

EAST BAY TIMES

By **TRINE GALLEGOS** | East Bay Times
PUBLISHED: December 11, 2016

Community News

School Bell: Charter Academy students help with food drive



Courtesy Antioch Charter Academy II

Antioch Charter Academy II students, including eighth-graders Sage Wilcox and Skyla Nicholson, recently helped the community with a food drive and with handmade care kits.

THE GIVING SEASON: Antioch Charter Academy II teacher Elisa McCutcheon is proud of the students who recently participated in the school’s Social Political Action project.

The seventh- and eighth-graders choose to “impact homelessness and hunger in the Bay Area.”

All 42 students in the class helped with a variety of projects, including its collection of 623 items for the Food Bank of Contra Costa and Solano counties. One student organized the drop off and pick up of the donation barrels.

Another student arranged for the school to a production with “professional actors by the Food Bank called the ‘Hungry Play,’ ” for about 100 fourth- through eighth-grade students. The one-hour show was “entertaining and raised their awareness about hunger in the community and how the food bank plays a role in helping to fight hunger.”

Additionally, students collected toiletries to make 61 care kits, which included a toothbrush, toothpaste, deodorant, wipes and socks. Some kits had additional items such

as soaps, feminine hygiene products, shampoos and gloves.

Another seven students volunteered to serve breakfast to some 40 people at Café Sunrise, a local soup kitchen serving breakfast from First Baptist Church in Pittsburg. While there, the group passed out its care kits. And, 10 students helped set up for the large homeless community event Project Connect, hosted the county Health Services, which helped more 500 adults and 100 children.

To “support their efforts, students had a bake sale and raised \$260.”