

COMMUNITY SERVICE POLICY

MSAD #56 values education as a lifelong process, with a focus far beyond the confines of the traditional classroom. Its scope and its impact are global; and its greatest value is service. Therefore, community service is a required component of each student's education.

COMMUNITY SERVICE PROCEDURES

All MSAD #56 classes, K-8, shall adopt at least one class service project each year.

Each high school student, 9-12, shall perform a minimum of sixteen (16) hours of community service as a graduation requirement. Students are strongly encouraged to accumulate four (4) hours or more per year until the minimum is met. These hours must be performed outside of school time.

COMMUNITY SERVICE GUIDELINES

1. The Searsport District High School community service graduation requirement is defined as a minimum of sixteen (16) hours of volunteer service that benefits the surrounding community life.
2. Each student will be assigned to a faculty advisor who will be responsible for approving and recording his/her project choices and updating the hours accumulated throughout the high school years.
3. A committee of faculty for each grade level will monitor the overall process of student status on a yearly basis. Guidance will receive a yearly update of projects and hours completed to record on the student's transcript.
4. Each student will receive prior approval and a community service form from his/her assigned advisor for a project choice. Advisors will have guidelines, project ideas, and a list of community based service organizations to assist them with project approval. Students can also get prior approval for a summer project.
5. Any concerns with the implementation or acceptance of any particular forms of community service will follow the appeals process, which consists of three steps:
 - A. Student's individual advisor
 - B. Searsport District High School principal
 - C. Superintendent/ Board of Directors

6. The individual student will be responsible for setting up the project, carrying it out, and returning the verification form to his/her advisor.
7. Upon conclusion of the student's project, the completed form will be validated by the advisor and placed in the class file.
8. Notification that service must be performed as a graduation requirement will be provided in three ways:
 - A. Student's individual advisor
 - B. Searsport District High School principal
 - C. Superintendent/Board of Directors

CROSS REFERENCE: IKF, Graduation Requirements

ADOPTED: May 10, 1994

REVISED: August 12, 2003