Student Service Learning (SSL) in MCPS



Activator -

Type what comes to mind in the chat box.



Middle School Student



High School Student

Developmental Characteristics

Middle School

Physically active

Shorter attention span

Peer driven

Easily motivated with explicit directions

High School

Active with additional abstract thinking skills

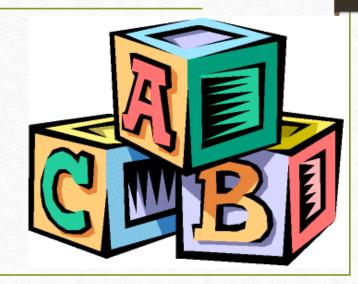
Longer attention span

Personal philosophy

Independence and responsibility

*Adapted from The Training Toolbox: A Guide to Service-Learning Training -- Maryland State Department of Education

The ABCs of Student Service Learning



What is Student Service Learning (SSL)?

Curriculum-based learning and academic study

Practical experience addressing real community needs

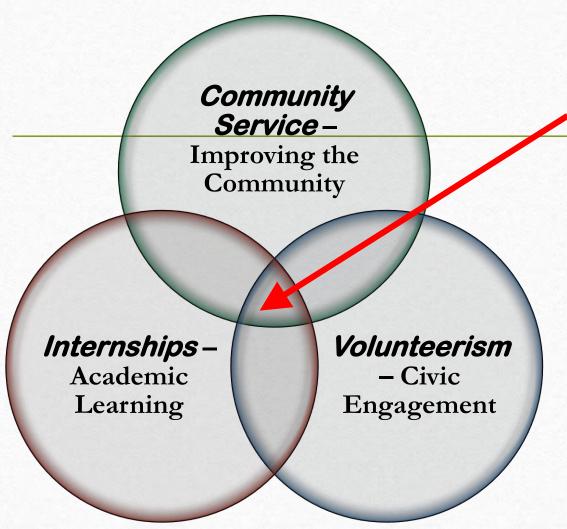
Student Service Learning Civic knowledge and engagement

Character and social development

BeWell365 Essential: Character Education and Empathy



What Sets Student Service Learning Apart?



Student Service Learning is an instructional strategy that combines meaningful service to the community with curriculum-based learning, providing students with opportunities to apply what they learn in school to the real world as active, engaged citizens.

Student Requirements for SSL

- ✓ SSL is a state graduation requirement
- ✓ MCPS students must complete **75 SSL hours** for graduation
- ✓ MCPS students may begin to work on this graduation requirement the summer after completing grade 5
- ✓ Students continue to accrue hours throughout middle and high school



How Can Students Earn SSL Hours?

Specific Academic Courses

- Grade 6 Science (10 hours)
- Grade 7 English (10 hours)
- Grade 8 Social Studies (10 hours)
- High School Social Studies Course National, State, and Local (NSL) (15 hours)
- High School Health (5 hours)
- High School Electives (5+ hours)

Non-Profit Agencies

- Approved SSL opportunities with MCPS SSL Organizations through the Montgomery County Volunteer Center (MCVC) website
- Complete MCPS Form 560-50 for approval to serve with a non-profit agency that is not an MCPS SSL Organization

The Role of Community Organizations



Participation with Community Organizations



- All SSL must be completed under the supervision of a registered non-profit community organization
- For-profit nursing homes and assisted living facilities are the only exceptions to the non-profit rule. All SSL activities must directly support the patients/residents of these facilities.

Facilitating High-Quality Student Service Learning

Preparation

Gain knowledge and skills needed for service Learn about the community and the importance of active citizenry

Plan ahead for service-learning, and frame the experience

Action

Meet a recognized need in the community

Develop student responsibility

Teach real-world, transferable skills

Reflection

Reflect throughout the service learning experience Engage in thoughtful contemplation and evaluation Provide authentic feedback about impact

Considerations for SSL Opportunities



Post service
opportunities for
MCPS school staff
members to
complete with their
student groups
and/or classes – all
the benefit without
the extra paperwork!

Maryland's Largest School District

MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS MCPS SSL Organizations

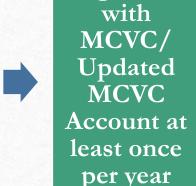
The Volunteer Center website links to all of the Organizations that meet MCPS guidelines

Organizations and opportunities that meet MCPS guidelines are identified with an MCPS SSL graduation cap icon.



