

June 30, 2010

Dear Students and Parents,

This letter is to inform you of certain guidelines for qualification for the President's Volunteer Service Award. This award is given to any student who completes the qualifying number of volunteer service hours in one service year. Students may submit hours and qualify for one of three awards each year they attend Immaculate High School.

Ideally student service hours for the PVSA program would all be completed through community outreach entities, such as Habitat for Humanity, Dorothy Day or CT Special Olympics. True community service is that which reaches out into the community and might take a volunteer out of his/her comfort zone. These are only a few of the many worthwhile *non-profit* organizations that need and would be grateful for your help. More can be found on the Immaculate High School website. Just click on the Student heading and then PVSA to find them.

We started the previous paragraph with the word 'ideally' because we all want to strive for the best. However, we as a committee understand that there might be certain needs that you, a student, can help out with that are closer to home.

We have instituted a policy of allowing service hours to *for profit* businesses or organizations but are limiting them to a total of 15 hours per service year. This is done with the intent of encouraging your growth as an individual to look outside of your comfort zone for ways to be of service to your community at large. We also want to address hours done in service to the Immaculate High School community *outside of school hours*. These will now be limited to 25 hours of your total hours accumulated per service year.

We hope that this letter helps to clarify PVSA policies set by Immaculate High School and you are clear as to what is expected of you if you wish to be acknowledged as a President's Volunteer Service Award winner. As in the past, individual issues will still be dealt with on a case-by-case basis. Remember, whether you reach the gold, silver, or bronze level of service hour completion, you are a winner for reaching out to others and giving of yourself.

Thank you,

IHS Recognition Committee

P.S. More information, forms, etc. can be found on the IHS website. Please utilize this valuable resource.