

# CORNWALL

CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT



*Striving for  
Excellence  
Every Day*

# Cornwall Central High School

## Community Service Initiative

August 21, 2019

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CCHS Principal

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ESSA/SEL Coordinator



# District Mission

*The Cornwall Central School District is committed to work together with the community to provide a secure and nurturing environment of diverse learning opportunities for all students.*

*It is our goal to help students achieve their dreams and aspirations and to prepare them to confidently face challenges while promoting strength of mind, body and character.*

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# Cornwall Community Connection

What impact do you think our students can make on the Cornwall Community?

Specifically, with 5,500 hours a year (minimum) of volunteer service, what impact could our community also make on our students?



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# Why Community Service?

- Survey of 264 admissions officers at U.S. colleges, 58% of admissions officers agreed that community service has a positive impact on a student's acceptance to their college or university. Community Service shows commitment and value of community.
- Even more importantly, 53% said that community service was a tie-breaker between equally qualified students.
- This means that if a spot at your dream school comes down to you or another student — and your GPA, test scores, and strength of schedule are similar — it could be your community service experiences that give you the nod.
- For students not on a college path, it allows for a resume builder as well as the opportunity to be exposed to various paths that could lead to a career interest.

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# Why Community Service?

## **The top reason colleges valued community service:**

- Viewed as an indicator that the student is likely to be active in student social life outside the classroom.
- The second highest scoring reason was that it is viewed as an indicator that the student is likely to contribute to the school's mission.
- Third highest reason was that it was an indicator that the student shares the school's values
- All three responses were supported by more than two-thirds of the surveyed officers.

-Forbes Apr 5, 2018



# Why Community Service?

## Every Student Succeeds Act

- College, Career and Civic Readiness Index
- Score is based on a range between 0-2.0
- For our Regents/Local Diploma students, instead of a 1.0 score, we could have them earn a score of 1.5 with this new initiative
- For all students - improvement in all ESSA accountability indicators
- Future indicators from ESSA will track student success in college

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# Why Community Service?

## Social and Emotional Component



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Self-Awareness - recognizing strengths, self-confidence

Self-Management - goal setting, self-discipline, self-motivation

Social Awareness - perspective taking, empathy, respect for others/community

Relationship Skills - communication, social engagement, relationship building, teamwork

Responsible Decision Making - Identifying problems, solving problems, reflecting, ethical responsibility

***Community Service embeds SEL into the fabric of the whole child without taking away from classroom time***

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# Why Community Service?

## Benefits

- Gaining New Skills
- Adding to the Resume
- Giving Time
- Showing Responsibility
  
- Allows our students real-life exposure and opportunities to collaborate with others in various situations, to practice soft skills such as successful communication and skill building opportunities.
  
- Builds student interest in new areas which could better prepare them for college and career.

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# Examples of Possible Opportunities

- Participation in any service project conducted by a service organization such as Scouts, 4-H, Key club, church, ect.
- Participation in a community service event such as Walk-a-Thon, Community clean-ups, or other fund-raising events held for the good of the community.
- Personal projects which benefit a member of the community or the community at large such as helping an invalid or elderly person (not a relative) with household chores, visitation to a nursing home or other facility to perform services for a resident, volunteer work in a community institution (library, hospital, etc.), tutoring younger students on a regular basis, or similar projects to benefit others.

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# Examples of Non-qualifying Activities

- Membership in service organization (without participating in service activities).
- Participation in any activity for which an individual receives compensation.
- Service as a teacher's aide during school time.
- Membership in the school band sports team or drama production. (These activities are highly encouraged for personal gain and experience, but do not qualify as community service.)
- Court-ordered community service or school-ordered service.

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# High School Graduation Requirement

- Every Cornwall High School Student will be required to complete a minimum of 20 hours for graduation.
- At least ten (10) of which would be done during the students junior and/or senior year. This would also include the opportunity for summer service.
- Community Service will be broadly defined to include experiences ranging from formal, credit-bearing service learning to non-academic community service, such as volunteering at agencies or clean-up activities. This includes service done within and outside of school.

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# Implementation

- Class of 2023 and Beyond - 20 Hours
- Class of 2022 - 15 Hours
- Class of 2021 - 10 Hours
- Class of 2020 - 5 Hours

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# Community Service Recognition

In an effort to recognize students who go above and beyond in giving back to the community, CCHS will recognize students for completing 200 Hours of Community Service.

This distinction will be celebrated in the Spring of their Senior Year.

Some examples of this recognition include: Volunteer Breakfast, Designation on Diploma, Designation on Class Profile.

This provides an opportunity for recognition for ALL types of students regardless of strengths in Academics or Athletics.

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# Communication to Students/Families

Students entering Grades 9-12 will be notified of this requirement, to start the 2019-2020 school year.

Parents will be given more information via School Messenger and at upcoming Open House and Parent Night events at CCHS.

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## Questions or Comments?

