

Seven Lakes High School
Spartans Out Serving
GUIDELINES



WHY JOIN THE “SOS” PROGRAM?

- School Involvement
- School Spirit
- Serves as a Student Club
- Student Leadership Opportunities - *Officers, Event/Project Leaders*
- Recognition - *Scholarships and SOS Award Pins*
- Service Hour Opportunity Examples:
 - *SLHS New Student Registration, Bookroom, Fish Camp*
 - *Memorial Hermann Katy Hospital*
 - *Katy Christian Ministries, Katy Family YMCA, Katy Chamber of Commerce*
 - *Alzheimer’s Care Facilities (Autumn Grove Cottage, Colonial Oaks, Sunrise Assisted Living)*
 - *Ft. Bend or Harris County Public Libraries*
 - *Katy American Little League + Challenger Baseball*
 - *Neighborhood Community Events (Cinco Ranch, Grand Lakes, Seven Meadows)*
 - *Feeder Elementary and Junior High Schools*
 - *Non-Profit Organizations (walk-a-thons, homeless shelters, food banks, animal rescue/protection, etc.)*

GENERAL INFORMATION

As related to the Portrait of a KISD Graduate, KISD wants to instill certain knowledge and traits in every student so that upon graduation they enter society as well-educated, good citizens.

One way to accomplish this is to highlight the importance of giving back to the community. The “Spartans out Serving (SOS)” program has been designed to achieve this goal.

SLHS students participating in this district program will:

- Observe that learning takes place everywhere
- Explore learning on their own
- Become active problem solvers and critical thinkers
- Become a resource to their community
- Become adults with feelings, values, and beliefs
- See the school as a helpful part of the community
- See the disciplines taught in school integrated into life’s work

The outcomes from this program are:

- Communication skills
- Leadership skills
- Reliable working skills
- A sense of caring and belonging
- Awareness of community needs
- Ability to follow directions
- Possess realistic ideas about the workplace

SOS GUIDELINES (Revised 05/01/2008)

Freshmen, Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors will be recognized at the end of the school year and eventually graduation if they meet the established criteria.

Freshmen must complete a minimum of **10 hours** of documented community and/or school service hours. Hours must come from at least two sources of activities. All hours may be completed on site at SLHS. (Revised 05/01/2008).

Sophomores must complete a minimum of **20 hours** of documented community and/or school service hours. Hours must come from at least two sources of activities with no more than 30 hours from one activity or recurring event. **Service hours on site at SLHS will be limited to 10 hours.** (Revised 05/01/2008).

Juniors must complete a minimum of **40 hours** of documented community and school service hours. Hours must come from at least two sources of activities with no more than 30 hours from one activity or recurring event. **Service hours on site at SLHS will be limited to 10 hours.** (Revised 05/01/2008).

Seniors, wishing to earn a graduation honor cord, must complete a minimum of **60 hours** of documented community and school service hours. Hours must come from at least two sources of activities with no more than 30 hours from one activity or recurring event. **Service hours on site at SLHS will be limited to 20 hours.** (Revised 05/01/2008). Journal entries for each activity are now required for Seniors. (Revised 09/01/2007) The forms may be downloaded from the web page.

- Annual membership dues of \$6.00 are payable at the beginning of the school year. The Membership Form is available to download from the SOS website - they will also be available at Spartan Spectacular and the first regular SOS meeting of the school year in September. Deadline for payment of dues is October 1. Make checks payable to SLHS SOS. New or transfer student dues will be accepted throughout the year.
- Community service hours must be completed between April 1, 2008 and March 31, 2009.
- Volunteer hours earned through school and/or community organizations may be documented and used for this program; however, these hours must be done outside the student's home unless pre-approved by the SOS Liaison and cannot include any activities for which pay is received.
- Volunteer hours earned do not have to come from SOS sponsored or advertised events. They may come from any source as long as they meet current SOS Guidelines. If in doubt about an activity, please contact one of the SOS Liaisons for clarification prior to the event occurrence.
- **Fundraising activities for any SLHS organization, where the student is a member, will not count, nor will service hours from Project Prom activities.** [Examples: car washes, bake sales, sale of fundraising items, SLHS sports tournaments, special fundraising events] If in doubt about an activity, please contact one of the SOS Liaisons for clarification prior to the event occurrence. **Exceptions:**
 - Non-FBLA students may work in the Spar Mart for hours. (Revised 05/01/2008)
 - Students may count hours worked for other student groups where they are not members and would not receive benefit from the fundraising proceeds. (Example: A Theater student working in the Band's Mum Shoppe may count those hours. The Theater student is not a member of the Band and would not benefit from the monies raised by the fundraiser. Similarly, underclassmen may help with Project Prom events for volunteer hours; Seniors may not count the hours as they benefit from this fundraising.)
 - Students may count hours worked for any PTSA function or fundraiser. The monies earned by PTSA benefit the entire school population.
 - Students may count hours worked at special events hosted by feeder schools.