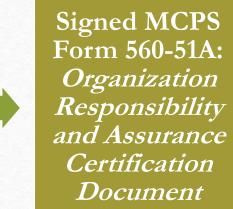
Organizations identified as MCPS SSL have done the following:

Obtained official tax-exempt status from the IRS or registered nonprofit status



Registered

Attended an orientation at the Volunteer Center where the MCPS SSL guidelines were explained (every three years)



Provided a description of the work of student volunteers for review and approval by MCPS

Business Relationships

SSL opportunities may not

be used to increase the revenue for a private, for-profit business

replace a paid staff worker of the participating organization compensate students with money, goods, or services, such that the service learning opportunity is performed in expectation of both the SSL credit and compensation

Service with Religious Organizations

Approved for SSL	Not approved for SSL
Address a recognized need in the greater community	Prepare for or participate in a religious service
Serve the wider public beyond organization membership	Membership mailings, congregation websites, or any activity that does not include the general public
Provide secular curriculum and programming	Tutor or classroom assistance in a congregationally-based program
Provide childcare for meetings that meet the above requirements	Provide childcare for a religious service



Organization Responsibility and Assurance Certification Document

MCPS Form 560-51A: Organization Responsibility and Assurance Certification Document

Organization Responsibility and Assurance Certification Document



District.

Olive of Student Back Plants Support Back Supplements Support Survive Laboratory

August 2018

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MCPS SSL Organizations agree to:

- 1. Provide activities that are secular in nature
- 2. Advise students of the need that will be addressed, overall expectations, and safety information
- 3. Cover the SSL phases of preparation, action, and reflection
- 4. Supervise all activities in public spaces, not at private residences, in vehicles, or with a parent or relative
- 5. Prohibit door-to-door neighborhood canvassing opportunities or telephone solicitation

MCPS SSL Organizations agree to:

6. Evaluate student performance at regular intervals and share results with the student

7. Maintain log and verify service on MCPS Form 560-51: Student Service Learning Activity Verification

- 8. Award 1 SSL hour for every hour of service, no longer than 8 hours in a 24-hour period
- 9. Comply with all federal, state and local laws that forbid discrimination based on race, creed, sex, age, disability or natural origin
- 10. Prohibit verbal abuse, threats, physical violence, or sexual harassment directed at others

For Organizations that are MCPS SSL:

No site visits or background check by MCPS or MCVC personnel

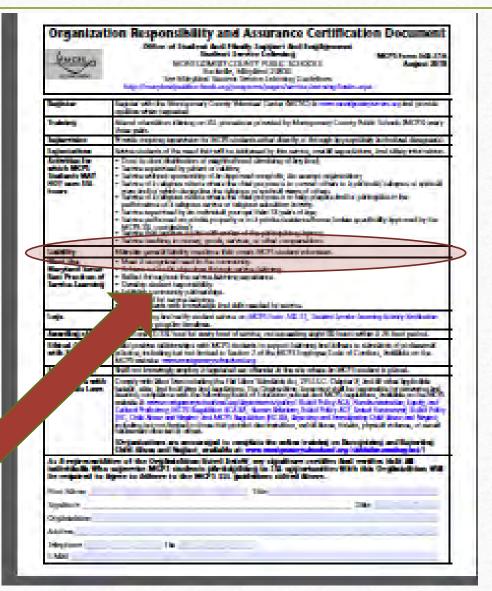
Parents and guardians may contact individual organizations to verify safety and background check information

Parents and guardians are responsible for determining if an organization's opportunity is appropriate and safe for their child(ren)

MCPS Form 560-51A: Organization Responsibility and Assurance Certification Document

Please note the conditions you and your organization are agreeing to upon signing.

Make special note of the liability line that states that you are responsible for maintaining general liability insurance that covers MCPS student volunteers.



MCPS Form 560-51: Student Service Learning Activity Verification

are hosting a large event with many volunteers.

Please complete Section II in full.

Student Service Learning Activity Verification

Office of Student and Family Support and Engagement.

