

February 2023 CPC Chair Report

Yesterday at the junior/senior high school, eligible candidates in the eighth and eleventh grades for both the National Junior Honor Society and National Honor Society received their application packets. From now until early March, they will compile their documentation of community service hours, provide two writing samples, and solicit teacher recommendations. For academically ambitious kids, the community service requirements of these prestigious societies is a reminder that what is considered honorable in life isn't synonymous with achievement or status alone. Character and service count. So although there is a practical, pragmatic value in community service for these students—that is, attaining eligibility for a resume-enhancing society—the longer-term values of charity and community are being instilled in students now. The hope is that they will also reap the psychological and emotional benefits of contributing to their community now, so that resonance inspires them to continue their altruistic activities long after graduation.

In that spirit, I would like to turn our collective attention to engaging in community service as middle-aged parents! This is the time of year when parent organization groups begin soliciting help for spots that will open over the next year. Of course, it's an excellent way to donate your time because it's a way to give back to the district and your community of neighbors. In case altruistic motives don't sufficiently move you, let me assure you that serving on a board can be personally fulfilling and fun as well as generous. Today my fellow board members and I will explain the duties and obligations of running the CPC, and give you some insight into our experiences.

Jennifer Kornreich Cahn

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