

Instruction

Student Volunteers and Community Service

The CREC schools/programs are committed to preparing its high school students for active participation in community affairs through a student service learning program. Student service learning is defined as an unpaid activity within the school or outside community that provides service to an individual or group to address a school or community need. The activity must be developmentally appropriate and meaningful to the student.

Service learning is aimed at teaching skills and habits the CREC Council perceives as essential for good citizenship. Service learning strives to allow students to develop a wide range of personal, intellectual, academic and social skills such as teamwork, problem-solving, negotiation, communication, planning and evaluation. Service learning will help students become effective employees, colleagues, citizens and leaders.

Through participation in student service learning, a student will have opportunities to:

- become sensitive to others and appreciate cultural diversity;
- overcome barriers among children;
- develop knowledge and respect for community and citizenship;
- learn that problems can be solved by working together;
- learn the responsibilities involved in citizenship;
- explore career opportunities;
- increase self-esteem and appreciation for others.

To participate in service learning a student must be at least fourteen (14) years old and have received prior approval from the school principal/program designee or designee. Student volunteers shall not be left unsupervised with students and/or children. Within the school, student volunteers shall be supervised by a staff member at all times they are around students and/or children. In the outside community, where feasible, student volunteers should be supervised by a staff member when they are around students and/or children. If it is not feasible for a staff member to supervise a student volunteer in the community, staff must arrange for an adult over the age of twenty-one (21) to supervise the student volunteer around students and/or children.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-221a (h) High School Graduation Requirements

Herndon v. Chapel Hill - Carrboro City Board of Education, 899 F. Supp 1443 (M.D.N.C. 1995)

6141.42

Immediato v. Rye Neck School District, 873 F. Supp 846 (S.D.N.Y. 1995)

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