MONTGOMERY COUNTY PUBBLIS SCHOOLS

MCPS Form 560-51

August 2018

STUDENT INSTRUCTIONS: Complete Sections I and III of this form legitly in blue or black link. The neopposit Lax exempt organization completes Section III. Documentation of all service is due to the school based SSL coordinator according to specific timelines. In order to be reflected on the shaderils report card each sensities, students must sutemile MCPS form 500-51, Student Service I tempolities. In order to be reflected on the shaderils report to service completed during the summer—Recommended by Last Friday in September

Service completed during the summer—Recommended by Last Friday in September

Service completed during the summer and 1st semester—Recommended by First Friday in lanuary

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ALL SSL Forms to solvice completed any time during in exament school verge included by the summer before the current school year are REQUIRED to be submitted to the school SSL coordinator no later than the first Friday in lanuary

SECTION I. STUDENT INFORMATION—To be completed by the supervisor — the phases of pre-service and and action have occurred.

Print Period Teacher

First Period Teacher

First Period Teacher

First Period Teacher

First Period Teacher

First

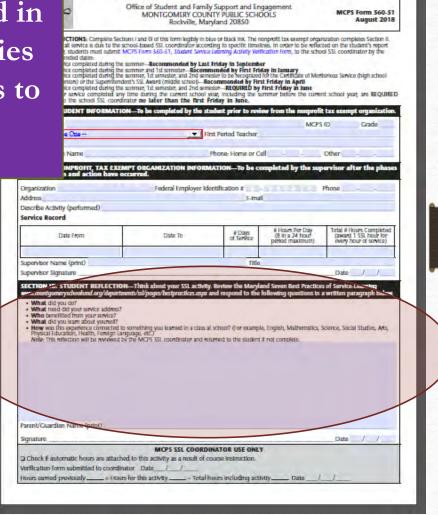
Organization	Federal Employer Identification # Phone			# Days (8 in Set Day (8 in 2 A bout of Service (9 in 2 A bout of Servi	
Address	E-mail			Date /	
Describe Activity (performed)					. activity. Review the Maryland Seven Best Practices of Service-Learning ces.ospx and respond to the following questions in a written paragraph in
Service Record					a class at school? (For example, English, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies,
Date From	Date To	# Days of Service	# Hours Per Day (8 in a 24 hour period maximum)	Total # Hours Completed (award 1 SSL hour for every hour of service)	or and relumed to the student II not combists.
Supervisor Name (print)		Title			
Supervisor Signature				Date / /	Date /

MCPS Form 560-51: Student Service Learning Activity Verification

Please build in opportunities for students to reflect.

- What did you do?
- What need did your service address?
- Who benefitted from your service?
- What did you learn about yourself?
- How was this experience connected to something you learned in a class at school?

Note: You do not need to review or evaluate a student's written reflection on this form.



Student Service Learning Activity Verification



Next Steps

- ✓ Sign the MCPS Form 560-51A: Organization Responsibility and Assurance Certification Document and email to Donna Kleffman as soon as possible
- ✓ Ensure "What We Do" on organization page generally describes activities for student volunteers
- ✓ Post Opportunities with specific details when recruiting volunteers
- ✓ Communicate any questions or concerns to Donna Kleffman at 240-740-4691 OR <u>SSL@mcpsmd.org</u>

MCPS SSL Status on MCVC Website



MCPS SSL Icon



Organizations on the MCVC Website

Must include a general description of possible activities for student volunteers in the "What We Do" section

Opportunities on the MCVC Website

Must include a specific description of tasks assigned to volunteers in the "Description" section

Sample "What We Do" on Organization page

"There are many student volunteer opportunities at the fire station. We host an annual Open House, Santa Runs, various parades..."

Who We Are

Glen Echo Fire Department is part of Montgomery County, Maryland's fire service. It's located in west Bethesda, near Friendship Heights. Glen Echo is a combination career/volunteer station that runs an ambulance, an engine, a paramedic chase car, and an ATV. There are five career personnel at the station at all times, and volunteer shifts of up to seven people bump up the staffing on evenings, weekends, holidays, summer break, etc.

Glen Echo Fire Department's primary response area consists of zip code 20816 and portions of 20817 and 20815, though its units are frequently dispatched further afield.

What We Do

Glen Echo runs roughly 2,400 calls a year. Our most common dispatch is "injured person from a fall," but we run everything from car crashes to heart attacks to overdoses to cardiac arrests.

In addition, Clen Echo participates in a number of community outreach activities, such as event stand-bys, CPR classes, and birthday parties.

There are many student volunteer opportunities at the fire station. We host an annual Open House, Santa Runs, various parades in the communities we serve, as well as CPR instruction, attendance at community events, signing up new volunteers, Spring Cleaning, and community outreach programs.



