

May 11, 2017

Dear McSwain Parents,

The Community Service program at McSwain school was established years ago by the McSwain Community Parent Club and the school to instill compassion for helping others in the community. The group encourages McSwain 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> graders to volunteer their time to help others in need and in return they will learn to respect, understand, and embrace all types of people. Through the years, this program has dwindled in participation, and the McSwain Community Parent Club and school would like to bring it back into the forefront.

Students will meet once a month to share their progress of their volunteer work in the community with their peers and leadership advisors and in return, the leadership advisor will assist the students with record keeping and understanding the value of the services that the students are performing.

At the end of the year, the students will submit their volunteer hours and associated applications to the McSwain Community Club for a recognition for all participating seventh graders and a \$100 scholarship for two eighth graders. Although not every student will win an award, each participating student will be a winner for giving their time to others in need.

The program will start meeting next academic year, but the students can start their volunteer hours on June 9, 2017. Volunteering can be done for anyone or any group which is not self-serving (i.e. payment or grade). Such activities may include but are not limited to: volunteering for an elderly neighbor, visiting with residents in a convalescent home, assisting at school (before or after academic hours), assisting a person with special needs, a reading program at the public library, etc.

If the student is ready to start this summer, please keep careful records of the times volunteered. A different community log needs to be used for each different type of volunteer work.

Sincerely,

Mrs. Lanum and the McSwain Community Parent Club