

                 August 14, 2017

Dear KHS AVID Parents,

 Welcome back to another productive semester!  Last semester, students were required to complete 10 hours of community service.  This semester they will be required to complete another 10 hours of community service.  Community volunteerism is a valuable character-building investment.  Through the volunteering of their time to worthy causes, students will not only gain new skills, such as leadership skills, but they will also gain new perspectives and compassion for others.  Along the way they will also become more well-rounded human beings and learn to be active members of their community.  This aligns perfectly with the AVID program’s mission statement which seeks to ensure that all AVID students become responsible participants and leaders in a democratic society.

 In addition, the time students spend on their community service will increase their chances of being accepted to the four-year college of their choice.  More and more, colleges and universities are looking for well-rounded students who have a well-documented history of community volunteerism.  A student who is able to include community service on their college applications will be more eligible for acceptance than a student who cannot.

 In AVID class, students will also be awarded points for the completion of this requirement.  It will be a significant part of their overall class grade.  Ten hours is only a minimum.  It is highly recommended and encouraged that students volunteer as many hours per semester as possible.  Having said this, some clarification should be made as to what constitutes as community service and what does not.  Below you will find some examples:

Community Service:

* volunteering time at a soup kitchen (ie: Grace Resources)
* collecting clothes or hygiene items to donate to a homeless/domestic violence shelter
* collecting pet supplies (ie: toys, beds, etc) to donate to a pet shelter
* volunteer time at a nursing home
* volunteer to do office work for a ***non-profit*** organization
* volunteer to help out at a local elementary school’s after-school program

**NOT** Community Service:

* babysitting
* working for a retail store (ie: Target, WalMart, PetCo, restaurants, etc)
* working at a doctor’s office (private practice)
* working at your parents’/guardians’ place of business

These are only some examples.  If your student has thought of something not on the above list, please check with me first before they invest their time, as not all activities can be accurately categorized as community service.  Should you have any questions about this, feel free to contact me via e-mail at akramer@avhsd.org or phone (661) 533-9000 ext 123.

Sincerely,

Ms. Kramer

**Please sign and return bottom portion by August 18, 2017**

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Student Name (Print)                      Student Signature                                Parent Signature