Dear EPI Parent/Guardian,

EPI students are required to donate 50 hours of their time to help a worthy cause within our community as one of the stipulations for consideration for their EPI diploma.

For EPI Sophomores, and EPI Freshmen who are interested in getting a head start on their community service hours, are expected to volunteer for at least 10 hours with a business or agency associated with environmental or ecological science.

This encompasses a wide range of opportunities, including volunteering weekly with the El Camino Recycling Club for one-half hour. Other possibilities include, but are not limited to:

1. Hands on Sacramento: Sacramento region’s full service volunteer action center. See http://www.handsonsacto.org/

2. Effie Yeaw Nature Center: Carmichael’s award winning environmental and cultural education center. Volunteers provide an essential service to this non-profit group. See http://www.msa2.saccounty.net/parks/effieyeaw/Pages/default.aspx

3. American River Parkway Foundation: Each year the American River Parkway Foundation coordinates the efforts of hundreds of volunteers who contribute thousands of work hours to maintaining and improving the Parkway. See http://www.arpf.org/index.shtml.

4. City of Sacramento Volunteers: The City of Sacramento welcomes volunteers to help provide services and programs to its citizens. See http://www.cityofsacramento.org/volunteers/.

5. Ronald McDonald: The Sacramento Ronald McDonald House has a yard that needs to be maintained. Join them for their monthly outdoor work parties and help pull weeds, trim bushes, and pick up trash. See http://www.rmhcnc.org/how.php?page=2&sub=2.

Any hours beyond the initial 10 will carry over to the next year. Beyond the initial 10 science-themed community service hours, students are welcome to pursue other worthy causes. Please see the Community Service Form for more information.

Please help your son/daughter get started on the community service requirement as soon as possible. Thank you for your continued support. Parental involvement improves the quality of the EPI program dramatically.

Sincerely,

Ed Santillanes
EPI Program Coordinator
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