

Horseheads Intermediate School VOLUNTEER SERVICE AWARD INFORMATION

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Beginning this summer and throughout next school year, 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; in this case, hours accrued between July 1 and June 30 will count toward the award. If a student is to receive the award prior to the end of this school year, service must be completed by early to mid- May. If the hour requirement has not been met by this date, the student has the option of continuing service through June 30 and submit documentation by July 10. The award would then be given to the student in September of the following school year.

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.).

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 may also use their own log sheet so long as hours and necessary signatures are met. Please note that a signature is required for each activity the student completes. This signature should be a person from the organization where the service was performed. 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. You will find dates for quarterly log turn in the Intermediate School Newsletter as each quarter is drawing to a close. All hour sheets should be submitted to your child's classroom teacher.

Should you have any questions, please contact Ms. Kim Malone in the Intermediate School office at (607) 739-6366 or kmalone@horseheadsdistrict.com.

Thank you!

