



CITY HONORS SCHOOL
SENIOR YEAR SERVICE-LEARNING INITIATIVE
2018

PHILOSOPHY, FEATURES, AND RESTRICTIONS

City Honors School recognizes the importance of engaging students with learning throughout their experience at the school, including the final months of their senior year. Both the International Baccalaureate Program and the faculty of the school put a strong emphasis on service to one's community. With these principles in mind, CHS will once again offer senior year students an additional opportunity for both service and learning through out-of-school experiences following the culmination of IB and AP examinations. Students in strong academic and citizenship standing, will be offered an opportunity to participate in this program.*

*In accordance with State and BPS attendance policies, students who are not enrolled in the Service Learning Initiative are expected to attend all classes until the conclusion of the school year. Failure to attend school on a daily basis at any time of the year hurts aid to BPS schools and often triggers a hearing by the BPS attendance office. Previous admission to collegiate programs, grants, and scholarships can be revoked by these institutions based on attendance and tardy records City Honors is required to distribute at the end of a student's senior year.

Essential Features of The Initiative:

- So that underclassmen and seniors can prepare for end-of-year examinations, senior privileges at City Honors end when AP/IB exams begin. **The final day of senior privileges is Thursday, April 26, 2018.**
- SLI Experiences will take place at not-for-profit community agencies, government offices or educational institutions.
- **The SLI program is voluntary and unpaid. Students are not allowed to accept payment or other compensation.**
- SLI Experiences will begin **Friday, May 11, 2018** and end **Monday, June 11, 2018 (20 school days).**
- Applications to participate in an SLI Experience **must be submitted to Mr. Howson in Room 219 no later than Tuesday, April 10, 2018. Applications submitted after this date may not be considered.** (Applications submitted well before this date will have a better chance of obtaining SLI Experiences that align with student areas of interest.)
- A committee of faculty members and administration will review all applications for the SLI program to determine whether a student qualifies.
- Seniors enrolled in the program will be relieved of the requirement to attend their IB and AP courses, with teacher consent, for the duration of their SLI Experience – **once the exams in those classes are over.** They may also be relieved of the requirement to attend non-IB/AP courses if they are in strong standing in these courses and with teacher consent.
- Students in the program will work between 8 am and 4 pm for a minimum of four hours a day.
- Daily attendance credit will be received for attending the SLI Experience.
- Students are encouraged to secure their own SLI Experience and submit this arrangement for approval to the application committee or students may request that the committee find one for them in an area of interest.
- Senior teachers serving on the Service-Learning Initiative Committee will serve as "SLI Experience Monitors," each taking a caseload of students enrolled in the program and will make regular phone calls, and in some cases site visits, in order to verify that students are attending on a daily basis and meeting the needs of their SLI Experience sites.

There are a number of important boundaries that are a part of the initiative. They are critical for it to function as a legitimate exercise in service learning and to operate within attendance policy requirements. **Students who do not believe they can work within these restrictions are asked not to consider this opportunity.**

Special Restrictions Include:

- Hours of service learning must be completed between 8:00am and 4:00pm each day school is in session.
(Any exceptions to restriction must be requested via the application for the program.)
- A maximum of three SLI Experiences will be granted within the City Honors school building assisting faculty or administrators with special initiatives. It is the strong preference of the committee that all students consider experiences outside of the CHS community in order to gain new experience and provide service to the greater Buffalo community.
- **A student must continue to attend any course for which the instructor has not granted release time.**
- Even in courses that a teacher agrees to waive the daily attendance requirement, the teacher may stipulate that seniors complete various content related assignments or projects to fulfill their academic requirements for the last month of school.
- **All students enrolled in IB and AP courses must obtain teacher approval and MUST CONTINUE TO ATTEND those courses UNTIL THE EXAM takes place.**
- **Students taking courses that end with Regents exams must continue to attend these courses, unless other arrangements are made with the teacher.**
- Two unexcused absences from an SLI Experience or a report of any conduct or work ethic unbecoming a CHS student during the SLI Experience will immediately result in the revocation of a student's participation in the program and require that a student return to attending each class of the day.
- Students will be provided with attendance ledgers that must be accurately recorded and signed by the supervisor at the SLI Experience site.
- **Students MAY NOT use a part-time job or supplement other paid employment for the Senior Service Learning Initiative at City Honors School.**
- Students must agree to dress in a fashion that is appropriate to the setting of the SLI Experience.
- Upon completion of the SLI on June 11th, all students must complete an experience reflection survey. Their signed time log and survey is due to **Mr. Howson by Friday, June 15th. There will be a hold on commencement activities for all students who fail to submit both forms by Friday, June 15th.**
- No student who is in need of a course to pass for graduation or is not in strong standing in that course should apply to be relieved of that course as a part of this program.
- Transportation to and from SLI sites is the responsibility of the student. However, if the student utilizes a metro-bus pass, the school will provide a work-study pass in exchange for the student's regular bus pass.
- The application committee encourages all students to make their SLI a new experience and to put themselves in positions where they will have to utilize social and diplomatic skills. Therefore, working for parents and relatives is strongly discouraged and rarely approved. The application committee reserves the right to decline such requests. Any such applications should include a rationalization for the committee.
- You may not start your SLI Experience until you are informed that it has been approved.
- **Parental approval and signature must be obtained to participate in this program. Parents and students must agree to indemnify and save harmless the Buffalo Board of Education ("Board") from and against all loss and damage, claims and demands, costs and charges, including attorney's fees, for injuries to persons or damage to property, or other causes that may arise or accrue as a result of participation in this program. No parent should consent to his/her child's participation in this program if he/she does not feel comfortable indemnifying the Board from and against any and all liability arising out of such participation.**