- **Students may not count hours worked for SLHS student organizations or athletics team(s) where they are a member.** Students are expected to contribute time to the activities in which they choose to take part. They are members of the “team” and expected to serve accordingly. If the student potentially benefits from the service OR if it is required as part of an activity of theirs OR if it does not benefit a “population in need”, then the hours do not count toward SOS hours. (Revised 05/01/2008)
 - Examples of hours that do not qualify for SOS: (this is not an all-inclusive list)
 - FBLA students may not count hours worked in the Spar Mart. (Revised 09/01/2007)
 - Sapphires and Cheerleaders may not count hours that are a requirement for their team/squad. (Examples: performances, building sets, making props, sewing costumes, etc);
 - Fine Arts Examples: Band/Orchestra/Choir students may not count hours where they receive credit within their respective organization;
 - Theater students or theater club members may not count hours where they receive theater credit hours. Members of a production (cast/crew/ushers) may not count hours for that production;
 - Sports Examples: Soccer players calling lines at one of their tournaments or shagging balls during a game; Football players acting as ball boys at football games;
 - Class officers performing duties that are required of their position;
 - Students working at club booths during Spartan Spectacular recruiting new members or selling items or food during the event (fundraising);
 - Students working on Homecoming floats for their organization;
- **Students MUST turn in their paperwork secured in a 3-fastener folder or binder that should include the following:**
 - **A title on your folder or binder** (include your Name and Class of 20__)
 - **A cover sheet** (include your Name, Grade Level, and Total Hours)
 - **The SOS Summary Hours Log(s)** with verification signatures and telephone numbers. File may be downloaded from the web page. (Form Revised 05/01/2008)
 - **Seniors Only - Journal Sheets** describing each of your volunteer activities. The file may be downloaded from the web page.
 - **Additionally**, photos or other documentation or items of interest from an activity may be included in your folder.
- Provide the full name of the organization where you volunteered - do not use acronyms. (Revised 05/01/2008)
- Provide detail of how you served. i.e., what work did you perform? (Revised 05/01/2008)
- Include **ALL** service hours beyond SOS minimum class-level requirements. (Revised 05/01/2008)
 - Example: You served the maximum SOS 30 hours teaching Sunday school but actually served 40 hours total for the year; record both with SOS hours first and total hours second, i.e. 30/40.
- No travel time may be included in the hour calculation.
- Folders must be neatly kept and well presented. Only hours that have been documented with signed verifications will be accepted. If additional forms are needed, you may download the Summary Hours Log sheet from the SOS website.

- Folders will not be accepted if these guidelines are not followed.
- **Folders must be turned in at the April SOS Meeting or by the end of the NEXT school day in the SLHS Library.** (Revised 05/01/2008)
- All Folders and service pins (for underclassmen) will be returned to students at the May SOS Meeting. If you are not able to attend this meeting, it is your responsibility to pick up your binder by the end of the school year. Watch for announcements on when you can pick it up during lunch or in the SLHS Library. (Revised 05/01/2008)
- Seniors will receive their white community service cords at Senior Chill Out.
- **BINDERS WILL NOT BE KEPT OVER THE SUMMER.** (Revised 05/01/2008)

Note: Any unique circumstances, which do not fall under these guidelines, may be discussed with your SOS Liaison(s) prior to performing the service activity.

2008-2009 SOS LIAISON INFORMATION

Area	Contact	Phone#	Email
Faculty Sponsor	Tracey Grimme	281-237-2829	traceygrimme@katyisd.org
12th Grade Rep	Kathy Hooper	832-865-5434	Klhoop1@aol.com
11th Grade Rep	Sue Yonkin	281-693-4272	msyonkin@yahoo.com
10th Grade Rep	Amy Schuelke	281-395-8676	aschuelke1@comcast.net
9th Grade Rep	Mary Carlson	281-693-6034	carlsonfamilytx@comcast.net
Opportunities & Web Updates	Jamie Wagner	281-795-8732	jamie_b_wagner@hotmail.com