

# FMES/SFA Fair Share Volunteer Program



**Purpose:** The purpose of the FMES/SFA Fair Share program is to build community spirit and awareness, and to encourage all families to participate equally in events, activities, and general community projects.

## Annual Requirements:

2-Parent Families: 40 hours

1-Parent Families: 20 hours

1/2 Day Only Families: 20 hours

Families Receiving Tuition Assistance: Additional 10 hours on top of regular requirement.

Families Starting Mid-Year: Hours will be prorated based on enrollment month.

Staff members with enrolled students are not required to complete Fair Share hours.

## Buy-Out:

- \$15 per Fair Share hour not completed

## Terms:

- Families are responsible for logging their Fair Share hours. (See Tracking section below)
- Fair Share hours are based on fiscal year July 1-June 30.
- August tuition statements will include billing for any Fair Share hours not completed.

## Tracking:

- All Fair Share hours will be tracked and monitored through the online Fair Sharing Tracking application: [www.fairshare.fmes.org](http://www.fairshare.fmes.org)

## Who Can Earn Fair Share Hours:

- Any person 15 years or older can contribute to a family's Fair Share hours. This includes: Moms, Dads, Grandparents, Siblings, Aunts & Uncles, Cousins, Family Friends, etc...
- Volunteers must complete the Ethics Course and Background Check before they can participate in any volunteer activities where children are present.

## Ways to Earn Fair Share Hours:

Fair Share hours can be earned in a multitude of ways, such as volunteering time and efforts, purchasing SCRIP and participating in various incentive opportunities. Each hour of volunteer time served is equal to 1 Fair Share hour. Hourly volunteer activities include, but are not limited to, the following:

### • During School:

- Work at events, book fairs, fundraisers, etc.
- Work in the library
- Assist with reading practice in the classroom
- Drive/chaperone field trips, going-out opportunities and/or Earth Experiences
- Work at the SCRIP table
- Participate in classroom projects or events
- Work in the gardens or on school grounds
- Be a Guest Presenter or Elective Instructor for SFA

### • After School:

- Participate in the "Take-Home Work" program
- Attend Parent Community meetings and educational events
- Organize, coordinate and participate in community events (Harvest Carnival, Auction, Meet the Maker, Spring Field Day, etc.)

- Chair or serve on school committees
  - Supervise and assist with clubs and activities
  - Coach athletic teams
  - Attend Open-Houses or Education/Curriculum Nights in the classroom
  - Hang flyers for Open House events at local gyms, coffee shops, doctors offices, etc...
- **At Bridal Veil:**
    - Participate in Bridal Veil work days, typically the 3rd Saturday of each month, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.
    - Assist Sisters with projects and/or tasks as needed

There are many volunteer opportunities that are ongoing throughout the year or that span a fixed period of time. To keep things as consistent as possible, these activities have been assigned a set number of Fair Share hours:

- Serve as a **Room Representative**: 25 Fair Share hours per school year
- Chaperone a **1-night Earth Experience**: 20 Fair Share hours
- Chaperone a **2 or 3-night Earth Experience**: 30 Fair Share hours
- Chaperone a **Week-Long SFA Trip**: 40 Fair Share hours
- Host a Language Exchange Program Student: 30 Fair Share hours

We know that many of our families have working parents and the giving of time can be extremely difficult. In light of this, we are offering opportunities to earn Fair Share hours that do not require the gift of time. These include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Buy SCRIP: \$250 SCRIP purchase = 1 Fair Share Hour
- Participate in Fair Share incentives offered throughout the year. Examples:
  - Return re-enrollment forms by the specified date and receive 1 Fair Share hour
  - Refer a new family and earn 10 Fair Share hours when they enroll
- Participate in your employer's volunteer matching program. i.e. If you volunteer 10 hours of your time and your employer gives \$10/hour to the school as a "matching gift", you will earn a total of 20 Fair Share hours.

#### **Hardships:**

- Any family facing a hardship or other situation that inhibits their ability to complete their Fair Share requirement may request a reduction or exemption from the school's administration.

**\*\*Please Note:** Due to IRS regulations, we are not able to offer Fair Share hours in exchange for donations of any type of goods or services.

**"We shall walk together on this path of life, for all things are part of the universe  
and are connected with each other to form one whole unity."  
— Maria Montessori**