

Dear Alpharetta High School Community,

Alpharetta High School is building the future leaders of this country by combining educational excellence with lifelong valuable experiences. As we continue to fulfill our mission, we look for innovative tools and resources to help our students become even more prepared and productive in society.

We have recently begun to work with a nonprofit based in Roswell, GA called GivingPoint. GivingPoint is dedicated to inspiring young social entrepreneurs to create a lifelong love for serving others. Their website, myGivingPoint.org, gives teens the opportunity to discover their civic passion and track their service hours. The unique part about GivingPoint is that teens can earn points that can be turned into cash grants for the nonprofits they care about. As teens begin to track their service contributions and earn points on the website through interactive tools and quizzes, they create their civic transcript (that can be downloaded for our service cord requirements and college applications).

This website is a wonderful resource to inspire teens and help the causes that they care most about. For every 500 points earned, our students can apply for grants for their favored nonprofits. *The funding for the grants comes from the Myfident Foundation and other generous donations from corporations and individuals that support GivingPoint's mission.*

We believe so strongly that the GivingPoint can help motivate and inspire our students that we are changing our Service Cord requirements to the GivingPoint program. **In order for a senior to receive a service cord for graduation, students must earn 500 points on GivingPoint. For more information on the point system and how volunteer service hours translate into points, please see the "GivingPoint Service Cord Point Guidelines" below.**

How can you help? Please encourage your child to start their giving profile on <http://www.mygivingpoint.org>. The website is open to every teen to use. Once a student creates an account, they can start tracking any service hours earned from October 2008 forward. They can earn points immediately by taking fun quizzes where they can learn more about philanthropy.

If you have further questions, please refer to the GivingPoint Service Cord FAQ Document located on the Latest News section of the AHS website at www.ahsraiders.com. You may also contact Ansley Colby at GivingPoint directly at ansley.colby@myfident.org. Students may contact Coach Bennett at 770-521-7640 or BennettH@fultonshools.org.

We are very excited about this new opportunity and appreciate your help and assistance in advance.

GivingPoint Service Cord Guidelines

The goal of mygivingpoint.org is to ignite a passion for community volunteerism and a life-long love for service to others. This online tool is simple, requires very little time and our students will greatly benefit from creating a civic transcript. Here's how it works:

Step 1: Students create an account on www.mygivingpoint.org

AHS students need to enter Alpharetta HS as their affiliated organization when creating an account.

Step 2: Students begin earning points

WHAT TEENS CAN EARN PER CALENDER YEAR

Volunteer Time: 5 points per hour, up to 5000 points per year

Volunteer Talent: 10 points per hour, up to 5000 points per year

Treasure (Fundraising for nonprofits): 1 point per every \$10 dollars fundraised through GivingPoint, up to 1000 points per year

Service Learning Quizzes: 10 points per quiz (only awarded once per quiz), up to 100 points per year

Create a Profile: 10 points for completing your profile (picture, certain number of fields)

Blog Entry (about volunteer experiences or civic engagement): 5 points per entry (min 50 words), up to 100 points per year

Creating and posting a Project: 50 points per project once approved, up to 250 points per year

Inviting Friends to join GivingPoint: 5 points for every friend that join, 250 points per year

EARN POINTS BY GETTING RECOGNIZED BY NONPROFITS

Service tags:

Freshman tag – 25 points

Action Taker – 100 points

World Changer – 200 points

Revolutionary – 300 points

GIVINGPOINT LEVELS (see below for more details)

Diamond Volunteer (500 – 999 points), Bronze Volunteer (1,000 – 1,500 points) Gold Volunteer Leader (1,500 – 2,000 points), Platinum Community Leader (2000+ points)

Step 3: Teens apply for GRANTS to support the causes they care about

Once a teen reaches 500 points, they can apply for a "micro grant" to support a nonprofit of their choice. **AHS Students can only receive service cords once they have applied for a grant for a nonprofit of their choice.**

Teens can apply for a 2nd grant (once they reach 1000 points) if they have posted a project on GivingPoint and uploaded a picture from their volunteer experience. **AHS students who reach this Bronze Volunteer level will become members of the "GivingPoint 1000 Club" and their names will be put on a plaque in the lobby of the school.**

Teens can apply for a 3rd grant (once they reach 1500 points) if they have invited 5 friends to join GivingPoint and uploaded a 2nd picture from a volunteer experience.

Teens can apply for a 4th and final grant (once they earn 2000 points), if they have posted a 2nd project and recruited at least 5 teens to create profiles on GivingPoint.

Step 4: View and Download Your Civic Transcript

Teens can view and download their civic transcripts throughout their lifetime. **AHS Students must turn in copies of their civic transcripts to Coach Bennett by the first Friday after Spring Break in order to receive Service Cords for graduation.**

Note: The point system and grant amounts are subject to change as GivingPoint continues to get feedback and input from their users.

GivingPoint is funded by the Myfident Foundation and generous donations from corporations and individuals who care about helping teens become life-long contributors to society.

