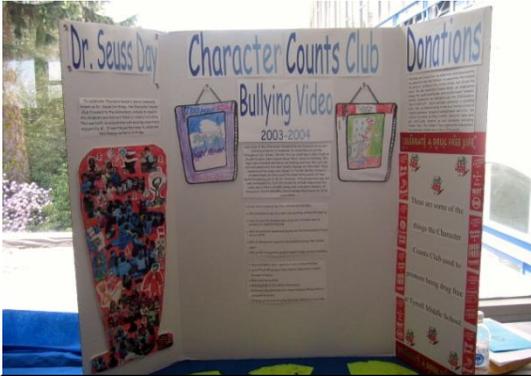


### ***Character Counts Club Promotes Respect***



Wolcott Middle School's Character Counts Club presentation board for Connecticut's 2005 Service-Learning Conference

The Character Counts Club of Wolcott Middle School (CT) with support and training from Youth: Ethics in Service organized a service-learning project to resist bullying in their school. Student club members with the sponsorship of Andrea Curcio surveyed fellow students and learned that bullying was a meaningful concern.

The Club did more research from sources outside of the school and learned other facts about bullying that included: six out of ten students witnessed bullying daily, 15% of students report being regularly bullied, most bullying is verbal but can have long-term effects.

The Character Club chose to create a video to increase student awareness as to the issue of bullying at the school and promote

respect between students. Club members interviewed fellow students regarding their experiences and opinions about bullying and recorded dialogue with Character Club members encouraging strategies to resist bullying. The process required Club members to acquire the necessary permissions for the project, successfully capture the video footage, create narratives for Club member dialogue and edit the final product. The Club was able to present their completed video to the school with discussion questions to seek student engagement to help reduce bullying at Wolcott Middle School.

In addition to this service to their fellow classmates to raise awareness and teach resistance strategies to bullying, the Character Club was able to make presentations to elementary schools in the district as well as present their completed project to teachers and students at the 2005 Connecticut Service-Learning Conference hosted in New London at Connecticut College. The Club presented a poster board of their project as well as describing the process of their work to the teachers and other service-learning student groups at the conference.



Wolcott Middle School's Character Counts Club presents their project reflections for Connecticut's 2005 Service-Learning Conference.