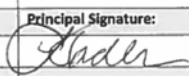




TEXAS ASSOCIATION OF STUDENT COUNCILS
TASC TOP TEN PROJECTS COMPETITION

HIGH SCHOOL

ENTRY COVER SHEET

School Name:	School Address:
Pecos High School	1302 S. Park St.
School City/State/Zip:	Size of Community:
Pecos, TX 79772	9,922
Advisor Name:	Advisor E-Mail:
Ms. Joanna Hill	johill@pbtisd.esc18.net
Principal Name:	Principal Signature:
Mrs. Latanya Sadler	
School UIL Classification:	
4A	
Project Name:	Project Dates:
Grand Companions Humane Society Donation	April 1, 2018 – February 27, 2019
Total Number of Students in Council:	Number of Members Involved in Project:
30	30
Total Number of Students Enrolled in School:	Number of Other Students Involved in Project:
692	600
Total Number of Faculty Enrolled in School	Number of Faculty Involved in Project
86	5
Number of Community Groups Involved in Project	Number of Community Members Involved in Project
3	200

THIS INFORMATION MUST BE SUBMITTED ONLINE.

Top Ten entries must be submitted by **FEBRUARY 13, 2019**

This application must be submitted online via the TASC website.

Upload your photos, newspaper articles, etc. online as well. Scan all pages into one document and upload.

Pecos High School Documentation Page for Grand Companions Humane Society Project

Date of Project: April 1, 2018 - February 27, 2019

Title of Project: Grand Companions Humane Society Donation

Project Objective: Members will raise money and goods to be donated to help with the upkeep and continuation of the no-kill animal shelter Grand Companions Humane Society

Targeted Group: Grand Companions Humane Society

Brief Description: The Pecos High School Student Council wanted to make a significant impact on a non-profit organization that had a vision in line with our own goals. Eight years ago, we saw a need in a nearby no-kill animal shelter that has the objective to rescue and rehome dogs and cats in the area. Thus, we began a journey of raising money and goods for the shelter Grand Companions Humane Society. This year we made a goal after the Student Council State Convention to raise \$2,500 for the Grand Companions Humane Society and to donate our time in visiting the animals at the shelter at least once each semester. In May several students from the Council made the first visit to the shelter and walked dogs, donating their time and service to help the furtherment of the organization. We also asked the Development Coordinator of Grand Companions Humane Society Chelsea Smith what the main things that the shelter would need help with throughout the year so that we could plan projects accordingly.

One project that we did during the Christmas season was Caroling for Kittens which involved all Student Council members going caroling around our community from house to house and asking for donations for the animal shelter. A major fundraiser that we did was hosting a Winter Kidz Kamp where forty elementary children from the community met up to

Updated August 2018

make Christmas crafts. Student Council members taught the crafts to the children, with the profit from the camp going to the animal shelter. We were able to raise \$500 for the animal shelter, which allowed us to go to a Pet Smart and buy toys and treats for the animals. These goods, along with recycled towels we collected from a local hotel, were then donated to the shelter by a few members who were also able to spend time playing with and walking several dogs and cats. Two other fundraisers that we had to raise money were a scarf sale and a Valentine's Gram sale among the other students and faculty at the school with all of the profit going to the Grand Companions Humane Society. Besides donating to the animal shelter, we were able to bring awareness to their cause by writing an article in the local newspaper that informed other people how they could help the shelter through donating, volunteering, and spreading the word.

Description of Involvement:

- a. Student Council Members - They lead and oversaw all of the fundraisers that were put on to raise money for the animal shelter and donated their time in walking and playing with the animals at Grand Companions Humane Society
- b. Other Students - They donated money through the Penny Wars competition at the school and bought items from other fundraisers such as the Valentine's Gram sale, with those profits going directly to Grand Companions. Austin Elementary students went to the Kidz Kamp fundraiser.
- c. Other Organizations - Austin Elementary provided promotion and students for the Kidz Kamp fundraiser, and a local hotel donated towels to be given to the animal shelter.
- d. Faculty - They helped projects be successful by informing students and community members about ways that they could help the animal shelter and were the sponsors for trips that were taken to the animal shelter.

