Building Blocks In Canton Community

Leadership in Action:
- The goal of our FYS was to "Embark on a journey of leadership using research, examined personal experiences, and observational critiques of the world around us, to fully explore this complex construct."
- We were required to set up an event to connect the Canton community with the St. Lawrence Community.
- This Sunday Funday event did not only build upon our own leadership skills but provided an opportunity for the Canton, Potsdam and Ogdensburg children to grow.
- Our goal is to inspire these children to discover themselves as leaders and to influence their community: eventually allowing them to change their own future.

Advertising Team
- In today’s media advertising pushes children into bad habits such as drugs, obesity, and increased use of social media.
- As a part of the advertising committee we focused on aspects of healthy living that can be accomplished with a lot of fun.
- An important part of our advertising was including our mission statement as a focal point for parents and volunteers.
- By including our mission statement we were emphasizing our major goal of creating a bridge from the St. Lawrence students to the surrounding area.
- We made sure to let the parents know that we put this event together for their own child's benefit.

Our Mission Statement:
To provide a day that promotes fun and healthy living through physical and educational activities while building a bridge between St. Lawrence University and the local community

Canton Budget Cuts:
- Canton Central School has faced a 10% state aid reduction over the past five years.
- Today Canton is facing a $2.4 million budget gap for the 2013-2014 school year.
- Over the past five years 55 teaching positions have been cut, class sizes have increased to 30 or 40 students, there are higher drop out rates, and elimination of sports and extracurricular programs.
- To fix this budget gap Canton can use a small fund balance, cut more programs, classes and teachers or increase taxes.
- Overall children are receiving less quality time with teachers and lower testing scores which could lead to even more cuts.

Impact on Community:
- A community is considered to be doing well if the children of the community are becoming successful and influential.
- If many extracurricular programs are removed from the Canton schools the community standards will fall.
- Sunday Funday not only provides activities for the children but it also helps them to develop leadership and social skills.
- Our goal is to inspire children to want to develop their own leadership skills within their community and eventually become leaders that can inevitably reduce the Canton, Potsdam and Ogdensburg budget cuts.