Dane Mullins
Round Hill, VA

August 29, 2010

I want to take this opportunity to publicly thank the organizers, collaborators, sponsors as well as supporters of the Inaugural Leadership Loudoun Youth Class of 2010.

Organizers
Christina Druther Executive Director Loudoun Youth Inc.
Michael Morgan, 2009-2010 President, Board of Directors Leadership Loudoun
Carol Kost, President, Loudoun Youth Inc.
Robin Geiger, Leadership Loudoun, Program Manager

Collaborators
Karen Krei, Executive Director of Piedmont Community Foundation
Kristin Garrett, Coordinator of Youth Advisory Council, PRCS

Sponsors
Virginia Commerce Bank, Exclusive Grand Sponsor
Loudoun County Parks, Recreation, Community Services
Piedmont Community Foundation
Jersey Mike's Subs
The National Conference Center
Old Navy
VeriSign

Supporters and Educators
Meadowkirk
Walt Hogan, OD Consultant and Executive Coach
Patrick Ryan II, Loudoun County Economic Development
Grafton DeButts, Loudoun County Chamber of Commerce
Senator Mark Herring, Virginia State Senate
Delegate Thomas A. "Tag" Greason, Virginia House of Delegates
Supervisor Susan Buckley, Loudoun County Board of Supervisors
Prototype Productions, Inc.
Keep Loudoun Beautiful
Loudoun Water
Robeks
Semper Technology, Inc.

The above listed organizations, corporations and individuals provided me and seventeen of my fellow Loudoun County high school peers the incredible opportunity to participate in the Inaugural Leadership Loudoun Youth Class of 2010. This program transformed all aspects of Loudoun County into a classroom. Not only did we learn about Loudoun County's history, government, and internal economic structure, we were given the ability to network with leaders in government, organizations and businesses as well as with each other. We bonded in like minds. We worked together in well thought out and organized activities and experiences. We learned how we can identify each others strengths and abilities. We grew within ourselves and are ready now to move forward as a group and individuals to lead within and work together on projects to benefit Loudoun County. The training and experiences Leadership Loudoun course provided us were invaluable. This week long course allowed us to learn about leadership, networking, business, financial, and interviewing skills as well as Loudoun County, our community and our selves.

It is my desire and hope that Leadership Loudoun, Loudoun Youth Inc., Piedmont Community Foundation and Loudoun County Parks, Recreation, Community Services will extend and expand this one week course we have just completed. We have just touched the surface. Many of us in this inaugural class will be in high school for at least another one to two years. This gives us the time to select one of our community concerns we have identified and feel passionate about and work together by using the leadership and networking skills we have been taught to solve or improve the state of our community. This expanded course would bring us to the next level of our leadership development – assessment, project management and goal completion.

The Leadership Loudoun Youth course was very inspiring. At our graduation ceremony we expressed a desire to have a class reunion this November. As a junior and a member of the first graduating class of the new Woodgrove High School it is my personal goal to help create a bond with the school and community and create a lasting legacy of the 2012 graduating class of Wolverines at Woodgrove High School.

Respectfully,

Dane Mullins

http://www.leadershiploudounyouth.org