Updated August 2018

e. Community - People in the city of Pecos willingly donated to the Grand Companions Humane Society through outreach fundraisers like Caroling for Kittens. Pecos parents also brought their students to the Kidz Kamp.



Members shopping for toys and treats for the shelter.



Elementary students showing off their crafts from Kidz Kamp fundraiser.

Updated August 2018



Members playing with and walking dogs at the shelter.



Members caroling at a house to raise money for the Grand Companions Humane Society.

Updated August 2018



ANIMAL SHELTER FUNDRAISER — Pecos High School Student Council members helped raise \$500 in needed toys, treats, and towels to the Grand Companions Humane Society, which is a no-kill animal shelter in Fort Davis during the first semester of the school year. These projects have included putting on Kidz Kamps for elementary students, having a Penny Wars competition among high school students, and going door-to-door caroling during the Christmas season. The effort allowed them to donate the items at the shelter, which provides animals there with a better stay before they find their forever homes. Chelsea Smith with the shelter said others can donate to it through their website <https://www.grandcompanions.org/>

February 10, 2019

Dear Texas Association of Student Councils:

Loyalty, enthusiasm, love are synonyms for the word *devotion*. Those words can also easily define our devoted Pecos High School's Student Council and their leader, Ms. Joanna Hill. For the past eight years, Ms. Hill and the Student Council members have devoted many hours of volunteer work and have donated plenty of money to the Grand Companions Humane Society. The Grand Companions Humane Society, located in Ft. Davis, Texas, is a no-kill animal shelter. It's primary purpose is to provide a solution for the health, economic, and moral problems communities face in dealing with homeless pets. With that said, the shelter is strictly against euthanizing animals and highly supports the idea of putting an end to euthanasia all together. Since its establishment in 1993, the Grand Companions Humane Society has been successful. In the past recent years, it has had a 95% success rate when it comes to pet rescue and adoptions. However, with the growing number of homeless pets that have been rescued, the Grand Companions Humane Society is in a dire need of a wide variety of donations. I am proud to say that our Pecos High School's Student Council has stepped up to the plate and has made it their mission to assist the Grand Companions Humane Society.

Since Ft. Davis is about 74 miles away from Pecos, many of the townspeople are not aware of the fact that there is a no-kill shelter that is relatively close to our community. While raising money for the organization, our Student Council has made our schools, local organizations, and community members aware of Grand Companion Humane Society and its mission to keep animals healthy and alive. PHS's Student Council has been quite successful in collecting money and donations for the Grand Companions Humane Society. Their key to success has been the idea of devotion and unity. Not only is Student Council focused on helping the shelter, they are also focused on bringing our townspeople together.

In the past, I have had the privilege to help PHS's Student Council members during the Christmas Season. The season begins with a program called Caroling for Kittens. Caroling for Kittens consists of the Student Council members, along Ms. Hill and other sponsors, going door to door offering Christmas carols for donations. After the students explained their reasons for helping Grand Companions, many community members gladly opened their doors and stood outside to hear a festive melody. I can't explain the joy I felt to see our community members beam at the sound of good old fashioned Christmas caroling. Our Student Council also got our schools involved in their effort to help the Grand Companion Humane Society during the Christmas season by hosting a Christmas Kids Kamp. Our elementary students were invited to create Christmas decor for a fee. The elementary teachers and parents were informed that all Kids Kamp proceeds would go to the Grand Companions Humane Society. I was again privileged to help with the Kids Kamp and it was indeed a pleasure. Our elementary students were so excited to join us. When it was time for the parents to pick up their elementary participants, it was nice to see the little ones proudly show off their crafts to their parents. I was quite pleased to know that the students' Christmas events raised \$500 for the Grand Companions Humane Society.