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APPLICATION DUE TUESDAY, APRIL 10, 2018

- Please list the name, title, contact phone number, and signature of the person who will be supervising you in your SLI work.

Name: _____

Phone #: _____

Title: _____

Email: _____

I have carefully read the attached pages related to the CHS Senior Year Service Learning Initiative entitled *PHILOSOPHY, FEATURES, and RESTRICTIONS* and have agreed to provide the above named student with a minimum of four hours of SLI work each school day from May 11, 2018 to June 11, 2018.

Signature of SLI Site Supervisor

- If you have not secured your own SLI Experience and would like the committee to find one for you, please rank to type of agency/organization you are most interested in working for and describe at the right your ideal experience site:

Type of Site	Rank
Medical Facility	
K-12 School	
Media	
Government/Politician	
Business	
Community Development	
Community Activism	
Historic Preservation	
Arts	
University/College	
Environmental	
Other:	

Description of your ideal SLI Experience
(within reason please...)

- Parent and Student Signatures:

I have read the attached pages related to the CHS Senior Year Service Learning Initiative entitled *PHILOSOPHY, FEATURES, and RESTRICTIONS* and give my child permission to participate in this program. I understand that I will be indemnifying the Board from and against any and all liability arising out of such participation. I understand I am also accepting all liability for my child's welfare, safety, and behavior during the program. No parent should provide consent to participate in this program if they do not feel comfortable with their child participating.

Parent Signature

Daytime Phone(s)

I have read the attached pages related to the CHS Senior Year Service Learning Initiative entitled *PHILOSOPHY, FEATURES, and RESTRICTIONS* and will comply with all stipulations of this program. I understand that failure to do so jeopardizes my participation in commencement activities at City Honors School.

Student Signature

Questions? Contact Mr. Howson at jhowson@buffaloschools.org or Mrs Banas at ebanas@buffaloschools.org .



SLI: AT A GLANCE

- **All paperwork is due to Mr. Howson by Tuesday, April 10, 2018.**
- If you are not in good standing in a number of classes, you will not be able to participate in SLI and will be required to continue to come to school and attend all classes until Regents exams begin on Tuesday, June 12, 2018. SLI will not take place on Monday, May 28th (Memorial Day) and Tuesday, June 5th (no classes for students). Make SURE to tell your SLI site about these days.
- A teacher has every right to NOT SIGN OFF on your paperwork if you are not in good standing in his/her class. In this case, depending on your schedule, you may be able to continue to attend that class AND also participate in SLI.
- If your teacher signs your paperwork and adds conditions that you agree to regarding work owed, extra assignments, and/or projects, then it is expected you will follow through on that agreement. If you do not, you will be pulled from SLI.
- You will receive a notice in homeroom after spring break on the status of your SLI experience. For those of you who propose his/her own placement, you will be told if it was approved or not. For those of you who asked the committee to find you a placement, you will be notified where you have been placed.
- **The last day of senior privileges is Thursday, April 26, 2018. After that date, seniors must attend all study halls for the entire period and stay in lunch.**
- Time logs and reflection sheets will be handed out at our final senior meeting.
- You must complete 20 days of SLI in total.
- **Students MAY NOT use a part-time job or supplement other paid employment for the Senior Service Learning Initiative at City Honors School.**
- **You are expected to come to school and attend all classes, when not in an IB/AP exam, until SLI starts on Friday, May 11, 2018.**
- If you have an AP/IB exam AFTER Friday, May 11, 2018, you MUST attend the class for that exam until the exam is given.
- **SLI begins on Friday, May 11, 2018 and ends Monday, June 11, 2018. You are expected to participate every school day, for a minimum of four hours a day during the hours of 8 am and 4 pm. If you have an exam on one of these days, you must inform your SLI site and make up that time. If you have an exam that is less than three (3) hours in length, you are expected to also participate in SLI that day.**
- NFTA “passes” will be available to those who request them on their SLI paperwork. They will be distributed in May, before SLI begins.
- A time log signed by your SLI site supervisor and your reflection are **due to Mr. Howson by 2:30 pm on Friday, June 15, 2018.**
- Failure to turn in a time log AND reflection sheet will result in the delay of the senior receiving their diploma packet until those item are returned.