

## **Summer Community Service Guidelines: 9th Grade**

### What are the expectations?

Myers Park's IB freshmen are required to complete a total of 35 hours of community service. Students may begin working on their community service hours in the summer prior to entering 9th grade. However, no more than 15 hours from summer will go toward fulfilling the requirement of 35 hours. In August, we will publish the final due date to complete the 35 hour requirement. Remember: Commitment, being involved with others and giving of your time and talents is what community service is all about, not counting hours!

### How do students keep track of their hours?

Students use the online program, ManageBac, to track their progress, reflect on what they have accomplished, enter evidence, and document their hours.

During the school year: Before beginning an activity or project, students enter a description of the activity in which they plan to participate in their ManageBac account. After they have entered this information, set their personal goals and checked off their targeted learning outcomes, their advisor must approve the activity.

Summer hours: Freshman will not have access to their new ManageBac accounts until school begins. Therefore, freshmen must save the necessary contact information (including the name, email address and phone number of the adult who supervises their community service activity), and enter it once they have access to their account. Their community service advisor will be able to approve their activities retroactively. Student **MUST** be supervised by an adult (not a family member) while completing service work. This person will verify the activity and hours. However, only a Myers Park advisor can approve the hours in ManageBac!

### What counts as community service?

The activity must be of a voluntary nature and provide a service to the community. During the school year, students receive community service opportunities through our e-newsletter, the IB Express. However, students are free to choose their service opportunities as long as they meet community service guidelines.

It is impossible to provide a list of activities that are acceptable. However, the essential question students need to ask themselves is, "Whose needs are being met?" The answer should be a needy individual, a humanitarian organization, the community, or the environment. "Need" is defined by the social benefit definition, not by "My mother really needs me to mow the lawn."

### What does not count as community service?

- \*Any activity in which you receive a tangible benefit or reward, such as money.
- \*Any school activity in which you will receive a grade or credit towards a grade.
- \*Helping a relative or friend with chores.
- \*Activities that promote a given religion do not count toward the service hour requirement. However, if an activity benefits others without proselytizing, then the activity will count (e.g. feeding the hungry).
- \*Activities cannot be passive (e.g. attending a lecture about meeting human needs).

If you have question, email Dr. Thomas at [r.thomas@cms.k12.nc.us](mailto:r.thomas@cms.k12.nc.us).