

SUBJECT: SERVICE LEARNING

The mission of the Elmira City School District is to prepare students by providing opportunities to allow them to realize their full potential as life-long learners and contributing citizens in our democratic society. In partnership with students, parents and community, we are committed to helping each student use their unique abilities to acquire the problem-solving skills necessary to actively meet life's challenges and create opportunities as they responsibly build their own and the world's future.

Service Learning is a teaching method that combines meaningful service to the community with curriculum based learning. Students improve their academic skills by applying what they learn in school to the real world. Beginning with the 2007 high school cohort, Elmira City School District students must complete 50 hours of service learning as a graduation requirement.

Students may begin accruing hours after completing grade 7. Hours of service learning will be tracked in the student information system by hour and curriculum area. Service learning experiences will also be recognized in various forms of media.

It is the expectation that this policy be implemented for ninth-graders commencing in September 2009.

Adopted: 8/30/06

Revised: 2/4/09