

VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD INFORMATION

Dear Parents,

Beginning this summer and throughout next school year, 5th and 6th students at the Intermediate School have the opportunity to participate in the President's Volunteer Service Challenge. This is a program created by the Bush Administration in 1992, and continued by the current Administration, designed to encourage young people to become more involved in their communities. Additional information can be obtained by visiting <http://www.presidentialserviceawards.gov>. Participation in this program is optional.

Any student who completes 50-100 hours of community service in a 12-month period will receive a Volunteer Service Award from the White House. The Award includes a pin specially designed by the White House (gold for 100 hours, silver for 75 hours, or Bronze for 50 hours), and a presidential certificate.

One full year is allowed to meet the required number of hours to earn the award. If a student is to receive the award for the 2013-2014 school year service must be completed by early to mid-May of 2014. If the hour requirement has not been met by this date, the student has the option of continuing service through June 20, 2014 and submitting documentation by June 21, 2014. The award would then be given to the student in September of 2014.

Services that qualify for this award include volunteering with community or religious organizations, service through school or community service-learning projects, or individual efforts to help others and improve the local community. Many scouting activities would qualify. Services that do not qualify include any activity for which the student is paid money or received other compensation, fundraising, lobbying, or proselytizing (converting others' religious beliefs, political party, etc.). Possible volunteer activities and organizations are listed on the back of this paper.

Services that qualify for this award must take place outside the student's family unit. For example, tutoring a younger brother or sister would not count. Planting a garden outside the student's own home would not count however planting a tree in a park would through a community organization.

A volunteer service log sheet can be downloaded from the Intermediate School website or are available in the main office. Students who choose to participate should turn in their log sheets to school each quarter (around the time of report cards) so the information can be transferred to the master list. All hour sheets should be submitted to your child's classroom teacher.

Should you have any questions, please contact Mrs. Doubrava in the Intermediate School office.

Thank you!

POSSIBILITIES of Places to Volunteer (but not limited to):

Intermediate School Make a Difference Day October 26

American Cancer Society

Food Bank of the Southern Tier

American Red Cross

Arnot Ogden Hospital

St. Joseph's Hospital

Arctic League

YWCA

Big Flats Community Center

Science & Discovery Center

Cornell Cooperative Extension

Horseheads Youth Bureau

Libraries: Horseheads, Big Flats, Steele Memorial Library

Horseheads Dog Shelter

Horseheads/Big Flats Legions

Other suggestions: church activities, posted suggestions from Health class.

Please note: unacceptable volunteering would be: helping a neighbor with no pay, going to work with no pay, shoveling, mowing a lawn, working concession, anything that you are TOLD to do by another group.