GIVINGPOINT AWARD LEVELS: AN INNOVATIVE WAY TO INSPIRE TEENS TO VOLUNTEER AND SERVE OTHERS

There are FOUR tier levels within the GivingPoint™ Rewards Program: Bronze, Diamond, Gold, and Platinum. You will receive distinctive benefits and privileges with each tier.



1st Level – the Diamond Volunteer Level (teens earn 500 to 999 points).

You are a great volunteer – a person who voluntarily offers him/herself for a service to help their community. You care about making the world a better place, and we are proud to have you in the Diamond Level of GivingPoint!

Benefits of Membership:

- You will get special recognition from Alpharetta High School
- You are eligible to apply for a micro-grant for a cause you care about.
- You are eligible to become a “virtual on-line volunteer” for GivingPoint. All of your time helping our site counts towards talent hours! You can help us create new CAUSE quizzes, create new content for our website, and more! If you are interested, please email Ansley at ansley.colby@myfident.org.



2nd Level - the BRONZE Volunteer Level (teens earn 1,000 – 1,500 points)

Congratulations! You are now a Bronze Level Volunteer on GivingPoint! You are now member of a unique group of teens who are changing the world through commitment and dedication!

Benefits of Membership:

- You will have your name on a plaque in the lobby of Alpharetta High School
- You are eligible to apply for additional grant(s) to help your favored causes
- You will receive a President’s Volunteer Service Bronze Award when you have 100 service hours (see below)
- Eligible to apply for the “Youth Who Rock” Award
- At 1,500 points, you will receive a GivingPoint “Seal of Impact Award”



3rd Level – the GOLD Volunteer Leader Level (teens earn 1,501 to 2,000 points)
Congratulations! You are now a Volunteer Leader, which means you are member of a special group of teens who are changing the world through leadership. A *volunteer leader is someone who provides direction and guidance to others to make meaningful change in the community. Volunteer leaders look for ways to solve problems. They are compassionate, organized, and dedicated! As a Gold Level member, you are a role model for other teens.*

Benefits of Membership:

- You are eligible to apply for additional grant (s) to help the causes you care about.
- You will receive a President's Volunteer Service Award once you contribute 250 hours of service (see below)
- Have a press statement released in your hometown e-newspaper
- You are eligible to become a GIVINGPOINT Teen Advisory Board Member. If you are interested, please email Ansley at ansley.colby@myfident.org.



4th Level – the PLATINUM Community Leader Level (teens earn 2,000+ points)
Incredible! You are now a Platinum Community Leader! There are very few teens doing as much to help others as you are. *Community Leadership is about creating opportunities to render greater community empowerment, galvanizing people and creating trust and enthusiasm for helping others at the local level. As a community leader, you earn the respect of your peers and look for ways to bring about real and impactful change.*

Benefits of Membership

- Have you and your legacy highlighted on the GivingPoint home page
- Article in the bi-annual newsletter
- Eligible for a seat on the GivingPoint Board of Directors

If you have further questions, please refer to the GivingPoint Service Cord FAQ Document located on the Latest News section of the AHS website at www.ahsraiders.com.

The President's Volunteer Service Award



GivingPoint is honored to be a registered certifying organization for The President's Volunteer Service Award. This prestigious national award recognizes Americans who are making a difference in the lives of others through volunteer service.

The President's Volunteer Service Award (PVSA) has been incorporated into GivingPoint's Award System and is now available for participating GivingPoint students who complete the designated service hours within a 12-month period.

The President's Volunteer Service Award gives Presidential recognition to students who have made a sustained commitment to volunteer service; and through GivingPoint's on-line tracking system, it is easy!

What are the requirements?

When you become a BRONZE and GOLD Level GivingPointer (1,000 to 2,000+ points), you are eligible! Service hours must be completed within a 12-month period and should be recorded using GivingPoint's on-line point tracking tool.

What are considered service hours?

Service hours are hours spent on the planning and implementation of any activity beneficial to the community. Service hours do not include hours you spend on athletic teams, associations or any time you are getting academic credit.

Teens must log in their time and talent contributions in order to start earning enough points to be eligible.

Service Hour Requirements for President's Volunteer Service Award	
Bronze Level	100 to 174 hours
Silver Level	175 to 249 hours
Gold Level	250+ hours

What is the Cost of the Award?

A complete package is \$3.00 per application plus shipping and handling. GivingPoint will cover this cost for each teen that reaches our Gold Level!

Awarded recipients receive:

- * An official President's Volunteer Service Award pin
- * A personalized certificate of achievement
- * A note of congratulations from the President of the United States
- * A letter from the President's Council on Service and Civic Participant



To learn more about the PVSA award, please visit <http://www.presidentialserviceawards.gov>.

To learn more about GivingPoint's PVSA application process, please contact Ansley Colby, Executive Director of the Myfident Foundation at ansley.colby@myfident.org.

