

September 2018

Dear Middle School and High School Students:

Port Jefferson School District has a long, proud history of volunteer service. Our volunteers are working to meet the needs of their neighborhoods and the community by volunteering in many different capacities.

In recognition of these outstanding achievements, Port Jefferson School District is proud to announce the availability of the President's Volunteer Service Award, a prestigious national honor offered in recognition of volunteer commitment. Established in 2003, this award is given by the President of the United States and honors individuals who have demonstrated a sustained commitment to volunteer service over the course of twelve months.

The President's Volunteer Service Award is issued by the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation, created by President George W. Bush, to recognize the valuable contributions volunteers make to our nation.

Recognizing and honoring volunteers sets a standard for service to others. It encourages a sustained commitment to civic participation. This award is a way to inspire people to contribute to their communities through volunteer service and to make volunteering a central part of their lives.

"Our volunteers should strive to earn the President's Volunteer Service Award every year," said Mr. Obama. "Even if you've never volunteered before, the Award is within your reach. In fact, the strength and success of our nation depends on every one of us taking an active role in the community where we live."

To participate and earn the PVSA, please record your hours of service throughout the year. Keep a journal of activities serving your neighbor, school, and community on the attached service record form. Service completed from **May 1, 2018 through April 30, 2019** should be recorded. Please fill the forms out completely as the administrator must be able to verify the hours of volunteer service with an adult contact.

Any type of volunteer service hours to your school, church and community will count as certified hours toward the Presidential Volunteer Award requirements. Any paid activity, any activity done for relatives, and any meetings that do not include actual service do not count as volunteer time. Please check the website for a complete listing at **www.PresidentialServiceAwards.gov**.

To be eligible for this prestigious award for the 2018-2019 school year, all volunteer hours must be submitted to your Principal's Office no later than Wednesday May 1, 2019.

Eligibility:

Hours are measured over a 12-month period and awards are designated based on cumulative hours. The awards are offered in multiple levels and are designed to recognize each milestone of your service achievement. Levels include bronze, silver, gold and the highest honor, the President's Lifetime Achievement Award for those who contribute more than 4,000 hours of service in their lifetime.

There are three levels of Presidential Volunteer Service Awards for each age category.

Students age 11-15:

BRONZE AWARD	50-74 hours
SILVER AWARD	75-99 hours
GOLD AWARD	over 100 hours

Students age 16 and older:

BRONZE AWARD	100-174 hours
SILVER AWARD	175-249 hours
GOLD AWARD	over 250 hours

Award recipients receive:

- an official Presidents Volunteer Service Award medal
- a personalized Certificate of Achievement
- a note of congratulations from the President of the United States
- a letter from the President's Council on Service and Civic Commitment

The sooner you get started the sooner you can qualify for this prestigious award. This nationally recognized award will be an impressive addition to your school record and college application.

To learn more and find out how to qualify for the Award contact Jackie Hull, our Award administrator, at jackiehull36@aol.com or visit www.PresidentialServiceAwards.gov.