

Learning with Public Purpose

Lumberjack Pride

Bogalusa High School

Through interviews and research, several classes at Bogalusa High School will lead a project to bring back student and community pride to the town of Bogalusa. Prior to integration, the older citizens in the town were very proud of their championship teams. The students will use this framework to bring back the “Lumberjack” Pride.



Essential Question

How to create in the students at Bogalusa High School a sense of pride in themselves, their school, and the community?

Introduction

Through interviews and research, approximately 20 teachers and 200 students in Art, technology, English III, and American history classes will find out about the past history of their school and community, concentrating on the three state championship football teams prior to and after integration. In the past, the Bogalusa community rallied around football and displayed pride in their high school. Because past team members and coaches are still in the town, using this entrance into the heart of community and school folks will stimulate school pride and community involvement with Bogalusa High School.

Project Goals

- Research the town history and the championship teams that brought town spirit and pride to the core of this rural community.
- Create a historical timeline to share the history of the town.
- Create a biographical and historical booklet to share with the community.
- Develop an interview package for students to use when they interview former football players and coaches.
- Plan an open house at the school’s gazebo and the football stadium to honor former football players and share the town’s history.

Implementation

After integration of the schools in the City of Bogalusa School District, the pride that was once shown for the high school and community involvement dwindled. Beforehand, the pride and school spirit centered around football followed the team to several state championships. Several teachers and students believed that the pride, school spirit, and community involvement can be revived in the town of Bogalusa. Students will interview former players and coaches, go to the library to research the history of the town at the time of the championships, and create historical timelines. The art and technology classes will create a power-point presentation using the information gathered through research and interviews. Former players will be invited to speak at school assemblies. Some students will create a booklet containing biographical and historical information to be sold. The project will culminate with an open house at Bogalusa High School at a gazebo built by a former teacher. The community will be invited and former players and coaches will be honored at the open house and the homecoming game in the Fall. Refreshment will be prepared and served by the Pro-Start classes (classes where students are trained in culinary arts and food service).