

COMMUNITY SERVICE REGULATION

The Brunswick School Board values learning that extends beyond the classroom. By investing themselves in community service, students extend the learning environment, enhance personal growth, and contribute to their community.

A. COMMUNITY SERVICE REQUIREMENT

Beginning with the 2006-2007 school year, Brunswick High School students will complete a minimum of thirty (30) hours of community service as a graduation requirement.

B. COMMUNITY SERVICE GUIDELINES

1. Definitions.
 - a. "Community service" is defined as service that benefits the surrounding community life.
 - b. An "off-campus privilege" is defined as the privilege granted high school juniors and seniors that permits them, when their first or last period class is a study hall, to arrive at school following that period or depart prior as appropriate.
2. Students are strongly encouraged to spread out their accumulated hours over the four year high school experience.
3. Implementation.
 - a. Students who are in 12th grade at the beginning of the 2006-2007 school year will be held accountable to the former requirement of twenty (20) hours of community service as a graduation requirement. These 12th graders may begin fulfilling the requirement during the summer before the senior year.
 - b. Students who are in 11th grade at the beginning of the 2006-2007 school year will also be held accountable to the former requirement of twenty (20) hours of community service as a graduation requirement. These students are encouraged to begin fulfilling their community service requirement during their 11th grade year with the intent that they complete the requirement prior to the second semester of 12th grade.

In the 2007-2008 school year, in order to be eligible for off-campus privileges during their senior year, these students must have completed at least ten (10) hours of community service.

c. Those students in the 10th grade in the 2006-2007 school year, as well as all those students entering Brunswick High School in 2006 and later, will be required to fulfill the new graduation requirement of thirty (30) hours of community service. These students may begin working toward this requirement at any time during their high school years and are encouraged to fulfill this requirement sooner, rather than later.

In order for these students to be eligible for off-campus privileges, juniors must have completed at least five(5) hours of community service and seniors must have completed at least fifteen (15) hours of community service.

d. Students transferring to Brunswick High School will be required to consult with the Service Learning Coordinator and their individual advisors to develop a plan to comply with the spirit of this regulation while taking into consideration the time available to the student to accomplish this requirement.

4. Each student will be assigned to a faculty member who will serve as a Community Service Advisor (usually the Homeroom Teacher). Each student is encouraged to consult with the Community Service Advisor while planning their projects. Students are required to report their progress to their Community Service Advisor. The Community Service Advisor may also give prior approval for service projects to be completed during the summer.

5. Students are encouraged to select community service opportunities from the Service Learning web sit (http://www.brunswick.k12.me.us/bhs/academics/service_learning). Students who choose to work independently or with organizations *not* listed on the web site should consult with the Service Learning Coordinator to ensure that the time spent on those activities will be creditable toward the graduation requirement.

6. Certain job shadow opportunities may compliment the spirit of this requirement while also directly satisfying career objectives suggested by the Maine Learning Results. To the extent that these opportunities exist, pre-arranged and approved job shadow experiences may be used to fulfill up to ten hours of the thirty hour requirement.

7. The Community Service Advisor will be responsible for validating a verification form (see exhibit IKF-E), recording student project choices, updating the hours completed throughout the high school years, and maintaining the verification forms in the student's file.

8. A formal, reflective, written summary of a student's service experience is a recommended concluding component of the community service requirement. Given the nature of some service projects, however, the Community Service Advisor or Service Learning Coordinator may require this reflective piece after certain service projects.

9. Notification of the community service requirement for graduation will be provided in the following ways:

a. The Service Learning Coordinator or designee will make a presentation about the community service requirement and opportunities to eighth grade students during the spring of each school year.

b. The Service Learning Coordinator or designee will make a presentation about the community service requirement and opportunities to ninth grade students during the ninth grade orientation program each year.

c. The Service Learning Coordinator or designee will send a letter or include a written announcement as part of the September Brunswick High School newsletter from the principal each year.

d. Each student's individual advisor should make contact with assigned students at least annually to monitor progress.

e. The requirement will be published in the Brunswick High School Course Guide.

10. All students are encouraged to contribute and document beyond the thirty (30) hours of community service, if desired, to demonstrate the finest qualities of volunteerism.

ADOPTED: 6/14/06