

## **Service Learning**

The board recognizes that service-learning combines service with specific learning goals that are determined ahead of time, and measured during and at the end of the service. It is a teaching and learning method that allows youth to apply their academic knowledge to problems or issues in their community. Service-learning is the balance between learning and service that meets real needs.

To encourage students to actively participate in service-learning experiences, the district will recognize student service-learning by requiring the student to conduct a service-learning project as a requirement of graduation. The student shall complete a twenty (20) hour minimum service-learning project to be conducted during the class designated by the school site. Civics class is an example. The student may not complete the project outside the guidelines or duration of the designated class. A Supervised Agricultural Experience (SAE) may be the only exception to this policy guideline. The service-learning project will be recorded on the student's official transcript.

Service-learning recognition will not be available for any activity for which the student receives compensation, community service outside the designated classroom experience, or for community service ordered by the court.

The Board supports the integration of service-learning activities within the K-12 curriculum as it enhances learning in all subject areas. The Board encourages staff to collaborate with local public and nonprofit agencies in order to develop service-learning activities that meet educational objectives; objectives that relate to community efforts to meet human, educational, environmental or public safety needs.

Adopted: September 2007

LEGAL REF.: C.R.S. 22-32-137 (*local boards encouraged to adopt a policy to encourage students to engage in community service or service-learning and to recognize their contributions to their communities*)