

# RANKIN COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT

## DISTINGUISHED SERVICE GRADUATE

### GUIDELINES:

*Students in grades 9, 10, 11 and 12 can earn a “Distinguished Service Award” by:*

*9<sup>th</sup> grade document 50+ service hours = certificate.*

*10<sup>th</sup> grade document 100+ service hours = certificate.*

*11<sup>th</sup> grade document 150+ service hours = certificate.*

*12<sup>th</sup> grade document 200+ service hours = certificate.*

*Students in 12<sup>th</sup> grade can earn the designation as “Distinguished Service Graduate” by documenting 200+ volunteer service hours over the course of their high school experience. \*\*This designation will be marked on the transcript, a seal will be placed on the diploma, qualifying students will be identified in the graduation day program, and the students will be recognized at awards day. Transfer students can qualify as long as the total high school volunteer service hours total to 200 hours.*

Students *CAN* earn more than 50 volunteer service hours per school year and the hours will accumulate. However, at least 50 of the hours must be earned the senior year in order to qualify for the “Distinguished Service Graduate” designation.

*Only actual hours of service can be counted. Hours that DO count:*

- ♦ *Service hours earned during the summer, beginning the summer before the freshman year.*
- ♦ *Service hours completed as part of a school or community club, group, or team.*

*Hours that do NOT count:*

- ♦ *Travel time to the service site, required meetings, etc.*
- ♦ *Service hours performed for family or extended family.*
- ♦ *Hours for which you receive payment*
- ♦ *Service hours resulting from disciplinary action.*

- *Service hours completed during school hours as part of class requirements or if it is part of the curriculum of the class.*

*Students must not earn 100% of the service hours with one agency or in one area. Hours should include school AND community related service.*

*Students must fill out the Service Hours Verification form, obtaining the signature of the supervising adult. If the same service is performed on a weekly/monthly basis, one form can be completed at the end of the project.*

*Each high school within the district will establish record keeping procedures.*