R.E.A.L. Contract

The R.E.A.L. Program should be chosen by a student based on his/her determination that it offers the greatest likelihood of leading successfully to graduation. It should be understood from the outset that this contract indicates the student’s acceptance of an invitation to join the program and the program’s expectations as outlined below. These requirements are necessary to a) assure the program’s academic integrity through performance, b) develop the positive work experience and history that is essential to a student’s success beyond graduation and c) provide a system through which a student may take responsibility for her/his own education, problems and success.

Recognizing the importance of the above stated goals, the undersigned understand and accept the importance of having a minimum of 90% attendance in the program each quarter in order to pass the program’s performance expectations. Friday mornings/afternoons will provide a regularly scheduled time during which missed time from either the job site or class may be “made up.” It is also understood that only accepted and verifiable excused absences may count against the 90% attendance expectation. Every minute of any unexcused absence/tardiness must be “made up.”

All assignments must be completed and must meet the expectations of the program’s instructors to be considered completed. Any assignment that is not completed will mean the semester will not be considered as successfully passed. Plagiarism, the taking of someone else’s ideas or words, is unacceptable, as is not doing one’s own work, and may lead to dismissal from the program. Any computer misuse (such as hacking, harassment, plagiarism, vandalism, etc.) may also lead to a student being dropped from the program.

Extreme situations, such as theft, verbal or physical abuse of a supervisor, the use of drugs/alcohol, reckless behavior, etc. can lead to a student being immediately “fired” from the volunteer/job site or the program itself. Being “fired” from the volunteer/job site or the program means immediate dismissal from the REAL Program.

To give the student the responsibility to correct potential “problems”, a three-step contract system is used in the REAL Program. This system is similar to a “due process” system that exists in many jobs and is designed to head-off problems before they threaten a student’s success. A First Level Contract is not intended to be threatening; it is meant to be a notification of a situation which, if left uncorrected, could lead to dismissal from the program. It is also an opportunity to explore solutions. A contract will state the problem, actions to be taken to resolve the problem, and a time frame in which the actions should occur. Success repeals the contract, otherwise a Second Level Contract may be issued. The last step is a Final Contract, and violations of any provisions of a Final Contract will result in dismissal from the program. Also, refusing to sign any contract will be taken as the student’s voluntary removal of him/herself from the program.

The signatures at the bottom of this contract indicate that all the requirements of the REAL Program have been discussed and an understanding has been reached by all parties that violation of the requirements or a Final Contract are causes for dismissal from the program.

Student:________________ Parent:________________ Instructor:________________

Date: ______           Date:______   Date:______