

## Graduation Project

The **Graduation Project** is a required one-credit course of all Tulpehocken Area Senior High School students. Each student will identify an area of interest to complete a program of study. After presenting the results of the study to an evaluation committee the student will receive a grade of **pass or fail**. If the student fails the initial project, they may continue work on the project to receive a passing grade.

A team of faculty members developed the following plan to be implemented with the students:

**Area of study:** Community Service, Personal Development, Research, Career Exploration.  
**Timeline:** The following three steps must be completed within one calendar year unless stated otherwise on the pre-approval.

- Step 1: Decide on a project. Have the Coordinator pre-approve project and have all necessary forms completed. Students may begin (with coordinator's approval) any time after the first semester of ninth grade. Work must be approved in order to be credited toward number of hours required.
- Step 2: Complete the work portion of your project. This component must be completed and verified no later than the end of January of the senior year.
- Step 3: Inform the Coordinator of completion and determine date for presentation. At this time the second informational packet will be issued and the student should begin writing the written component and designing the title page. The written paper is to be submitted in compliance with deadlines on the signed proposal contract. Both the written component and oral presentation must be completed during the semester after the work portion of the project is completed.

**Evaluation:** In order to receive one credit, the student will present the final results of the project to a team of assessors. The following must be evaluated as acceptable by the team of assessors: (1) evidence of project completion; (2) oral presentation of the project, including at least one of the following ways of enhancing your presentation: video, photo journal, tour, model/display, show/performance; (3) written paper describing processes and procedures, which has been proofread in accordance with Pennsylvania Academic Standards.

**Committee:** A committee of teachers and/or administrators will evaluate the student's oral presentation using a rubric. Projects not approved will be rescheduled for the following month's presentation date. A second failure may necessitate a new project. The written component will be evaluated by staff assessors and must be passed the month following work completion (September for summer completions).

**Considerations:** Arrangements have been made with the Berks Career and Technology Center, Special Education Department, and Agriculture classes to coordinate projects. Two students may work on a project together, but each must do the proposal, written paper, and presentation individually. Coaching and the senior mural are not acceptable graduation projects.

**Failure to meet guidelines may jeopardize participation in the SPA, driving privileges, attendance at the prom and graduation activities.**

## Successfully Completed Graduation Projects

\*These projects require students each year.

All projects are subject to staff approval

Project costs are the responsibility of the student

### **Volunteers:**

Fire Company/Ambulance  
Berks Historical Society  
Elementary School  
Humane Society  
Nursing Care facility  
Community Library  
Sunday School  
Salvation Army  
Berks Women in Crisis  
Wildlife shelters  
Bethel Harvest Festival (Fall)  
Rehrrsburg church dinner (Fall/Winter)  
Berks Heim  
Myerstown ECC  
Reading Opportunity House  
Christmas Village  
Golf courses

### **Summer Volunteers:**

Hospitals  
\*Bernville pool  
\*Bernville park  
Bible School  
\*Bernville cemetery maintenance  
Lawn maintenance for elderly

### **Volunteer Projects:**

Summer career job exploration  
Dress design and construction  
Mission trip  
Environmental camp  
People to People program  
Animal Training—seeing eye dog  
\*Showcases (with recommendation  
from THS Art department)  
Free Enterprise Week  
Vehicle restoration  
Family Tree research  
Lions Club service  
\*Blood drive  
Governor's school  
Voices intern  
Charity walk—MS, Cancer, etc.  
Pond construction  
Clothing drive  
Concert program preparation  
Environmental cleanup  
Computer game creation  
Bernville PTO babysitting/Craft  
Fair/Spring Fling  
Choir director  
Career research  
Swing construction  
Farm building construction  
Original art composition  
State Police Camp Cadet  
Sports bulletin board  
Quilt construction and auction  
Play/musical set and sound system  
Animal raising and auction

