



K-12 law-related education program:

- *PATCH curricula are tailored to successfully meet grade-level instructional objectives and standards.*
- *Legal concepts are infused into the social studies curriculum.*
- *Active student participation is facilitated by features such as an in-house court.*

Results



- *Students in the PATCH LRE courses scored significantly higher (.05 level) on knowledge of law and criminal justice.*
- *Tests used included: PATCH-designed grade-level pre- post-tests; LRE pre- post-tests; debriefing sheets, C.E.R.T., and One-on-One rating sheets; oral evaluation sheets; parent questionnaires; and in-service pre- posttests.*

The Program

Project PATCH is a K-12 Law-Related Education Program. In 1991, PATCH received both the NYS Council for the Social Studies and National Council for the Social Studies Program of Excellence Awards. In 1996, NYS Commissioner Richard Mills recognized the PATCH Program as an exemplary Social Studies and Law-Related Education program which supports and enhances the social studies standards. In 1998, the Suffolk County Human Rights Commission awarded Project PATCH and Northport High School its first Annual High School of the Year Award.

Since 1969, Project PATCH has developed and used some of this nation's most creative teaching strategies and student learning activities educators will find anywhere. It has enhanced all its legal learning experiences with leading edge technology. The Project's teacher- and student-developed curriculum has been validated and published, and much of it can or will be found on the Northport School District website.

In the K-8 program, LRE concepts are infused across the curriculum. Through peer and cross-age teaching, the program links our K-8 students with literature, social studies, civics, and law-related learning. In the 9th and 10th grade, the Project infuses comparative legal, human rights education, and international law through the new Global History curriculum. *It's a Legal World I* is taught in the 9th grade and *It's a Legal World II* in the 10th grade. In the 11th grade, the PATCH *American History through Constitutional Law* course successfully fulfills all instructional objectives of the new 11th grade American history curricula. For grade 12, Project PATCH has developed four law-related education curricula that meet the State Education Department's participation in government and economics new course requirements: 1) American Law, 2) Criminal Justice, 3) Leadership, and 4) International Law. Special features include a student in-house court, an educational ombudsperson, leadership training, legal writing model, and service learning opportunities.

Professional Development

Project PATCH, in partnership with the NYS Bar Association and the State Education Department's Law, Youth & Citizenship Program, conducts a *free* 5-day teacher training institute in the use of their law-related educational programs and strategies. Since 1976, 7,611 self-selected educators from all 50 states and 18 foreign nations have received in-service training by the 11-person PATCH staff.

Course manuals and outlines are available for grades 8-12; manuals are also available for developing an in-house student court, an educational ombudsperson, civil law, moot court competitions, and a legal writing model. Much of the PATCH instructional materials can be found on the Northport website.

Costs & Funding Options

The D/D site is open to visitors by appointment. There is no cost for trainers' time or Project PATCH materials.

Learning Standards

Social Studies: All five social studies standards and instructional objectives are addressed.

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