

4. IMPACT

The student's perspective of "applied science" is usually slighted, unfortunately, it isn't in the favor of science. With exciting programs and intense hands-on, minds-on experiences, the students are looking at "applied sciences" in a different light. The value of live event learning is unmatched as an educational experience. Students are able to apply what they have learned in the classroom to actual research in the field.

In the beginning, ten to twelve students would register for meteorology. Now, the course fills up to twenty-five students in a minimal amount of time. Currently, I have 10 former students that are actively pursuing a career in the field of atmospheric science and countless others in some other science related fields.

5. CONCLUSION

The problem that many of us in education face is making what we teach relevant to student's lives. When we can apply what we teach to something the students can experience, the learning will last a lifetime. The hope is to generate the "spark" that will initiate an interest that may eventually lead to a successful career.

This field experience creates a win-win situation for the students and the sciences abroad. The students win by learning more than they imagined and creating within themselves the desire to learn more. The students are able to accomplish this by actually creating their own "student lead" research and discovery project. This same experience could not be matched within the confines of any classroom.

Science wins because more students are willing to accept the challenges that it poses, which in turn, aids in solving problems that constantly plague our society. With the never ending advancements in technology, the field of science requires people who can continually take on the demanding tasks of solving these problems.

The National Science Standards are put into place to make students more active in their own learning. With the help of Dr. Ira Geer, Dr. Robert Weinbeck, Dr. Joseph Schaefer, Dr. Howard Bluestein, Dr. Joshua Wurman, and countless others, this task is being accomplished.