Sample "What We Do" on Organization page

"...helping to groom, feed, and clean up after them. Note that kennel work can be completed by student volunteers..."

Who We Are

Hero Dogs, Inc., a Maryland 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation, improves quality of life for our nation's heroes by raising, training, and placing service dogs and other highly skilled canines, free of charge with lifetime support of the partnerships.

Hero Dogs staff and volunteers train dogs to assist Veterans and first responders with physical limitations and/or mobility issues, hearing loss, mental health disorders, or combinations of these. A Hero Dog reduces their partner's reliance on other people by doing tasks that the partner cannot do alone. A dedicated service dog can give their partner the confidence and support to travel outside the home independently, (re)join the workforce, and accomplish the everyday tasks of living.

What We Do

Hero Dogs staff and volunteers train dogs to assist Veterans and first responders with physical limitations and/or mability issues, hearing loss, mental health disorders, or combinations of these. Volunteers help:

- * raise and sit pupples from when they are about 2 months old until they are 16 18 months old, take care of the dogs in advanced training at the Hero Dogs kennel by exercising them and helping to groom, feed, and clean up after them. Note that kennel work can be completed by student volunteers,
- * help at events and with fund raising and occasional work days.



Sample "What We Do" on Religious Organization page

Who We Are

Epworth United Methodist Church is a multi-cultural congregation offering multiple varied worship opportunities each week in both English and Spanish. Outreach and community service are important parts of the church's character, with service opportunities each month for adults, youth, and children. To that end, Epworth provides community service opportunities for Epworth youth and their friends to enable Epworth's teens to enjoy Christian fellowship and to serve God by addressing community needs. Epworth's goal is to allow youth to learn about needs in the community while actively addressing those needs and having fun in the process.

What We Do

Outreach and community service are important parts of Epworth's character, with service opportunities each month for adults, youth, and children. Student volunteers assist in Epworth's partnership with Manna Food Center to provide weekly "Smart Sacks" to a local elementary school, and with Gaithersburg HEEP by collecting non-perishable food and raising money to help hungry families in our community.



"Student volunteers assist in providing weekly 'Smart Sacks' to a local elementary school and...collecting non-perishable food and raising money to help hungry families in our community."

Sample "Description" on Opportunities page

Possible details to add:

- Hours/shifts
- Specific tasks
- Lunch options
- Proper attire

Anacostia Adopt-a-Block Cleanup



Sep 7, 2019



10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Description

Registration is required!! Register to volunteer by clicking HERE

Note: This event is weather dependent.

Date: Saturday, September 7, 2019

Time: 10:00 am - 12:00 pm

Meeting Location: We will meet outside Journey Anacostia, an art museum, located at: 1201 Good Hope

Rd SE, Washington, DC 20020 (Map)

Description: Volunteers will help AWS with a trash cleanup at our Historical Anacostia Adopt-a- Block site! By participating in this event, volunteers will help us to cleanup the community and prevent trash from going into the Anacostia River.

Physical Requirements: This event will likely involve lifting, bending, and walking. Participants will be expected to wear closed-toed shoes for the duration of the event. If you think any of the physical requirements will be problematic, please let us know.

Sample "Description" on Opportunities page

Peer Buddies Needed for Sports Program for Children with Special Needs at Judith A. Resnik Elementary in Gaithersburg

