very strong morality in my character and never have any bad intentions or goals. Unlike many other people, if I want to progress, I compete with myself, I ask "How can I be better?". I don't compete with others and I don't ask "How can I be better than them?" I believe that pulling other people down in order to progress yourself is cruel and nobody should deserve to progress. You should see how you can make yourself better and not others worse. Even if I am very mad and want to confront someone or yell at them, I always try to think with integrity.

I ask myself "Is this really the best way to handle this situation?" and end up making the harder but better choice. This trait has also shown throughout my career in the Foothill Dragon Press. I never compete with other Dragon Press members or bring them down. I think about how I can be better, and respect to myself and other. I always compete with myself and if I made a mistake, I accept it and try to explain why I made it instead of pretending I am right.

Initiative

One article in which I showed initiative was the Cheers for Children "Teen Voice reaches out to the community for Thanksgiving". This was my first main article and all that was required of me was to interview the club members and teachers about the Thanksgiving baskets. But I did not want to do any ordinary article, I didn't want to cover an event, I wanted to show the human story behind the event. So I went to the actual time when they were passing out baskets and was there for approximately 2 and a half hours, covering the event and interviewing families who were getting baskets.

Another article in which I showed initiative was the "Dragon Talks: a one-of-a-kind 'passion project' for seniors". I only had to get three different quotes, but I interviewed nearly every single senior who gave a speech in the classroom I was in. I also interviewed three different teachers and two students, giving the article a very strong sense of variety. I also provided an explanation of each of the speeches of the seniors I mentioned.

VC Star Awards Stress the Import

An article about the Ventura County Star Awards for High School Journalism. Provides coverage of the event and explains several articles, pictures, videos, and cartoons the Foothill Dragon Press got awards for. Includes the importance of journalism from John Moore VC Star editor. And reactions about the event and awards.

<http://foothilldragonpress.org/ventura-county-star-awards-honor-high-school-journalists-the-foothill-dragon-press-earns-19-awards/>

Bioscience Job Shadowing Increases

An article about the job shadowing that students in the Bioscience program at FTHS that students get to do. Includes a

general description with three student profiles about their job shadowing experience.

[http://foothilldragonpress.org/
job-shadowing-in-bioscience-
enriches-students-medical-
knowledge/](http://foothilldragonpress.org/job-shadowing-in-bioscience-enriches-students-medical-knowledge/)