

Pleasant Valley High School Service Learning Requirements

Welcome to Pleasant Valley! Service-Learning is an academic requirement of Pleasant Valley High School. Service-Learning is a method of teaching and learning that improves academics and develops personal skills through meeting community needs.

Incoming Freshmen

- 30 hours must be completed by May 1st of your sophomore year for your Freshman/Sophomore requirement.
- You may begin your service hours the summer after 8th grade.
- Try to choose an activity that you are interested in.
- Remember to have your service approved before you begin.

How do I complete my hours?

- Every location needs to be approved prior to service. Check out the Service Learning website for a listing of pre-approved opportunities.
- Non-profit (is required to have a 501(c)3 status)
- Community cause or event
- Individual with a need (elderly, disabled, etc.)
 - Cannot be for a family member
 - Service Learning coordinator needs to call and determine if it would be approved or not.
- **The final step of completing hours is to turn in the paperwork with signatures to Service Learning Office.**

Utilize the Service Learning Website

- The Service Learning website can be found on the PV High School website.
- Service Learning handbooks are found on the website under Paperwork & Forms.
- Up to date calendar of service learning activities.
- Paperwork and forms can be printed off of the website.
- Local opportunities based upon topic with contact information.

Important Things to Remember:

- Check the bulletin board and website for upcoming pre-approved volunteer opportunities
- Remember to have your parent/guardian sign the agreement form, as well as the supervisor sign the forms when hours are completed. It will not be accepted without the proper signatures.
- A parent or relative cannot sign off as the supervisor.
- **Turn in all paperwork to the Service Learning Office during the semester it is performed – it will NOT be accepted if it is turned in late.**
- The portal is only updated quarterly.
- You will receive .5 credit for your freshman/sophomore hours and .5 credit for your junior/senior hours
- Try to choose a volunteer opportunity that you have some future interests in – this could help you find what you want to do in your future!

I look forward to meeting you and helping you in any way I can to make this a great experience for you. If you have questions, please feel free to visit me in my office, call 563-332-5151 or email jepsenemily@pleasval.k12.ia.us.

Emily Jepsen, Service-Learning Coordinator

“Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, that’s the only thing that ever has.” - Margaret Mead