



Community Service Awards

Examples of “WHAT COUNTS”

This is a common but not comprehensive list of service activities.

If you have any questions about what may or may not be included, meet with or email Mrs. Parker (kparker@birmingham.k12.mi.us).

COUNTS	DOES NOT COUNT
Spending time at a nursing home with residents performing music, visiting, playing games or helping with meals.	Time spent preparing to volunteer and perform at the nursing home. Had lunch with a relative at a nursing home.
Community volunteer events completed as part of NHSocieties, SHH, any school or community club, or scouting group.	Club, troop meeting time (unless actively performing community service), fundraising to benefit the group, chapter hours.
Volunteering as a peer mentor, shadow visit Ambassador or Open House Tour Guide as directed by teacher or staff member. <i>There can be NO incentive provided with grades/extra credit as this is considered “payment.” *May NOT be performed during a student’s class time (PE, math, etc.).</i>	Class time spent on school activities with StuCo, showing a family member around the school over the summer or after school.
Serving as a tutor with BPS Saturday School or NHS Tutoring	Helping a friend or classmate with homework or to study for a test.
Participating in 5K (ie Strides for SOS 5K) as long as it is for a non-profit fundraising event either as a runner/walker OR as a volunteer to help out at the event. Please use integrity when reporting time spent participating as a runner/walker in a fundraising 5K.	Participating in a 5K that is not a fundraiser (for example “The Color Run”).



Time spent raising money for a cause (lemonade stand, etc.) also counts towards volunteer hours accrued).	Donating money to a cause. Donations and in-kind contributions (personal care items, cereal, sock drives etc DO NOT COUNT)
Time spent as a camp counselor at a day camp or sleep away camp. Time spent actively helping campers counts, approx 40 hrs per week at day camp and 70 hrs per week for sleep away camp.	Time spent sleeping, meals, freetime with other counselors.
Volunteering with youth groups for community projects (Habitat for Humanity, Motor City Mittens, Gleaners, Forgotten Harvest, etc.) or participating in service activities through a school club.	Being part of a leadership club, student council at school or as a member of a youth group/religious school. Meetings do not count.
Volunteer work with church, temple, synagogue Volunteering with children in Vacation Bible School or tutoring children in Hebrew may count as volunteer work.	Work with religious organizations that involves proselytizing (attempting to convert others to a particular faith), participation in religious rituals, or providing religious instruction does NOT qualify as community service (examples include: serving as an altar server, preparing or delivering sermons, assisting clergy with religious ceremonies, or teaching religious doctrine).
Volunteering at your church, temple, synagogue community fair, festival, or service event counts. (selling tickets, serving food/beverage, clean up, etc)	Lighting candles, singing/dancing/performing during a religious service, etc. does not count) Giving up your room/bed to host a missionary or other public sector worker does not count.
Babysitting in a faith-based nursery, daycare, women or men's shelter, or community center counts.	Babysitting for friends or family, or for any compensation.
Volunteering with a language club, or other school sponsored clubs - in the community - may count.	Hosting a foreign exchange student is a wonderful thing to do, but does not count as volunteer work..



Preparing and delivering food or other necessities to others in need as part of a volunteer position with a community based organization counts.

Helping a friend, family member, or neighbor in crisis is a wonderful thing to do, and often is the right thing to do; however, this help does not qualify as “volunteer work” in the community.