**Senior Project Reflective Essay Instructions**

After completing your 25 hour community service, career-based or science fair senior project, you are required to write a 1200-1500 (2-3 pages) reflective essay in which you reflect on the events associated with your senior project. Your purpose is to share the insights and lessons you learned while completing your project. You will begin writing the rough draft of this essay as you complete your hours. (see 5 hour and 15 hour checks). Your final draft will be double spaced, size 12 font (Arial or Times New Roman - MLA format - just like English class).

**Section 1 to be completed by your 5 hour check: Sept. 14th**

Introduction:

Describe your project. What are your goals with this project? **OR** Why did you choose this project?

| *Introduction (Paragraph 1) (Explain your project and choose 1 of the above questions)* |
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**Section 2 to be completed by your 15 hour check: Oct. 26th**

Draft of Thesis statement and 2 body paragraphs:

| Look at the bullet points below, choose 3 points you can write into a statement about your project experience. **For example**: *I benefited from my project because I learned \_\_(paragraph 2\_, I also helped my community with (paragraph 3) , and finally I \_(paragraph 4)\_\_.*  Your Thesis in the making: |
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Body (Paragraph 2): Topics of Personal Reflection

* What specific skills are you developing during your project? How are these skills developing you into a better person and worker? Is this a field of work you would now consider for a career?
* What is pushing you outside your comfort zone? What is the biggest challenge you are encountering?
* How is your chosen project utilizing your personal and unique talents or skills?

| Body (Paragraph 2): *(see topics above - choose 1 or more)* |
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Body (Paragraph 3) Topics of Helping Your Community

* Reflect on the people you met or worked with through your project . How have these relationships impacted you?
* What is the true value of the services you provided through your project?
* Explain who benefited directly from your project and how it impacted the community or the world?

| Body (Paragraph 3): *(see topics above - choose 1 or more)* |
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**Section 3 to be completed by December 1 and turned in to your English teacher:**

Body (Paragraph 4): *Topics of Learning* ( remember to continue your thesis development in Section 2)

* What has this experience led you to think about that you weren’t expecting?
* What is your greatest accomplishment or reward with this experience?
* What is the most important thing you learned about yourself through doing this project? What would you do differently?

| Body (Paragraph 4): *(see topics above - choose 1 or more)* |
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Conclusion (Paragraph 5) Topics of Personal Gain and Importance of Volunteer Projects/Community

* Explain what you learned about yourself or your project. Why is this project or any/all volunteer projects important?
* Explain in detail what you would do differently if you could start all over.
* What advice would you give the upcoming seniors for this particular project?
* Give suggestions for continuing this project in the future and why this project is important.

| Conclusion (Last Paragraph): *(see topics above - choose 1 or more*) |
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