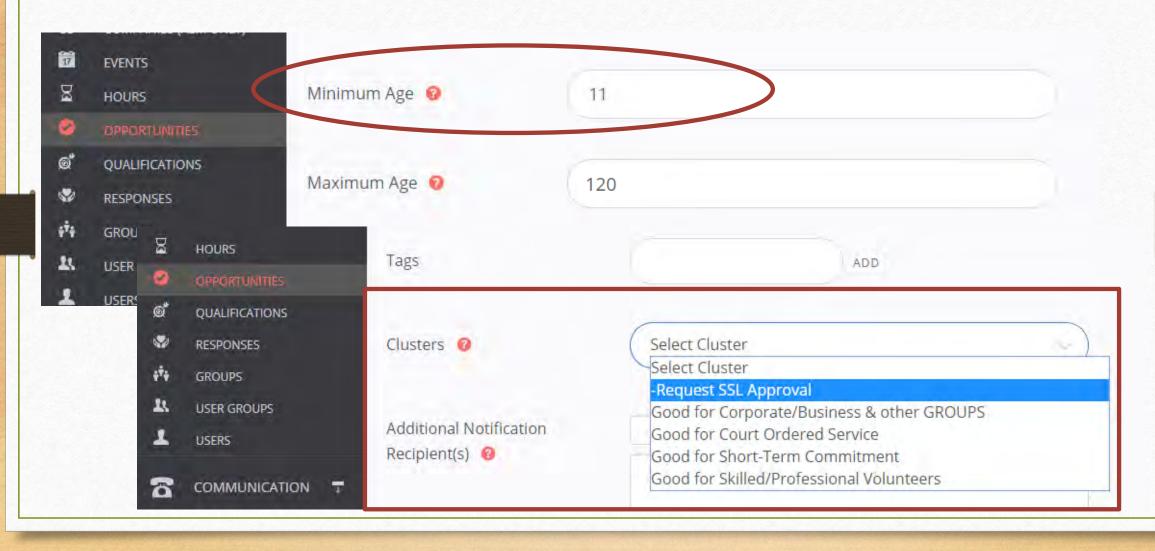
Paint a clear picture of the activity for students.

Description

Open Door Sports provides after-school sports programs to children with special needs and is looking for middle and high school aged peer buddies to volunteer their time to work with a player and help them find success on the field while enjoying the benefits of sports. The program is run by two coaches and the role of their peer buddy is to assist the players, allowing them to get the most out of their time playing. The program at Judith A. Resnik Elementary in Gaithersburg runs from 3:30 - 4:30pm every Thursday afternoon for a 7 week period beginning on September 12. The session ends on October 24. We prefer for peer buddies to commit to the entire 7 week session but are open to having them come for alternative schedules.



Requesting SSL Approval for an Opportunity



MCPS SSL Guidelines for Virtual/Remote Service



Process for Offering Virtual/Remote SSL until the end of the 2021-2022 School Year:

Opportunity posted on the MCVC website and tagged as MCPS SSL – address service, expectations, and safety information

reasonable
equivalency approved
by MCPS SSL office
(X number of items =
X number of SSL hours)

Review student evidence, determine hours, maintain log, and verify student service on student's SSL form

Examples of Virtual/Remote Service

Direct

(for community in need)

- Letters, cards, artwork for senior citizens
- Masks, PPE, gratitude for healthcare workers
- Sandwiches, bagged lunches

Indirect

(for your organization)

- Creating materials for organization
- Administrative/ clerical work
- Agency's website
- Providing student input

Advocacy

(for a cause/need)

- Research-based
- Flyers
- Social media posts
- Raising awareness about a cause or issue

MCPS Guidance for Virtual/Remote SSL

Guidelines for Student Safety	Not Approved for SSL
Students may only engage in virtual platforms with parent permission	Individual service not sponsored by nonprofit or MCPS staff member
Students may not directly communicate with anyone outside of the nonprofit organization	Service supervised solely by a student's parent/guardian or individual younger than 18
Students may not share videos, pictures, or images of themselves	Service that involves neighborhood canvassing or telephone solicitation
Students' personal information must be protected and not shared	Service that involves collection drives, donating items, fundraising, or fostering an animal from home

MCPS Guidance for SSL on Virtual Platforms

Nonprofit organizations must submit written agreement to adhere to the following:

- Parent/guardian provides written approval of the student's participation
- Nonprofit organizations accept <u>full responsibility and any liability</u> for a student's participation in any virtual platforms
- Students use <u>personal/private accounts</u> (not MCPS student accounts) to engage in virtual platforms
- Students may ONLY engage with others under the <u>direct supervision</u> of a nonprofit supervisor (including breakout rooms)
- Virtual sessions will <u>not be recorded</u>

Virtual/Remote and In-Person SSL

- Nonprofit-hosted virtual/remote MCPS SSL opportunities must be posted on the MCVC website and tagged with the blue MCPS SSL banner
 - Until the end of the 2021-2022 School Year
- Students may also continue to engage in **traditional MCPS SSL opportunities** offered in a public space under the direct supervision of a nonprofit representative, at the discretion of the student's parent/guardian
- Post <u>virtual/remote group opportunities</u> for MCPS school staff members to complete with student groups or classes (products, advocacy, awareness)
 - Mark as virtual, allow group registration, and request SSL approval

Sample Virtual/Remote SSL Opportunity

Write Letters and Create Art for Isolated Older Adults



These opportunities are generally great for volunteers of all ages, not just students.

