

# WANAQUE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## Haskell School

SAMANTHA NASH, M.A.  
DIRECTOR OF CURRICULUM

ROBERT MOONEY, M. A.  
SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

KENNETH DOOLITTLE, M.A.  
PRINCIPAL

---

Dear 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Parents/Guardians,

Our Social Studies curriculum includes a community service component for our upper grade students. Community service is any activity or service performed without compensation. The students have discussed the requirements at length in class. The following is an overview of the program. Please read the information, discuss it with your son or daughter, and return the signed portion to your child's Social Studies teacher.

### *Rationale*

Service Learning/Community Service as a requirement in public school has merit in its early development on the concept of volunteerism and the ongoing need for community volunteers. Here in Wanaque, we would not have the services of fire and rescue squads without volunteers. Without volunteers other community organizations would not be able to offer their sizable contributions such as scouts, public library, senior citizen centers, just to name a few.

Middle school students in Wanaque are expected to take part in community service as part of the regular school program in increasing amounts as they move from sixth grade to eighth grade. We anticipate that the experience of community service will enable students to make informed choices as they move to the high school.

### *Goals of Middle Service Learning/Community Service Program*

- Increase awareness of community needs
- Foster sensitivity to others
- Develop a sense of responsibility beyond the self to the family and the community
- Enhance the sense of each student's own effectiveness
- Develop the habit of community service
- Demonstrate how middle school students have an impact on the community
- Address aspects of the statewide initiative in the area of character education

### *Basic Requirements*

- A school year consists of July through June
- Community service performed for other organizations (e.g., church or synagogue, scouting, etc.) count toward the hours required by the school.
- Sixth graders.....10 hours of service per school year
- Seventh graders.....15 hours of service per school year
- Eighth graders.....20 hours of service per school year

*How Service Learning/Community Service Works*

- Attached are examples of approved community service, if the student chooses to perform a service that is not on this list they must have that service pre-approved by the student's Social Studies teacher.
- Each project must be approved by the parent.
- The service must be performed without compensation.
- The student will complete his/her project and document the service on the Community Service log (attached) by June 1 of that school year.
- A reflective assignment will also be assigned

Sincerely,

Kenneth Doolittle  
Principal

**COMMUNITY SERVICE**

**I have read and understand the Community Service project requirements.**

**Student Name** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student Homeroom** \_\_\_\_\_

**Student Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Parent Signature** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

---

## **Some Approved Community Service Opportunities**

All Humane Animal Rescue  
American Cancer Society: Relay for Life  
American Red Cross  
BASS Animal Shelter  
Best Day Foundation  
Community Food Bank of New Jersey  
Community Soup Kitchen and Outreach Center of Morristown  
Crohn's and Colitis Foundation of America: NJ Chapter  
Friendship Circle of NJ  
Games Galore in Wayne (through Jersey Cares)  
Girls on the Run  
Go the Distance for Autism  
Habitat for Humanity  
Highlands Family Success Center  
Highlands Nature Friends  
JDRF Diabetes Foundation  
Jersey Cares  
Knights of Columbus  
Lakeland Health Care Center  
Lakeland Lax  
Lupus Foundation of America- NJ Chapter  
Mahlon Dickerson Reservation Trail Maintenance JORBA (Jersey Off-Road Bicycle Association)  
Make-A-Wish Foundation  
Mary Therese Rose Fund  
New York-New Jersey Trail Conference  
Project Sunshine  
Religious Organizations  
Room to Read  
Safety Town Program at Wanaque Public School District  
Saint Claire's Health System Volunteering (Denville, NJ)  
Scouts (Boy or Girl)  
Special Olympics New Jersey  
Special Wishes Foundation  
St. Anne's Soup Kitchen in Newark  
St. Mary's Food Pantry  
Stella Riding Therapy in Pompton Plains  
Sterling Forest Trail Building with JORBA (Jersey-Off Road Bicycle Association)  
Strengthen Our Sisters  
The Seeing Eye  
The Sharing Network  
The Wanaque Center  
Wanaque Borough Schools  
Wanaque Public Library  
Wanaque Recreation Sports and Camps  
West Milford Animal Shelter  
Winslow Therapeutic Center (Warwick, NY)  
YMCA