Community Service
All Students

"When I was a boy and I would see scary things in the news, my mother would say to me, "Look for the helpers. You will always find people who are helping."" - Fred Rogers

Community Service will continue to be a graduation requirement for all students in 27J Schools. During the pandemic the requirement may require students to complete their 20 hours of service while staying home and/or practicing social distancing. Our hope is that students will use this time to unite our broader community, to use this moment to learn from one another, to grow, or simply to become a helper.

We are relaxing the 27J Schools policy which requires students to work for a non-profit organization. Students should think of ways they can safely perform community service from home or volunteering in their local community. Students are encouraged to support their own families and communities. Below are some suggestions for students to consider.

- Teaching and supporting siblings who are homeschooling.
- Collect donations for a local charity.
- Performing acts of kindness and support for family members.
- Create mindfulness experiences and share them with classmates, family and friends.
- Check on a neighbor or community member.
- Create safe opportunities for social support and connection.
- Explore ways to connect and volunteer virtually.

27J trusts principals, teachers and parents to support students to always perform to the best of their abilities. We also trust and empower our students to complete no less than 20 hours of community service. Please send an email to your counselor describing your service experience. There is no need for verification or signatures. Make sure to indicate if you completed the requirement and describe what you did. Be sure to include how many hours you performed and a description of what you did.

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Do you have other thoughts on how to safely and responsibly lend a hand during the COVID-19 pandemic? Share your thoughts with Paul Francisco: pfrancisco@sd27j.net