MCPS SSL opportunities meet the Montgomery County Public Schools Student Service Learning guidelines. Use FILTERS to search by MINIMUM AGE, by

ZIP CODE and more! See MCPS SSL policies here.



- Select"Ongoing"
- Put "0" in Hours field
- Add Age Requirements
- Mark "Yes" for virtual

If you are interested in earning SSL hours for this activity, please let us know. Link Generations will review your letters and artwork and deliver them to isolated older adults. Please only include your first name in the letters and artwork and do not reveal any personal information such as your email address or home address in your letters or artwork. Also, please do not include any real-life pictures or images of yourself. Once we have reviewed your letters and artwork for quality submissions, we will award SSL hours according to the following equivalency:

- Two 1-page letters = 1 SSL hour
- 2 drawings = 1 SSL hour

Contact Lori@linkgenerations.org for more details.

Student participation in this service project is at the discretion of the student's parent/guardian. The nonprofit organization is responsible for maintaining student safety and privacy. The nonprofit organization will determine the number of SSL hours awarded based on the evidence submitted. Parents/guardians should contact the nonprofit directly with any questions and/or concerns. This service activity is designed to be completed within the safety of the student's home until schools resume normal status.

Sample Virtual Platform SSL Opportunity

KID Museum High School Apprenticeship Program



These opportunities are generally great for volunteers of all ages, not just students.

MCPS SSL opportunities meet the Montgomery County Public Schools Student Service Learning guidelines. Use FILTERS to search by MINIMUM AGE, by

ZIP CODE and more! See MCPS SSL policies here.



Until Sep 28, 2020



Each session is approximately 2-3 hours. total hours will vary by Apprentice. Specific duties for KID Museum apprentices will include: (In-Person) supplies and materials maintenance, (virtually) workshop facilitation and programming development. On-going training for apprentices will be held in a variety of contexts with museum personnel involved in programming, education, exhibits and

- Describe student expectations
- Supervised live service in virtual or public space – hour-for-hour
- Remote service from home requires reasonable equivalency
- Select "Runs Until"
- Enter Hours Description
- Add Waiver

Please note the following guidelines for student service through live virtual platforms:

- A student's parent/guardian must provide the nonprofit with written approval of the student's participation in the virtual platform prior to the student serving/volunteering.
- Students must use personal/private accounts (not MCPS student accounts) to engage in the virtual platform.
- Students will only engage with others under the direct supervision of a nonprofit supervisor. The nonprofit supervisor will be directly present in the virtual space (including any breakout sessions) at all times.
- The nonprofit supervisor will initiate and host all virtual sessions. If the nonprofit supervisor is not available to initiate and host the virtual session, the session will not occur.
- Virtual sessions will not be recorded.

Sample Virtual/Remote Group SSL Opportunity

School Art Club/Class Project: Handmade Art Journals for Cancer Patients Kits to Heart is a 5010



These opportunities are generally great for volunteers of all ages, not just students.

MCPS SSL opportunities meet the Montgomery County Public Schools Student Service Learning guidelines. Use FILTERS to search by MINIMUM AGE, by

ZIP CODE and more! See MCPS SSL policies here.

Kits to Heart is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit that gives curated cancer care kits to patients

and their loved ones. All are welcome, including cancer survivors.

- Describe nonprofit
- Detail service project and need
- Provide details for student/staff submission
- Ongoing
- Group Registration
- Virtual
- Request SSL Approval

Craft beautiful journals that recipients would be able to use as appointment planners, symptom trackers, or simply coloring books. Your journals will be included in our cancer care kits that are distributed to patients throughout Maryland and the U.S.

MCPS staff hosting SSL opportunities are responsible for ensuring that any virtual/remote service during this time maintains the safety and privacy of our students and adheres to the proper supervision and monitoring needed for SSL as a state graduation requirement. The MCPS staff member will determine the number of SSL hours awarded based on the evidence submitted. Parents/guardians should contact the MCPS staff member directly with any questions and/or concerns. This service activity is designed to be completed within the safety of the student's home until schools resume normal status.

Unity Through Community

Please feel free to email us at sslamcpsmd.org with any questions regarding the MCPS SSL program.

The virtual/remote service guidelines can be found at: https://bit.ly/VirtualSSLGuidelines

