

Service Learning Guidelines

Social Studies Department, Herndon MS

Fairfax County Public Schools' mission statement is to inspire, enable, and empower students to meet high academic standards, lead ethical lives, and demonstrate responsible citizenship. All students will understand and model the important attributes that people must have to contribute to an effective and productive community and the common good of all.

Students will:

- 3.1 Know and practice the duties, responsibilities, and rights of citizenship in a democratic society.
- 3.2 Be respectful and contributing participants in their school, community, country, and world.
- 3.3 Understand the purpose, role, and means of interaction with the different levels of government.

In order to meet all goals, Herndon 8th graders are required to perform twenty hours of service learning during the school year.

What is Service Learning?

- **Active participation in a *non-profit* activity that provides a service to the school and community.**

Service Learning Requirement

- Each eighth grade student at Herndon MS will perform service learning hours.
 - 10 hours per semester, 20 per year
 - Hours may not be carried over from semester to semester.
 - The hours required for each semester must be completed during the calendar days for that particular semester, as assigned by individual Civics teachers.
- Reflection- Each student will complete a reflection on how their experience relates to what they are learning in class.

Suggested Activities/Work locations:

- Coaching
- Day care centers
- Homeless shelters
- Libraries
- Neighborhood cleanups
- Nursing homes
- Participating in fun runs or charity walks
- Places of worship
- Schools (Elementary feeder schools, Herndon Middle activities)
- Scout projects
- Tutoring
- Volunteer Fairfax (<http://www.volunteerfairfax.org>)

Service Learning is not:

- Babysitting
- Family chores
- Performing any service for which payment is received.