

# Barrington High School Student Volunteer Program

## F.A.Q.'s

### **How many volunteer hours do I need in order to graduate?**

None. The only requirement for volunteer hours at BHS is for National Honor Society (NHS) applicants and members. Laura Turngren (Science Department), [lturngren@barrington220.org](mailto:lturngren@barrington220.org), is the NHS advisor, and can answer any questions you may have regarding NHS membership. In addition, If you are enrolled in the Harper Promise program, Harper's community service requirement is five hours during SECOND semester of freshman year, ten hours during sophomore year, 15 hours during junior year and twenty hours during senior year. The hours you volunteer for the Harper Promise program are also eligible for BHS volunteer credit.

### **I've heard that I can get school credit for volunteer hours. Is this true?**

Yes. For every 30 approved volunteer hours you document,  $\frac{1}{4}$  credit will be added to your transcript, up to 120 hours for a full credit. So, 30 hours =  $\frac{1}{4}$  credit, 60 hours =  $\frac{1}{2}$  credit, 90 hours =  $\frac{3}{4}$  credit and 120 hours = 1 full credit, accumulated over four years of high school. This credit cannot be used toward graduation requirements. It is strictly extra credit. You are encouraged to continue volunteering beyond 120 hours. You may qualify for an award or for increased scholarship opportunities, which would both require documentation of your service.

### **What types of volunteer activities are approved for school credit?**

Anything on the BHS published list of [Student Volunteer Opportunities](#) is approved for school credit. This list can be found on the BHS website, [www.barrington220.org/bhs](http://www.barrington220.org/bhs) as one of the "Quick Links." They are also featured in the online daily announcements, and on a video screen outside of the Guidance Resource Center. All activities must take place outside of school hours, or during your free periods. Students can not receive volunteer credit for taking time off from school or class.

### **Are volunteering activities which are NOT on the BHS list eligible for school credit?**

Any volunteering activity which is not on the BHS list **must** be pre-approved to ensure that it will qualify for school credit. You must fill out a [Volunteer Activity Pre-Approval](#) form. Completed forms must be returned to the Guidance Resource Center. ***Due to the issue of verifiability, no volunteering may take place in a private home, including the student's own home.***

### **How do I report volunteer hours?**

You can report your volunteer hours by completing a [Volunteer Time Report](#) and having it signed by the adult sponsor of the activity, along with their printed name and phone number. Because volunteer hours accrue towards transcript credit, signatures of family members will not be accepted, nor will paperwork with the number of hours crossed out and changed. Forms are available in the GRC, and online via the Counseling Department website. ***If your community service was performed outside of the Barrington area, please bring a letter on the***

***sponsoring agency's letterhead describing your activities and when they were performed. Please add your student ID number and class year.***

***Can I get volunteers hours for helping a club or a sports team here at BHS?***

NO. Any hours that are volunteered at the high school for a club or a sports team are considered "school service" hours. These hours look great on a High School Resume but do NOT qualify as "Community Service" hours. We encourage and appreciate all volunteering, however, not all service will be approved for Community Service hours for your high school transcript. Hours *can* be earned for volunteering for non-profit sports and clubs that assist elementary and middle school aged students (groups that include high school age will not apply). If you have any questions, prior to doing service, complete the Volunteer Activity Pre- Approval Form or see Mrs. Horcher in the GRC.