

Woodmere Middle School

Community Service Program

The Woodmere Middle School emphasizes community service as an essential component of the educational process. It is our belief that assisting those in need helps students develop into responsible citizens and promotes the general welfare of our society. Through the cooperation of parents, staff and the Hewlett-Woodmere community, we have established a structured community service program that will enable all desiring Woodmere Middle School students to participate in meaningful activities.

Community service opportunities will be announced periodically throughout the school year and posted on the WMS website. **All service activities need prior approval. Hours completed without approval may not be counted toward WMS community service recognition.**

How many hours am I expected to complete each year?

Our expectation is that students will complete community service as outlined below:

- Grade 6 – minimum of 3 hours
- Grade 7 – minimum of 7 hours
- Grade 8 – minimum of 10 hours

How does the school acknowledge the completion of community service hours?

Students completing the expected amount of community service hours will be honored on the WMS “Wall of Service.” In addition, 8th grade students who have completed the expected number of hours on each grade level will receive an acknowledgement at the WMS Moving Up Ceremony.

What cutoff dates should students be aware of?

- The cutoff date for the completion of service is 5/22/24.
- The cutoff date for the submission of the Project Log and Reflection is 5/23/24.
- **These cutoff dates are not flexible.**

How can I find out about community service opportunities?

Opportunities will be announced and posted throughout the year. A list of suggestions is also posted in the Community Service section of the school’s website. A great place to start is inquiring at local houses of worship or non-profit organizations. Students can also ask the advisor for their grade.

How should I decide what kind of service I want to take part in?

Before volunteering, we recommend that you consider the following questions. These should help narrow down your choices so that you have a positive experience.

- o What issues matter most to me?
- o What would I most like to learn by volunteering?
- o Do I have any skills or talents that I would want to use in volunteering?
- o Do I want to do this alone or with my friends or with my family?

What is/ is not community service?

Community service is not something for which you are paid. Community service is a volunteer activity, outside of school hours, that benefits the greater community. Even though you may not be paid for working around your home, these tasks are not considered community service.

How can I be sure something will count as Community Service?

All community service activities need prior approval from WMS Community Service representatives. In addition, parent agreement is necessary before undertaking any community service activity. It is very likely that hours undertaken without prior approval will not count toward WMS Community Service recognition.

Who do I turn in my completed Community Service forms to?

Forms should be turned in to the office OR Mrs. Mauriello in Room 107.