



August 26, 2011

Dear Parents/Guardians of KIPP University Prep Students,

As you know, KIPP San Antonio schools will not be hosting regular Saturday School sessions. Instead, students will earn, track and be rewarded for 60 hours per year through activities that improve themselves and serve others.

For KIPP University Prep HS students, these hours can be earned in a variety ways. Our goal as a district is to give you and your high schooler as much choice and flexibility as possible, while supporting meaningful activities that improve themselves and their community. Every day your son or daughter is one step closer to applying to college, and we want to make sure that our students are as distinguished in their extracurricular activities as they will be prepared in their academics.

Fortunately for KIPP University Prep, we have an active Service Learning Club through which students can earn their service hours. The Service Learning Club will also coordinate service opportunities for all students throughout the year. Also, Kym's Kids of San Antonio, a scholarship program that engages students in volunteerism and academic excellence, will also be enlisting many students in their program this year.

So, what else counts and what doesn't? Here are some examples below, but we are also open to your own suggestions for service and enrichment activities that benefit your child and align with our shared goal of preparing students for success in college and in life.

What Counts:

- Participation with service and civic organizations (e.g. S.A. Youth, Girls Inc., S.A. Food Bank, etc.)
- Service in your church or faith community
- After School Mentoring and Volunteer Programs (Boys and Girls Club, YMCA/YWCA, etc.)
- Art programs (e.g., Say Si, Southwest School of Art, etc.)
- Theatre (Magik Theatre, San Pedro Playhouse, Jump-Start, etc.)
- College Prep (Rotary-Diploma Plus, Café College, Gemini Ink, etc.)
- Leadership (Youth Engaged in Leadership and Learning-YELL, Eagle Scouts, etc.)

What Doesn't Count:

- Athletic teams
- School-based SAT/ACT test preparation
- Household chores
- Taking care of family members

KIPP San Antonio appreciates that parents are being asked to connect with, monitor, and in some cases transport and pay for, enrichment and service opportunities for your child/ren that were previously met by KIPP's Saturday School. KIPP San Antonio believes that the values, skills and contacts gained from this important service foster a well-rounded education for our students.

Please know that we are available for any questions, comments or suggestions regarding the annual 60 hours of service and self-improvement. Thank you very much for sharing in this important work with us.

Sincerely,

Joyce Boubel
Executive School Director
(210) 290-8720

Rufus Samkin
Assistant School Director
(210) 392-5158