

TIPS FOR COMPLETING COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS

All FSDA participants will complete 10 hours of community service on their own time. While the FSDA Director is available to offer information about community agencies, it is the responsibility of the parent and the student to contact agencies directly to arrange and to complete the service hours. Students must document their hours on the director provided form.

Community Service

1. Start early. You only have six weeks to complete all of your hours. Many agencies require advance notice. You may have to complete an orientation process before you begin, as other students are also contacting agencies to complete volunteer hours.
2. Look through the local newspaper, on the internet, or ask friends about agencies that need volunteers.
3. Contact the agency and ask to speak to the Volunteer Coordinator.
4. Some questions you might ask when you call:

What types of volunteer opportunities are available?

What will I do as a volunteer?

What skills will I need to volunteer with your agency?

What is required to get started (parent permission form, orientation, dress code, background check, etc.)?



NEW PROGRAM COMPONENT



Cumberland County Schools now offers a new program component through the FSDA Program for students and parents at the Character Academy. This program is funded through a Title IV Student Support and Academic Enrichment Grant.

Students who have been approved for alternative reassignment due to certain drug related offenses may be approved to attend this six week structured curriculum opportunity based upon a signed agreement between the administrator, parent and student. The goal is to create an awareness among students regarding the far-reaching effects of alcohol and drug abuse and how this may impact future career progressions.

The Family Support Drug Awareness Program

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Our Commitment: Every Student
Collaborative ★ Competitive ★ Successful

FSDA



THE FAMILY SUPPORT DRUG AWARENESS PROGRAM

STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES



About The Family Support Drug Awareness Program

Under the Cumberland County School Policy 4354 and the Cumberland County School Student Code of Conduct Class III Violations, the standard action for the offense outlined above may result in short-term suspension and/or disciplinary reassignment to an alternative program or long-term suspension or expulsion. However, written approval to participate in the FSDA program by the Superintendent/Designee will allow the student to return to school after the short-term suspension and continue for a six-week period pending successful completion of all components of the program to include 10 hours of community service and barring future discipline problems.

If a student is approved and permitted to attend the Family Support Drug Awareness program for one six-week period per school year, the parent/guardian must also attend three one-hour training sessions during the six-week period that the student is enrolled.

Family Engagement Can Be Lifesaving!

Some physical signs of teen drug abuse include:

1. Bloodshot eyes
2. Flushed skin
3. Track marks or abscesses
4. Weight loss or gain
5. Impaired speech or coordination
6. Unusual smells on breath or clothing
7. Inability to sleep

Some behavioral signs of teen drug abuse include:

1. Inability to focus
2. Problems in school or with authority
3. Lying and deceiving
4. Mood swings and instability
5. Hyperactivity or lethargy
6. Loss of inhibitions
7. Indifference to family or obligations

Who is in charge of the FSDA Program?

A certified Substance Abuse Counselor will conduct the FSDA sessions and manage the daily operation of the FSDA Program. The counselor will work directly with parents, students and collaborate with school staff.

The program is under the direction of the Associate Superintendent of Student Support Services. For more information, please call (910) 678-2423.

How will Parents/Guardians be involved in the FSDA Program?

The parent/guardian must attend any 3 of the sessions during the six-week period. It is the responsibility of the parent/guardian to ensure that the student completes all program requirements outlined in the program agreement. Parents/Guardians must arrange transportation for their student to and from the FSDA Program site in a timely manner and assist their student in completing 10 hours of community service at a local community agency. The community service hours must be recorded and signed by an authorized agent.

Why Student & Parent Participation is important.

Parent awareness of the signs or symptoms of drug abuse is important among today's youth. It can impact a young person's learning, mental health and other life choices.

When one is able to recognize warning signs, he/she can act quickly and strongly. This program provides parents with the opportunity to learn about the many harmful effects that could derail a student's future and ultimately lead to a loss of life. Don't wait for your student to become addicted before you seek assistance.

HARDWORK

Parent/Guardian/Student AGREEMENT UNDERSTANDING

Both our student and I/ we as parent(s)/guardian(s) desire to enroll in the FSDA program as an alternative to possible long-term suspension or placement in an alternative education setting. We realize by this request, our student will receive a short-term suspension. The long-term suspension and/or the placement in an alternative education setting will be held in abeyance pending the successful completion of the FSDA program.

If either student or parent fails to successfully complete the program, the student will be placed in an alternative educational setting.

If the student is already placed in an alternative education setting and commits a second drug/alcohol related offense, he/she may receive a long-term suspension, remain in the alternative setting for the remainder of the school year or possible expulsion.

We understand that agreement to participate in the FSDA Program will require regular ATTENDANCE BY THE STUDENT. We further understand that the parent/guardian must attend any three (3) of the sessions during the 6-week program which is held twice a week (Monday and Wednesday from 4-6 p.m.)

The student is not permitted to miss more than one meeting for an emergency.

A student will only be approved to enroll in the FSDA Program once during an academic year.

Frequently Asked Questions:

Will transportation be provided for students?
No

Are EC students eligible for the FSDA Program?
Yes, however, principals should use their knowledge of the specific student and their needs prior to making a recommendation.