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Community Service/Service Learning Component
For CP and Honors American History

It is the goal of any effective Social Studies program to provide a thorough civic education through promotion of active citizenship. Community service is a vehicle through which students can facilitate a positive change in their community. In essence, they are using their social-political participation skills to better the overall community. The most important facet of a community service-learning project is that it fosters in students a lifelong desire to learn and help those around them.

Objective:

Your goal will be to select one community or national organization and work with that organization to impact positive change.

Guidelines for an acceptable organization:

The following organizations are examples of acceptable organizations for community service projects:

UNICEF	Somerset Hills Adult Daycare Red Cross
VA NJ Healthcare System, Lyons	Habitat for Humanity
The Food Bank of Somerset County	Green Peace
The YMCA Appalachian Service Project	

We will also accept a variety of activities as long as:

1. the activity promotes positive change in the community
2. there is a clear supervisor who can verify a student's efforts
3. the students are not paid for their efforts

Procedure:

1. You will select one organization and make contact to express your desire to help.
2. You must complete 25 community-based service hours for CP and Honors American History with your selected group and provide written documentation on the organization's letterhead (signed by a representative of the group). Please note that if you are working with a national group, they should have local chapters with which you can make contact.
3. Hours must be completed between May 1, 2010 and April 30, 2011.
4. You must complete and submit a service log of jobs performed.
5. Once you have completed the community service, you will reflect on your experiences and the organization you worked with during your course studies.
6. The 4th Marking Period grade for students who do not complete the community service hours, log or reflective piece will be lowered by one letter grade. Students may appeal to the Social Studies Supervisor or the Principal.