

“I would be a
HOME ECONOMICS
teacher.”



Julia Roberts Is Right About FACS

With those words, Julia Roberts managed to blindsides millions of people a few weeks ago in an interview promoting her new romantic comedy “Larry Crowne”. But we weren’t surprised at her choice of a non-showbiz career.

While Roberts may have gotten the name wrong (Family and Consumer Sciences, or FACS, replaced the term Home Economics in the mid-1990s), she seems to be a natural fit for the FACS classroom.

Roberts is passionate about improving the quality of life for others. Her work for UNICEF and other charities reveals her dedication to meaningful education. And that’s what Family and Consumer Science (FACS) is all about. It’s the one secondary school subject that is focused on gaining essential knowledge and skills in the fields of nutrition, child development, home finances, and other areas that directly affect an individual’s and a family’s quality of life.

Roberts understands the importance of family. She’s a dedicated mother of three and focuses much of her charitable work on improving the lives of families. Families are the cornerstone of every society, yet only FACS classrooms directly deal with the issues crucial to developing and maintaining healthy families. Can you imagine a thriving household in which no one knew about nutrition, caring for young children, or managing money? Can you think of an academic area besides FACS where these things are directly taught?

Roberts strives for excellence. She didn’t win an Academy Award or become one of America’s highest-paid actresses by sitting on the sidelines. The best teachers challenge themselves and their students to achieve excellence, and FACS teachers are no exception. A FACS teacher sets the bar high and teaches towards students’ biggest test: life. FACS students learn about the latest research in child psychology, MyPlate nutrition, Farm to Fork food preparation, career education, problem solving, and critical thinking skills and other life lessons.

We hope we will see Julia Roberts in the FACS classroom. And we know that the American Association of Family & Consumer Sciences (AAFCS) is there to support the professional development needs of FACS educators and help them meet their ever-changing classroom demands.

Julia Roberts knows it takes education and time to grow healthy families. Thank you, Julia, for selecting Home Economics/FACS as a critical life lesson.

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