



St. Benedict School  
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Dear Families,

I would like to introduce myself, my name is Lori McCahill and I am the Director of School Religious Education. I have had the honor of being the Religion teacher for various grades at St. Benedict. This year, I will still be teaching sacramental preparation for second, seventh and eighth grades. In my new role as director, I will be managing all community service hours and directing the religion curriculum for the school.

Community service for sixth, seventh and eighth grades is a component of epitomizing the Christian teachings of giving to those in need with compassion, respect and the values we emphasize at St. Benedict. To streamline the process of handing in community service hours, we will be utilizing an online service to track these hours called x2VOL. This will eliminate the need to always have a paper copy and have the task of searching for the community service leader to sign the paper or write a letter. Each student will have their own account tied to their St. Benedict email and grade level. When a student completes a community service project, they simply have to enter their community service project, hours, and the community service leader's email into x2VOL. This will prompt the system to send an email to the leader to verify the hours. Your student will no longer have to keep track of paper copies as the system will keep track of all their hours.

Community service hours needed for the grades are as follows(during a normal school year):

- Sixth grade - 5 Hours
- Seventh grade - 10 Hours
- Eighth grade - 10 Hours

**Due to Covid**, the community service hours have been adjusted as follows:

- Class of 2022 (current 8th graders)

A total of 15 hours is required (5 hours for 6th grade year, 0 hours for 7th grade year, 10 hours for 8th grade year). However, if a student still served the community during Covid, we would certainly accept the hours.

- Class of 2023 (current 7th graders)

A total of 20 hours is required (0 hours for 6th grade year, 10 hours for 7th grade year, 10 hours for 8th grade year). However, if a student still served the community during Covid, we would certainly accept the hours.

- Class of 2024 (current 6th graders)

A total of 25 hours for the three years, proceed as normal.

There are always ample opportunities at St. Benedict for students to complete their requirements. Our pastor, Father Garry has instituted a Father JM Community Service Award for an eighth grade student with the most community service hours and is a true model of Christian teachings. There will be a committee composed of Father Garry, Mr. Donahue, Mrs. Keeling, the homeroom teacher and myself to select the student who epitomizes a true Christian leader.

To ease the transition of signing the student's account onto x2VOL, Mrs. Lori Ulrich, our Director of Marketing, will be going into each middle school class to train the students to establish and manage their x2VOL account the week of Sept. 13.

Some guidelines going forward with community service hours are:

- If your student completed any community service **after** 6/1/21 then they will input the hours into x2VOL.
- If your student completed community service **before** 6/1/21 (current seventh and eighth graders), please submit your hours via paper form to me by Oct. 1 and I will input the hours for your student in x2VOL. The community service form is available on my teacher page [here](#).

As with anything new, we anticipate some "hiccups" with this transition. Please be patient with us as we implement the new system. Any questions or concerns, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Peace and Blessings,

Lori MCCahill

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