

President's Volunteer Service Award 2023/24 Guidelines

(PVSA is sponsored by the Port Jefferson MS/HS PTSA)

Congratulations on your decision to apply for the PVSA! We highly recommend you read through this packet in its entirety and contact us immediately with any questions or concerns you may have before you start earning hours.

This award acknowledges students who volunteer their time to community service from which they do not benefit personally or financially. The purpose of community service is to renew your commitment to help others, and to make new connections that bring us closer together as neighbors, as communities, and as a nation. The goal is to recognize and honor volunteers who set a standard for service, encourage sustained commitment to civic participation, and inspire others. You will be asked to document your service activities between **August 1, 2023 to July 31, 2024**.

There are three age categories with the following required hours for award levels.

KIDS (Age 5-10 as of 01/01/24)

Bronze: 26 - 49 hours

Silver: 50 - 74 hours

Gold: 75+ hours

TEENS (Age 11-15 as of 01/01/24)

Bronze: 50 - 74 hours

Silver: 75-99 hours

Gold: 100+ hours

YOUNG ADULTS (Age 16-25 as of 01/01/24)

Bronze: 100 - 174 hours

Silver: 175 - 249 hours

Gold: 250+ hours

Please use the official and required log to clearly print and properly document your hours which will be considered and reviewed by a committee appointed by the PTSA. The log is attached to this packet. The committee will consider and verify all hours of service. The signature of a certifying representative from the organization is to account for your time, but does not guarantee approval of hours. Parent signatures are not considered adequate. Provide as much detail as possible to help the committee determine if the hours qualify for the PVSA. If you are unsure if your service qualifies, please **text Brenda Batter 631-252-3007**. You may use the Earl L Vandermeulen high school community service hours log found on the school website for all the details. However, please indicate the hours and organizations on the attached log so the committee can easily find the information. Please make copies of the log as needed, keep copies of the documents for your records. **You will need to submit separately to the high school your service hours required for graduation.**

All service logs are due by August 18, 2024. Please scan and send to brendabatter@gmail.com.

Examples of Community Service

- Walks for Charity: A 5K is a 1-hour service unless additional activities are specified (i.e., setup, booth duty, cleanup) Attach a copy of your registration form and your race number
- Beach/Community clean ups
- Dickens Festival
- Performances for nursing homes, hospitals or charitable organizations.
- Any Senior Citizen performances
- School Musical/Play - If you are NOT a member of a club and helped in the musical, then the hours count. Lighting, Sound, Ushering, and Stage Crew count as service.
- Marching Band parade performances
- Hair Donation – One hour maximum with proof
- Animal rescue and adoption events
- Fostering a dog or cat; hours must be pre-approved from PTSA in advance.
- Alter Server
- School Clubs that involve planning and participating in community service (i.e.: Student Council/Government, Art Honor, Kids Clubs, etc.)
- Soup kitchen assistance
- Coordinating or working a charitable drive
- Religious activities that benefit the community – no proselytizing
- Scouting activities that benefit the community – each activity separated with description and dates specific to each event
- Window painting in PJ Village / Scare Crow design and building
- Services related to any community awareness play or program
- Attendance at Board of Education or Civic Association meetings is acceptable if the student attended for a community service reason, and NOT for a club requirement.
- If you do not see your activity here – please get in touch with the PTSA at pjptsa@gmail.com to ask if what you are planning on doing counts.

Examples NOT acceptable as service hours

- Any performance, sports competitions or activity for the benefit of a Not-for-Profit organization, in which the earned money goes back to the Production Company or production costs.
- Activities done for able-bodied people such as: moving, painting, lawn care, cleaning and babysitting (children and/or pets).
- Any hours volunteered for a competition (i.e., Dance).
- School Musical rehearsals/performances for performers
- All school club general meetings that do not involve planning or participating in community services. School clubs cannot sign off on hours unless the service was directly related to the club. Any service hours arranged through the club for another organization must have proper paperwork from that organization.
- Marching Band performances during festivals and football games
- Tutoring or instructing of students for pay and/or tips
- Selling anything for fundraising purposes (i.e. sports, booster clubs, scouting, etc.) If you log hours for a booth sale where the proceeds were donated and/or used solely for community or volunteer service projects, proof of that donation must be submitted to be able to receive service. Sorting of any kind of products for your troop OR the Service Unit will not be accepted (i.e., cookies, nuts, popcorn, etc.).
- Lip Sync or Talent Shows performances, if a student performed in the show. If a student volunteered time (i.e., setup, cleanup, etc.) and did not perform in the show, then it counts.
- Services required for participation/membership in a course or club. (i.e., chorus/band requires students to play at certain functions during non-school hours, student government requires students to attend a certain number of hours of PTA/BOE meetings, dance studios require students to assist with younger classes).
- School clubs are an activity not a volunteer service (i.e., yearbook club, any school newspaper position).
- Travel time to or from any service activity
- Volunteering over an extended period, in or out of state or country; breakfast, lunch, dinner, play & sleeping time are not accepted
- Purchasing anything for donation purposes, (i.e. do not submit any type of receipt with your log).
- "Volunteering" at your family's business
- Donations, any and all.

Presidential Volunteer Service Award Log

Name: _____

Name of Organization and/or Event	Complete Description of Service Performed. Tell us "What makes this a Community Service"	Date(s) of Service	Total # of Hours	Organization Certifying Representative:
				Name: _____ Title: _____ Signature: _____ Email: _____
				Name: _____ Title: _____ Signature: _____ Email: _____
				Name: _____ Title: _____ Signature: _____ Email: _____
				Name: _____ Title: _____ Signature: _____ Email: _____

Total number of hours: _____