

Kosciusko Foundation for Excellence in Education  
Monday, October 16, 2000  
7:45 p.m.  
Kosciusko High School Commons

They have requested for you to speak on education/ volunteerism.

## **Opening**

- Good Evening
- Thank you for having me here today
- It is a pleasure to visit your beautiful school

(Waverly Ray Story)

## **Main Points**

1. Volunteering
  - a. People who volunteer reaffirm the dignity of humanity
  - b. Most common reason for not volunteering is “lack of time”
    - i. A person may have a willingness to help
    - ii. A person often has to balance their family’s needs with their desire to work at a worthwhile organization

- c. Volunteerism needs to be made part of our every day vocabulary
- d. Volunteering is a wonderful way to meet interesting people, try out career fields and to grow as a person
- e. Many ways that you can Volunteer
  - i. Tutor children or volunteer for a reading hour at your library
  - ii. Mentor a child
  - iii. Teach a group of children computer skills
  - iv. Help homeless children and families
  - v. Start or participate in a Violence Prevention project in your area
  - vi. Form or join an existing group to prevent teen substance abuse
  - vii. Donate your used, working computer equipment to after-school tutoring for kids
  - viii. Collect books and other learning materials for local youth programs
  - ix. Be a counselor or assistant at a day-camp for children
  - x. Help sponsor, fix-up or staff a local playground
  - xi. Just simply be observant and ready to help out a fellow human being
- f. Teaches you Life Skills

- i. Educates you about community, people, state and nation
- ii. Gives you tools that can be used in life, now and later

## 2. Fast Forward Mississippi

- a. Eases transition from School-to-Careers
- b. Helps students from K-College age and beyond to realize the world of career opportunities that await them
- c. With Fast Forward Mississippi
  - i. Can learn about career options
  - ii. Research facts on different careers
  - iii. Educational choices
  - iv. Technical skills
  - v. Training options
- d. Connects classroom learning to what is happening in the workplace
  - i. Workplaces can become active learning environments
  - ii. Employers become joint partners with educators
    - 1. They train students for immediate employment or further education
- e. Utilizes the Internet & web technology
  - i. Creates a one-stop resource for students, parents and teachers

- ii. [www.FastForwardMS.com](http://www.FastForwardMS.com)
  - iii. Targets students of all ages
- f. Parents can use the resource also
  - i. Gather information on colleges
  - ii. Calculate tuition costs
  - iii. Begin talking to their children about different career options & educational requirements
- g. Teachers use the website also
  - i. A resource center for their classrooms
  - ii. Can bring professionals into the classroom
    - 1. Discuss education needed
    - 2. Discuss job experiences
  - iii. To develop career-related class work and lesson plans

### 3. Computers in the Classroom

- a. Committed to providing the tools that we need for training our students
  - i. Computer in every classroom by the end of 2002
  - ii. Only state with this type of commitment
- b. Computers help teachers teach tools to enhance education
  - i. Teaches technology skills needed in today's workplace

ii. Many jobs now require technical skills

## **Closing**

- You can make a tremendous impact on our world
- Your education and life experiences will prepare you for a successful future
- One person CAN make a difference
- Be part of the solution – Volunteer
- Be prepared for a bright future – Get An Education
- Best of Luck in your Bright Future