DeLaura Middle School
Satellite Beach, FL

2007 National Award Recipient

IT'S A SNAP
School Network for Absenteeism Prevention
DeLaura Middle School (Satellite Beach, FL)

A pre-advanced language arts class from DeLaura Middle School took part in the SNAP program to create an entertaining yet educational video that will promote personal hygiene through hand-washing, thereby decreasing absenteeism. The students partnered with local hotels to obtain sample size bars of soap to give away to every student viewing the video. In return, the students provided the hotels with designated quality flyer promoting SNAP to post in their public restrooms and employee lounges. The video skit consists of a newscast/interview scenario. The script consist of four different scenes: scientific research, a hand-washing demonstration, and two entertaining segments portraying the students as villainous germs being pursued by the “germ police.” The video was presented to the entire school and there are plans to contact the local elementary school to request time for live performances. As an alternative there are plans to offer copies of the videos and bars of soaps to local schools.
Romney Middle School (Romney, WV)

Students and teachers at Romney Middle School have expressed serious concerns concerning students having clean hands during meal times. The problem rises from the mass number of students and the time in between the last class and lunch. Students often find themselves not having the time go to restrooms and wash their hands. The head cook and students met over a three day period to discuss the importance of clean hands and the proper technique. After researching various samples of hand sanitizers a product was found that didn’t have any alcohol and contained lotion and was found to be a favorite. The sanitizers were purchased for the cafeteria lines and classrooms and instruction on how to use the product was given to students. Students have expressed appreciation for the sanitizers and the faculty is still enforcing the need to wash hands with soap and water when possible. As a direct result of one schools effort’s, other schools in the county are now using hand sanitizers in their cafeteria lines and contacts have been made from schools in different counties to send Romney Middle School information for help in their school.
**Crownover Middle School** (Corinth, TX)

Some things never change, like the idea of how easy it is to stop the spread of disease carrying germs by simply washing your hands with soap and water. Theatre arts students produced a silent video titled “The Adventures of the Germinator.” The students wrote, costumed, filmed and edited the movie. The movie focused on how germs attack and spread when students do not wash their hands. The school hopes to share the video with employees and parents to reduce workplace absences and the importance of concept as small as washing your hands with soap and water. The 6th grade class discussed how germs are spread and made posters to hang in the hallways to share the hand washing message. Teachers are now encouraging students to wash hands before eating lunch and have joined with the consumer technology teacher to stress the importance of hand washing before food preparation. The project used modern technology to share a very simple idea: It’s as easy as 1, 2, and 3…Wash your hands with soap and water.