

## **Portage Central High School's Community Service Award**

For volunteer ideas, check out the volunteer board outside of room #213 Mrs. Laurencig's eboard, or the PCHS website. In addition, you may also go to the VolunTEENS website at [www.volunteerkalamazoo.org](http://www.volunteerkalamazoo.org) and see what they have to offer.

### **Requirements for the award are listed below for your convenience:**

#### **Two different levels of the award are available:**

##### **1. Blue Community Service Award (blue cord)**

Presented at the Senior Awards Ceremony to seniors who have completed a minimum of 200 hours of community service by April 15<sup>th</sup> of their graduating year.

##### **2. Gold Community Service Award (gold pin)**

In an effort to encourage students to complete volunteer hours on a regular basis, an additional award can be earned. This award will be presented to students who, by the spring of each year have completed a minimum of 50 hours service in that school year.

#### **Requirements to earn the awards:**

- Completion of a minimum of 200 hours of community service by April 15<sup>th</sup> of their graduating year (for the blue award), or 50 hours of community service in the current year (for the gold award).
- In order to be considered, hours must be recorded on a Portage Central High School Volunteer Service Form designed solely for this purpose. These forms are located in the Blue and Gold offices, Counseling office, Mrs. Laurencig's room #213, or her eboard site.
- A separate form must be completed for each activity. Forms should be turned in to Mrs. Laurencig **no later than 2 weeks after the completion of the activity in order to be eligible**. Summer is an exception to this rule. Listen to the school announcements when school starts for the summer hours deadline.
- Hours from Rotary Club, National Honor Society and CAS **can** be counted towards the required number of hours, but a PCHS Volunteer Service Form must be filled out and turned in separate from any forms required by the above mentioned organizations.

#### **Completing the forms:**

- All blanks on the form should be filled in completely.
- An adult in charge of the activity and who is not a relative must sign the form.
- Students (not parents) should complete these forms.

#### **What is NOT eligible as community service**

- Any activity that is a requirement for a class.
- Any activity for which you are paid.

- Any activity that involves proselytizing or evangelizing.  
Ex. Teaching Sunday school
- Hours spent traveling, sleeping or not directly participating in a service project.

**What is appropriate community service?**

- Activities that offer the opportunity to improve the condition of a member or members of our school, community, country or the world.
- Activities that are designed to help people who are less fortunate.

**Examples of accepted community service?**

- Habitat for humanity
  - Volunteering at a nursing home, the library, PCOC, or a hospital
  - Mission trips (counting only the time of actual service)
  - Disaster relief efforts
  - Youth group activities such as shoveling snow for the elderly
  - Focus on safety bus program
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- Questions? Call 323-5220