Dear Families, November 11, 2019

We are pleased to inform you that our NFES school-wide **“*Community Service Awareness Project***” is developing into a school culture of volunteerism and an opportunity for leadership. This kindness project has been a successful addition to our school’s citizenship program for the past 6 years and one that we hope your child gets involved. At North Frederick we encourage all students to contribute to and make a difference in our school, community, country and internationally by being life long active participants through community service.

The *“Community Service Awareness Project’s”* main goal is to teach every child the importance of service, and to build awareness that there are many ways to contribute and ultimately improve our community. **Parents/Guardians must provide the necessary guidance outside of school when your child is involved in the community service project you select together. Your child’s safety is most important. We ask that you do not allow your child to solicit door to door or do anything outside of your supervision.**

You will find a list of Community Service ideas below to discuss with your child (note: any additional ideas you and your child may come up with is perfectly acceptable and encouraged). Other ways to participate include school programs to collect canned and dried food, hygiene supplies for the cold weather shelter, or to be involved with the Peer Mentor’s Holiday Giving tree to collect cold weather garments such as socks, hats, gloves, scarves, and thermal underwear.

In addition to this letter you will find a Community Service Tally Sheet with which students will record the activity completed and the number of hours accumulated over the course of this school year. Students 3-5 grade will need to provide at least 10 hours or more of community service, and students Prek-2nd grade will need a written note by parent/guardian outlining what kind of community service was performed. Depending on the child’s age we will reward effort shown towards community service that is conducted on a consistent basis. All students who have completed community service hours will earn a Community Service Pin for their lanyard at the final Falcon Awards Celebration. If you sent in the tally sheet or confirmation that your child has participated in this program you will receive an invitation to attend the pinning ceremony in June. Participation in Cub Scouts, Girl Scouts and your family’s religious organization will be sufficient to earn a pin. We look forward to inviting our community partners back to assist in the pinning ceremony. All service hour must be submitted to Mrs. Vogtman no later than June 1, 2020.

**\*\*\*IMPORTANT: This project is strictly voluntary, and parents/guardians are solely responsible for overseeing any and all activities you and your child select. Safety is our most important goal for participation.**

Community Service Ideas:

Pen pal or send artwork to the elderly, a children’s hospital or veterans

Read to the elderly, a veteran or a child in a hospital

“Go Green” activities - make up a flyer about the rewards of recycling

A member of NFES’ Green Team

A School Patrol

Raising and Lowering the Flag at NFES

Participating in the Falcon News Show for 1 month

Media Assistants to Ms. Thomas

Collect litter - participate in the Big Sweep, or start your own collection schedule

Volunteer in an animal shelter

Participate in your church, synagogue’s outreach programs

Join the Cub Scouts or Girls Scouts

Raise money for a worldwide service program such as the Red Cross

Plant flowers and trees

Bake Sale or Lemonade stand to support a cause

Make bracelets to support a cause

Pen pal with a student in another country

Help at a Food Bank, or Soup Kitchen

Collect non-perishable items such as canned goods

**If you have any additional questions regarding this program please feel free to contact Laura Vogtman, School Counselor, at 240 236-2020.**

**Sincerely,**

**Laura Vogtman**

**School Counselor**