

# 40 HOURS OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

The purpose of the 40 hrs of community involvement requirement is to encourage students to develop an awareness and understanding of civic responsibility and the contributions they can make in supporting and strengthening their communities.

**Students can begin earning community service hours from the summer between Grade 8 and 9 until their graduation in Grade 12.**

## KEY ELEMENTS

*Must be completed outside scheduled class time.*

*Must not be part of a credit course.*

*Must be unpaid activities.*

*Must total 40 hours or more.*

*Must be completed by the end of grade 12 in order to receive a diploma.*

## ELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

The following list of eligible activities are intended to assist the student and parent(s) to determine a planned activity meets the requirements for Community Involvement.

### Help Your Community

- through placement in a structured community-based volunteer organization;
- take part in environmental initiatives;
- get involved in charitable activities;
- coach sports teams;
- undertake a leadership role to help community groups;
- assist with literacy initiatives;
- participation on committees or advisory boards;
- arts and culture – assist at a gallery or performing arts production;
- religious activities;
- assist at a seniors' home/centre.

### Help Your Neighbours

- by providing service to seniors – raking, shoveling (no snow blowers), shopping (student should not drive vehicles for this purpose), visiting, reading, meal preparation;
- by providing assistance to an individual, family or a group.



### Help Your School

- school-based community involvement activities are not tied to an academic credit and are open to any student e.g. organizing blood drives; tutor other students;
- assist with planning of arts or athletic events;
- facilitate school events such as parent information nights;
- assist with environmental activities;
- participate in charitable initiatives.

### INELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES

The following activities **MAY NOT** be chosen as community involvement activities. An ineligible activity is an activity that

- is a requirement of a class or course in which the student is enrolled (e.g. cooperative education portion of a course, job shadowing, work experience);
- takes place during the time allotted for the instructional program on a school day. However, an activity that takes place during the student's lunch break or "spare" periods is permissible;
- would normally be or should be performed for wages by a person in the workplace;
- consists of duties normally performed in the home (i.e. daily chores) or personal recreational activities;
- involves activities for a court-ordered program (e.g. community-service program for young offenders, probationary program);
- any duty performed for an immediate family member.



*Why Wait??  
Begin your  
Community  
Service hours  
this summer!*