

FATHER LEO J. AUSTIN CATHOLIC SECONDARY SCHOOL

40 HOUR COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

As stated in Ontario Secondary Schools,
Grade 9 to 12; program and Diploma Requirements, 1999 (OSS)
every student who begins secondary school during or after the 1999-2000
school year must complete 40 hours of community involvement activities
as part of the requirements for an Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD).

GUIDING PRINCIPLE

40 hours of required Community Involvement will encourage student to develop:

- ◆ civic responsibility
- ◆ a greater sense of belonging within the community
- ◆ links and contacts within the community
- ◆ continued voluntarism following the 40 hours of Community Involvement

KEY ELEMENTS

- ◆ Must be completed outside scheduled class time.
- ◆ Must not be part of a credit course
- ◆ Must be unpaid activities
- ◆ Must total 40 hours
- ◆ Must be completed by the end of Grade 12.

MAKE YOUR CHOICE

Think about the type of Community Involvement you would like to do. You may wish to:

Help Your Community:

- ◆ through placement in a structured community - based volunteer organization - Hospital, Churches, Service clubs or Libraries
- ◆ take part in environmental initiatives - cleaning and recycling operations, park cleanup, planting trees and flower beds (students should not use power tools - lawn mowers, hedge trimmers, wood chippers, etc)
- ◆ get involved in charitable activities - walk-a-thons, daffodil sales, canvassing for organizations, celebrity games, gift wrapping, gala events.
- ◆ coach sports teams - community leagues, parks and recreation programs
- ◆ undertake a leadership role to help community groups-guides or scouts, 4 H club
- ◆ assist with literacy initiatives - at local libraries, day care centres, community centres
- ◆ arts and culture - assist at a gallery, performing arts production or program
- ◆ religion activities - participate in programs for children, child minding, Sunday School assistant
- ◆ assist at a seniors' home/centre - visit, read, play cards or board games, crafts, take seniors for walks
- ◆ help organize local community events

HELP YOUR NEIGHBOURS:

- ◆ by providing service to seniors - raking, shovelling, shopping, visiting, reading, meal preparation
- ◆ assist a neighbour with childcare - in cases of exceptional need..
- ◆ tutor younger students - read, take to library, help with homework

HELP YOUR SCHOOL:

- ◆ school - based community involvement activities that are not tied to an academic credit and are open to any student e.g. organize blood drives
- ◆ help in the library - shelving books, tidying up, changing bulletin boards
- ◆ tutor other students - help with homework, review, assist students with special needs - peer buddy
- ◆ assist with planning of arts or athletic events - publicity, set up for track meets, sell tickets, attend coat check, offer technical support, coach sports teams, run skill drills, assist coach
- ◆ facilitate school events such as parent information nights - meet and greet visitors, give guided tours, serve refreshments
- ◆ assist with environmental activities - recycling, planting trees and flowers, groundskeeping
- ◆ participate in charitable initiatives - food drives, holiday drives for toys or food

INELIGIBLE ACTIVITIES:

- ◆ requirement for a course in which student is enrolled
- ◆ takes place during instructional time
- ◆ duties or obligations performed at home
- ◆ personal recreational activities
- ◆ activities for a court-ordered program (e.g. probation)
- ◆ babysitting, except in cases of exceptional need which has been pre-approved by a Guidance Counsellor
- ◆ work for payment
- ◆ work normally done for wages by another person