

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

A Secondary School Graduation Requirement

Community Involvement

Students who begin secondary school must complete 40 hours of community involvement as part of the requirement for an Ontario Secondary School Diploma.

Purpose

The purpose of Mandatory Community Involvement is to encourage students to develop an understanding of the various roles they can play in their community and to help them develop a greater sense of belonging within the community.

Key Elements

To achieve the mandatory 40 hours of community involvement – students may choose to:

- Help their community
- Help their neighbours
- Help their school

Keep in mind that community Involvement is:

- To be completed outside scheduled class time
- Not to be part of a credit course
- An unpaid activity
- To be completed after finishing Grade 8
- To occur in a safe environment
- Not to misplace workers

Roles and Responsibilities

Sponsors in the community:

- Individuals and organizations may be asked by the student to sponsor a community involvement activity
- Any training, equipment, or special preparation that is required for the activity should be provided by the person or organization
- It is crucial that students are able to fulfill their requirements in a safe environment
- The person overseeing the student's activity must verify the date(s) and the number of hours completed on the "Completion of Community Involvement Activities" form

Students:

- With the help of their parents/guardians, students will select an appropriate activity
- Students must complete and submit their "Completion of Community Involvement Activities" form as directed by the school

Parent/Guardian

- Parents/guardians should help their child select community involvement activities
- Parents/guardians are also encouraged to contact the community sponsor and the school with questions or concerns
- A Parents/guardians must sign the "Completion of Community Involvement Activities" form if their student is under 18

Secondary School Principals:

- Principals are responsible for sharing information with parents, students, and community sponsors
- Principals are responsible for ensuring that the completed Community Involvement Hours are entered on the students' official transcript

Eligible Activities

The activities listed below are approved by Trillium Lakelands District School Board for the completion of the community involvement requirement:

- Help the elderly, sick, isolated, disabled or disadvantaged in an organized setting or on an individual basis
- Work for non-profit organizations
- Serves as a youth leader
- Work for service clubs, community organizations and church groups
- Tutor/Mentor
- Provide child care
- Work in a public sector (e.g., Community Policing, Hospitals, Schools, and Libraries)
- Community development and beautification
- Environmental concerns
- Ambassadorship
- Work for political parties/causes
- Coach, referee, score keep

Ineligible Activities

In addition to the Ministry of Education's List of ineligible activities Trillium Lakelands District School Board does not permit the following:

- Activities involving the handling of weapons or firearms
- Activities which would go against the school Code of Conduct or the Ministry of Education Safe Schools Policy

Certain conditions and placements are considered inappropriate by the Ministry of Education. The list includes activities that:

- Are already a requirement of a class or course in which the student enrolled (e.g. cooperative education, job shadowing or work experience)
- Take place during class time; however during lunch breaks or 'spare' periods is allowed
- Would normally be performed for wages by a person in the workplace
- Take place in a logging or mining environment, if the students are under 16 years of age
- Take place in a factory if the student is under 15 years of age
- Take place in a workplace, other than a factory, if the student is under 14 years of age and is not accompanied by an adult
- Involve the operation of a vehicle, power tool or scaffolding
- Involve the administration of any type or form of medication or medical procedure to other persons
- Involve handling substances classified as 'designated substances under the occupation Health and Safety Act
- Require the knowledge or a tradesperson whose trade is regulated by the provincial government
- Involve banking or the handling of securities (stocks/bonds) or the handling of jewelry, works of art, antiques or other valuables
- Consist of duties normally performed by the student in the home (ie. daily chores) or personal recreational activities
- Involve a court ordered program (e.g. community service program for young offenders, probationary program)

For further information, Contact:

City of Kawartha Lakes Area:

IE Weldon Secondary School, Lindsay, ON
705-324-3585

Lindsay Collegiate & Vocational Institute, Lindsay, ON
705-324-3556

Fenelon Falls Secondary School, Fenelon Falls, ON
705-887-2018

Haliburton Area:

Haliburton Highlands Secondary School, Haliburton, ON
705-457-2950

Muskoka Area:

Bracebridge & Muskoka Lakes Secondary School,
Bracebridge, ON
705-645-4496

Huntsville High School, Huntsville, ON
705-789-5594

Gravenhurst High School, Gravenhurst, ON
705-687-2283

Adult and Alternate Education Centres
705-324-5280



www.tldsbc.ca

1-888-526-5552