

# Gerstell Academy 11th Grade President's Summer Challenge

*Leadership: The art of positively influencing others to unite in a common direction and guiding them to improve themselves and their community.*

As you continue your development as a leader who positively influences your community, it is important that you continually look to *your* future. This year's challenge has a component that looks to the future and another that reinforces the leadership skills you have already developed. The Challenge is entirely voluntary.

## **The Challenge:**

1. Perform a minimum of 25 hours of community service with a single organization, group, or individual.
2. Read: "Dare to Prepare: How to Win Before You Begin" by Ronald M. Shapiro and Gregory Jordan
3. Visit at least three colleges.

When complete, write a minimum 350 word reflection titled: "My Leadership Preparation". In your essay explain how you are going to apply the lessons from your community service experience, college visits, and reading of "Dare to Prepare" to further your development as a positive leader. Please weave into your essay the Gerstell Academy Principles, Attributes, and Leadership Definition to help describe your progress as a positive leader.

The essay will be turned into your eleventh grade leadership teacher no later than the first day of classes. Please type this essay. Document your community service with your Advisor by turning in a community service form no later than the first day of classes; attach a copy of your essay to the form which will serve as your reflection.

Typical organizations for your community service: churches, synagogues, or other houses of worship, civic organizations (Rotary, Lions, Scouts, and Optimist Clubs), veteran organizations, food banks, shelters, local governments, hospitals, thrift shops, youth organizations, YMCA's, community centers, libraries, senior centers, and humane societies are all good possibilities. You may also find individuals to provide a service to such as an elderly or disabled neighbor who needs assistance with yard care, or shopping for them. This service will also count towards your overall service hours. Please make your parent's aware of the service you plan to accomplish and get their approval.

## **The Reward**

If successful you will receive recognition by:

- Going to lunch with Dr. Smith at a venue outside of school.
- A single test grade of 100 in your Leadership III course.
- You will be reimbursed for the cost of the paperback edition of the book which can be purchased on Amazon for about \$15.00.