

STUDENT SERVICE PROJECTS

Christian service is an integral element of our Catholic life and of our educational programs. Students, in an age appropriate manner, should be introduced into the practice of providing service to others.

Schools may establish requirements of service for students in grades 8 and above.

When a school organizes or sponsors an opportunity for service, the same diligence that is called for in the policy for field trips is to be applied to service projects. Policy 5134.1a for elementary students and policy 5234.1b for secondary students outline the appropriate preparations for service projects that will take place away from the school property.

When students are expected to fulfill service projects on their own, appropriate guidelines are to be given to parents. Parents should be reminded to approve any individual service project their child wishes to perform. They should verify both the transportation arrangements to the project and the supervision their child will receive while performing the service. This advisement should be included in the parent/student handbook as well as any specific notice of service requirements sent to parents.

Schools may prepare lists of generic types of service projects students might use to fulfill their service requirements, but should refrain from endorsing any particular project or program unless the service opportunity is under direct school supervision, as noted above.

Policy adopted: September 1, 2000

NCD/Bishop of Harrisburg