The Christmas season is not the only time our Student Council is able to raise money for the Grand Companions Humane Society. During Valentine's week, our students sell Valentine's grams to our students and staff. Our staff and students are usually eager to give and receive the Valentine's grams. It's nice to look around the classroom and down the halls at the beaming faces of students and teachers who have received a Student Council Valentine's gram. Soon after February, our Student Council will invite teachers to participate in Penny Wars. The teachers who participate will explain the rules to his/her students and will also explain how the friendly game will help raise money for the Grand Companions Humane Society. Our Student

Council will email a PowerPoint to each participating teacher. The PowerPoint consists of pictures of the Student Council members feeding, walking, bathing, and playing with the Grand Companions current residents, which consists of dogs and cats. As a participating teacher, I usually see my students react with an eagerness to help the animals and an eagerness to win the wars. The Penny Wars is a clever way to make money and to make our school, organizations, and community members aware of the Grand Companions Humane Society. Many students will go home and ask parents and organizations for spare change to help the animals and of course, to help their participating class win.

I can indeed say that I am proud of Ms. Hill and what she has taught our Student Council. The students have learned that completing a task is not just about completing it. She taught them that all tasks have a reason, and usually that reason is to help others. It's all about love and devotion. I can honestly say that our Student Council has definitely made the residents of the Grand Companions Humane Society pretty happy critters!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'L. Rodriguez', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Leticia Rodriguez
ELA Teacher/Department Chair
Pecos High School
432-447-7400 Ext.8110



PECOS HIGH SCHOOL
P. O. Box 869
Pecos, TX 79772

February 11, 2019

To whom it may concern:

We are very proud of the Student Council Scholars here at Pecos High School. They have taken the initiative to shed a light on several issues within our community by educating their fellow scholars. These initiatives have provided an opportunity for the community to not only understand the issues, but to see the dynamic efforts our scholars have taken to problem solve.

This year the Pecos High School Student Council wanted to make a significant impact on a non-profit organization aligned with their own vision and goals. Eight years ago, they saw a need in a nearby no-kill shelter (Grand Companions Humane Society) to rescue and rehome dogs and cats in the area. This year they set a goal, after the Student Council State Convention, to volunteer at the shelter a minimum of once each semester while raising a minimum of \$2,500 for the Grand Companions Humane Society. After meeting with the GCHS development coordinator, the PHS Student Council developed several activities to conduct throughout the year based on the needs of the shelter. Each activity focused on engaging the community, fellow scholars, and students from other campuses, which evoked a spirit of togetherness that has positively impacted the Grand Companions Humane Society in an extraordinary way. Furthermore, the PHS Student Council has also been able to bring awareness to their cause by writing an informative article for the local newspaper to spread the word about how to donate funds and volunteer at the shelter.

One of the activities sponsored by the PHS Student Council during the Christmas season was Caroling for Kittens which involved all Student Council members going caroling around the Pecos community accepting for donations for the animal shelter. The PHS Student Council also hosted a Winter Kidz Kamp in which forty Pecos elementary children emerged to make Christmas crafts. The PHS Student Council was able to raise funds for the animal shelter, which enabled them to go to Pet Smart to buy toys and treats for the animals. These goods, along with recycled towels they collected from a local hotel, were then donated to the shelter by a few members who were also able to volunteer even more time walking several dogs and cats. Finally, two other fundraisers designated to funding the Grand Companions Humane Society were a scarf sale and a Valentine's Gram sale to PHS scholars and faculty.

The scholars of the PHS Student Council are to be commended for the many community endeavors they work so diligently each year to achieve.

Sincerely,


Mrs. La Tanya Sadler, M.Ed.
Principal

SOAR

*Eagles are Scholars who use Opportunities to Achieve Regardless of the obstacles!
It's a great day to be an Eagle!*