

Connect and Commit Service Club Meets Tuesdays from 6:30-7:30pm in the WHS Library

You can sign up for the opportunities listed below at the weekly meetings or in the Connect and Commit office, which is in the library of the high school. If you have questions about Connect and Commit, visit Kristen Ritchie, Program Director, in the Connect and Commit Office or contact Kristen via email kritchie@winchester.k12.ma.us or phone 781-721-7020 x1999.

This year, each month will have a theme. Each meeting that month as well as the additional service activities and events will relate to that specific topic. For the month of February, we will be focusing on Elder Issues. Below are events and other activities that the students have planned around these issues.

February: Elder Issues

Wednesday February 3rd

- WFEE Trivia Bee, 7-9:30pm at Town Hall. Five volunteers are needed to help work the lights and audio equipment, help with refreshments and event set up and also to time the 5th grade contestants.

Sunday February 7th

- Teenlife Boston Service Fair 1-4pm at the Chestnut Hill Mall. Students and parents will find numerous organizations with information tables. It is a great place to find new volunteer opportunities, summer programs, college planning resources, internships and more. They will also have live entertainment from several local A Cappella groups.

Wednesday February 24th

- Love is Still in the Air Event 2:30-3:30 at the Jenks Center. Join Connect & Commit and the Jenks Center in a late valentines celebration filled with activities, refreshments, crafts and a live performance from the Octets.

* There will be community service opportunities on weekends in December related to the global health theme, more specifics will be available through the Connect & Commit office in the coming weeks.

Ongoing Opportunities

- Best Buddies Program: Be a friend and mentor to another student with intellectual disabilities * Boys are needed!
- TOP Hoops Program Sundays from 2:30-3:30, January 3rd- February 7th in the Ambrose gym. Help teach students with disabilities basketball skills. You will help to organize drills and games and provide fun activities and social interaction.
- Muraco Tutoring Program- Wednesdays 2:30-3:30 January 13th-April 14th in the Muraco Library. Become a tutor and mentor to an elementary school student for one afternoon every week. Provide homework help, reading assistance and fun.
- PAWS- a regional organization who's mission is to promote and protect the rights and well-being of all domestic animals and to foster a greater understanding of animal welfare and animal rights through education. Volunteer opportunities may include working with the organization to help facilitate cat adoption, fostering, and rescue both in person and by helping with newsletter and web updates.
- World Challenge Expedition Trip to Ecuador in the summer of 2011. An opportunity for students to travel with a group of peers and engage in service work and exploration. More information will be provided to the classes of 2012 and 2013 during a student assembly on January 25th followed by an informational session for parents Thursday February 4th at 7pm. Any questions in the mean time can be directed to Program Director, Kristen Ritchie
- WHS Recycling Program- Help the WHS community to recycle all of its bottles and cans. Every other Thursday, a group of students is needed to empty the new recycling bins around the school and bring the bags of bottles and can to the loading dock for pick up. Volunteers should also replace the liners inside of the bins when they are finished.
- If you are looking for service opportunities over February vacation, please speak with Kristen Ritchie in the Connect & Commit office or via email at kritchie@winchester.k12.ma.us