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Lafayette Elementary Student Council Organizes Drive to Help Sister School in Haiti

By Rosylyn Aragon Stenzel



Lafayette Elementary Student Council members pose in front of banner before sending it off - along with over 650 pencils - to sister school in Haiti. Photo Pam Severson

to them."

For more information on how you can support this partnership, contact leopardsisterschool@gmail.com.

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Lafayette Elementary Student Council is leading the way for its school to help children in Haiti. Recently, the student council organized a pencil drive to give to students at Victor Hugo School in Gonaives, Haiti. Along with over 650 pencils, they sent a banner that read, "We love our sister school!" Almost all Lafayette Elementary students from each grade signed the banner.

They found out about the opportunity to help Haitian kids through Grace Linderholm, a junior at Acalanes High School. Grace visited Haiti last year with her mother during a medical mission trip. Moved by the poverty and severe lack of resources, Grace, a Lafayette Elementary School alumna, decided to do something about it. She contacted the PTA to propose a partnership with Victor Hugo School.

Student council decided to take on the challenge, and at the request of the principal at Victor Hugo, sent unsharpened pencils; because in Haiti, pencil shavings are used as kindling. Besides the pencil drive, student council organized a sock hop dance where they collected backpacks and raised over a thousand dollars for their sister school.

Student council officers Pia Dovichi, Caden Moses, Gia Roberts, and Chase Severson, said that they've learned much from this experience including realizing how fortunate they are and wanting to share it, plus as Chase summed it up, "It feels good when you give something