**Student Contract**

**Silver Cord Service Agreement**

To ensure that each student *fully reads* and *understands* what qualifies as Silver Cord service so there is no dispute over hours served, we ask students to read, sign and send this contract to Ms. Critelli (gretchen.critelli@dmschools.org), Virtual Campus’s Community School Coordinator.

**Program Guidelines**

* To earn the Silver Cord of Service, students must complete and submit documentation of 160 volunteer service hours by May 1st of their senior year. However, due to COVID restraints, students are only required to get 20 hours for the 20-21 and 21-22 academic years. Students are eligible to begin acquiring and submitting hours beginning the summer after 8th grade. In order to earn hours, students must complete the Silver Cord Verification Sheet and return it to Gretchen Critelli at [gretchen.critelli@dmschools.org](mailto:gretchen.critelli@dmschools.org) Students should use one form for each different activity.
* Hours submitted for the Silver Cord of Service must be in response to a ***clear need*** for a non-profit organization, church, school, charity fundraiser, or community event. However, if you are serving in the time of COVID you may do only 20 of your hours for family or friends during the 20-21 & 21-22 school years. Please refer to the What is Silver Cord sheet. The service should be considered “***above and beyond***” one’s usual scope of involvement.

Examples of **non-acceptable** service activities are:

* court-ordered community service
* service provided to a *for*-profit institution, organization, or business
* service for which students are being financially reimbursed or compensated in any manner
* travel time to/ from service activities
* personal services such as babysitting, sleeping, or personal recreation time during service hours
* using hours earned for other service-oriented clubs (for example, NHS)

**Important**: If there is a question about whether a specific volunteer experience meets the criteria for “providing a service” or “meeting a need,” students should seek pre-approval from Ms. Critelli.

I , \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_, verify that I have read and understand the above description of what qualifies for silver cord service hours to be accepted.

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Signature Date