



# MERIT Minutes

"Maximizing Education to Realize Intellectual Transformation"



## Service Learning

What is service learning, and why is it important?

Service Learning connects meaningful service experiences with academic learning, personal growth, and civic responsibility. Service learning extends student learning beyond the classroom and provides structured time for students to reflect on their experiences. Students learn to research community needs, develop and organize solutions, and to use interpersonal communication skills and problem-solving strategies.

- ➔ Example of a Service Learning experience - Students *receive training* at the Humane Society and *learn* to work with the dogs and cats so that they are more adoptable. This experience earns service learning hours.
- ➔ Example of a Community Service project that is NOT service learning - Students pack food bags for children who may not have sufficient food for the weekends. This valuable activity earns community service hours.
- ➔ Service Learning can be a valuable addition to a college or scholarship application as it demonstrates growth and community engagement.
- ➔ Remember - Service Learning hours and Community Service hours should be submitted ASAP after they are performed, and definitely by the end of the 9 week period in which they were undertaken. The online submission form is

found on the TCCHS website under the "Service Learning" tab on the left side.

➔ Pictured at left: TCCHS Chick-fil-A Leader Academy students learn about leadership and management as they complete monthly labs and service projects.



### Upcoming:

Monday, Nov. 4 - AP Registration Fee payment due

Friday, Nov. 8 - Regular deadline to register for Dec. 7 SAT and the Dec. 14 ACT

Nov. 25-29 - Thanksgiving Holidays



For the MERIT diploma seal, a student must have at least 20 SL hours and a total of at least 80 community service hours (including SL hours)

NEED MORE INFO?



See the TCCHS website for service opportunities, and contact Service Learning Coordinator Lt. Col. Stann McLeod at [smcleod@tcjackets.net](mailto:smcleod@tcjackets.net) or TCCHS MERIT Coordinator Erin White at [ewhite@tcjackets.net](mailto:ewhite@tcjackets.net) if you have any questions.