

## **Service Learning at GJHS**

At GJHS, we believe that every student should dedicate some quality time to serving other students or members of the Grand Junction community. Therefore, in addition to completing the required classes for graduation, **all students attending GJHS must also complete a Service Learning (SL) requirement.**

The focus of SL is to recognize and promote the value of serving other students or our community. It also enables students to learn through experiences in and outside of the classroom. The components of our SL requirement are:

- 1) Students must complete **a minimum of thirty (30) hours** of service learning instruction/ activities. The hours may be completed during the school year or during the summer.
- 2) Students are required to complete eight (8) hours per year through required course work during their freshman, junior, and senior years and the Reflection Paper during their senior year. This year, three of the four major content areas will incorporate eight (8) hours of service learning into their year specific courses as follows: 9<sup>th</sup> grade – Science – GeoPhysical Science; 11<sup>th</sup> grade – Social Studies – US History; 12<sup>th</sup> grade – Literature electives. This progression allows students to pick 8 hours of the SL credit in the classroom in three of their four years in high school. These hours of service learning are normally assignments or projects that support the existing curriculum and align with the core national standards.
- 3) Students who **exceed the thirty (30) hours** of SL and complete one hundred (100) hours plus the additional number of hours in their graduating class, ie. **A senior in the Class of 2013 completes 113 hours** or more of SL, will be included in the **Millennium Club** and recognized during their commencement ceremony. If this is your goal, let your counselor know by March of your senior year.
- 4) Students will complete a **final “Reflection” project** which demonstrates what they gained from their service learning experience. This project could take the form of a written paper, speech, poem, artwork, or any other acceptable means of expressing thoughts.
- 5) **Projects outside the classroom must be approved in advance** by the student’s advisor / administrator.
- 6) Students will **submit a verification form(s)** signed by the student and the volunteer supervisor to document completion of their hourly requirement. Periodically we will check with the volunteer supervisors to verify the accuracy of the information provided by the students for hourly credit.
- 7) The **completion deadline** for the 30 hours of service learning and the “Reflections” project is **not later than the last day of make-up exams for seniors.**