



# PANTHERS IN ACTION

## **Honoring Students for Making a Difference in our Community**

Panthers in Action is a RMS PTA sponsored student service program that recognizes and rewards students for volunteering in the community. All students are encouraged to join RMS PTA and participate in Panthers in Action program.

**Mission:** To raise awareness of the community needs, to encourage student service, and to provide information to those students who wish to serve as volunteers in the Round Rock and surrounding area.

**Vision:** Panthers in Action community service organization seeks to have every student volunteer 20 hours of service to non-profit organizations each year.

**Goal:** For RMS students to give back to our community and learn that they can be responsible for making great things happen. To help build a sense of responsibility and a sense of pride when they see what they've done actually helps others.

**Recognition:** Students who complete 20 hours of service each year will be recognized during the grade-level End of Year Ceremony.

In order for community service hours to be counted toward Panthers in Action, students must:

1. Perform work for a non-profit organization;
  2. Complete the work without compensation or class credit;
  3. Complete the Panthers in Action Service Verification Form and have it signed by the supervising adult;
  4. Submit summer volunteer hours no later than October 1;
  5. Submit school year volunteer hours no later than April 30 to qualify for End of Year recognition.
- Panthers in Action Service Verification Forms can be found on our website ([ridgeview.my-pta.org](http://ridgeview.my-pta.org));
  - Incomplete forms or those that can not be verified will be returned;
  - Fundraising activities that directly benefit you or an organization you belong to will not qualify for Panthers in Action hours. Fundraising efforts that benefit community service and programs will. (i.e. catalog sales to raise funds for orchestra does not, having a bake sale to raise money for the animal shelter will);
  - Hours that you earn for other youth organizations are eligible to count towards Panthers in Action hours as long as the Panthers in Action Community Service Verification Form is completed;
  - Students should keep a copy of their Panthers in Action Community Service Verification forms for their records. Volunteer hours can be recorded for job, college and scholarship applications;
  - Volunteer opportunities will be posted on our website ([ridgeview.my-pta.org](http://ridgeview.my-pta.org)), on Facebook (Ridgeview Middle School PTA) and Twitter (@theRMSPTA);
  - Forms may be submitted by scanning and emailing to [PanthersInAction@ridgeviewpta.org](mailto:PanthersInAction@ridgeviewpta.org) or turning them in to the front office;
  - You will have the opportunity to verify your recorded hours May 7- 10 in the front office.
  - Contact us if you have questions, comments or to tell us about volunteer opportunities in the area: [PanthersInAction@ridgeviewpta.org](mailto:PanthersInAction@ridgeviewpta.org).

"Never forget that you are one of a kind. Never forget that if there weren't any need for you in all your uniqueness to be on this earth, you wouldn't be here in the first place. And never forget, no matter how overwhelming life's challenges and problems seem to be, that one person can make a difference in the world. In fact, it is always because of one person that all the changes that matter in the world come about. So be that one person."

Richard Buckminster Fuller