

WHAT ARE THE GUIDELINES FOR THE INDEPENDENT PROJECTS (GRADES 6-12)?

1. Identify a community need that meets the Seven Best Practices.
2. Obtain approval from the Building Service-Learning Coordinator for the project.
3. Perform the service.
4. Fill out the Student Service-Learning Validation Form (online).
5. Turn in the form to the Building Service Learning Coordinator before the end of the school year.

** Students may begin earning independent hours starting on their first day of the 6th grade.*

**All students are required to earn 75 hours of Service Learning.*

WHAT ACTIVITIES ARE NOT ACCEPTABLE FOR SERVICE-LEARNING HOURS OR VOLUNTEER HOURS?

- Volunteer work for a business
- Court-mandated community service
- Church-related activities that promote church doctrine, i.e. church nursery, Bible School, etc.

SERVICE LEARNING VERSUS VOLUNTEER HOURS?

- Service Learning hours must have an educational component. Service Learning activities allow the students to reflect on their experiences, reinforcing the link between the service performed and their own learning.
- All participants in a Service Learning activity should benefit, learn and grow from the experience.
- Volunteering is less structured and does not include a learning component.
- *BOTH types of hours WILL count for college applications.*

WHEN WILL A STUDENT RECEIVE SCHOOL-BASED HOURS?

- Students will participate in curriculum infused service projects in 3rd – 10th grade.
- Students will participate in an introduction to independent service learning hours beginning in 6th grade.
- All hours are tracked on student report cards.

WHAT UNITS OF CURRICULUM ARE INFUSED WITH SERVICE-LEARNING?

GRADE	CONTENT AREA	HOURS
3	Science and Math	3
4	Language Arts	6
5	Language Arts	7
6	Social Studies	8
6	Science	7
7	Math and Social Studies	7
8	Social Studies	8
HS	Health	5
9	English	5
10	English	5
HS	Biology	8
HS	US History	5
	SUBTOTAL	74
6-12	Independent Project Hours	1
	TOTAL	75



- **Talbot Humane Society- Shelter Volunteer**

VOLUNTEER HOURS

- A student volunteers at the Talbot Humane Society. Many duties are performed during visits; feeding the animals, taking them for walks, cleaning their cages, playing with them.

SERVICE LEARNING HOURS

- With prior approval, a group of friends takes part in Talbot Humanes' adoption day, Bark in the Park. The group researches the effects of animal adoption on families. Posters and pamphlets are created to advertise the positive facts. With a tent at the event, the friend group shares their facts with those attending to help boost adoption.

Examples of Service Learning and Volunteering

- **Running Festival- Water Station**

VOLUNTEER HOURS

- The high school honor society hosts a water station during the St. Michaels Running Festival. The students set up a tent and hand out cups of water as runners pass by their table during the marathon.

SERVICE LEARNING HOURS

- The high school honor society conducts research to determine the importance of staying hydrated during a marathon. The students make posters to display at their tent. They also share quick facts as they hand out water to the runners.

IF I SHOULD HAVE MORE QUESTIONS, WHO SHOULD I CONTACT?

Service-Learning Coordinators

Location	Name	Phone
District	Tracy Elzey	410-822-0330
Team Leader	Linda Brown	410-822-4180
EHS	Rachel Barnett	410-822-4180
EMS	Katie Manley	410-822-4180
EMS	Tina Confair	410-822-4180
SMMHS	Amanda Priestley	410-745-2852
SMES	Jennifer Meintzer	410-745-2882
TES	Angela Asmussen	410-886-2391
EES	Jeff Bell	410-822-0686
CDES	Tiffany Joseph	410-822-2391
WMES	Deborah Dyott	410-476-3144



Kelly L. Griffith, Ed. D.
Superintendent

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