



*With a history that goes back more than 175 years, Chapel Hill-Chauncy Hall offers small classes and a strong college preparatory curriculum, in addition to arts, athletics and other exciting opportunities for personal growth. The school is located on a beautiful 37-acre suburban campus in Waltham. CH-CH has an enrollment of approximately 165 students in grades 9 through 12. Visit [www.chch.org](http://www.chch.org) to learn more about CH-CH.*

## Good Neighbors Community Service Spirit Grows at Chapel Hill-Chauncy Hall School

Chapel Hill-Chauncy Hall School in Waltham has always reached out to the community, but starting last year, community service has become part of the school's culture.

The school has created a new senior-level graduation requirement – the Charger Points Program – that focuses on leadership, cultural enrichment and service. In addition, a new charter for campus clubs requires some sort of affiliation with community groups.

The school also sets aside campus-wide community service days, with shortened or cancelled classes, in the fall and spring.

“At Chapel Hill-Chauncy Hall, we consider it our responsibility to teach students that there is work that reaches beyond the classroom, beyond pen and paper, and into the community,” Dean of Students Jeffrey Martin said. “It’s tremendously rewarding for us and provides a valuable service to the community.”

In order to meet the new service requirement, Chapel Hill-Chauncy Hall seniors must volunteer a certain number of hours during the year.

The students keep track of their own hours, according to Senior Class Dean Christopher Chesley, but some students last year got so involved with their projects and accumulated so many hours of service that they simply stopped counting. One girl, he learned later, had spent five or six hours every weekend volunteering at her synagogue youth center.

The seniors take part in a variety of projects. Last year they worked at the Sacred Heart food pantry, the Waltham Council for Senior Citizens and the Greater Waltham ARC program. They also helped with the track and field program at the Perkins School for the Blind and, at the Waltham Fields Community Farm, they pitched in with the farm work and even removed some troublesome concrete footings.

Several times a year, the senior class also makes quilts to donate to the Boston University Children’s Hospital as a special gift for babies and children who are having surgery and other procedures.

In addition, clubs and organizations are actively involved in various community activities throughout the year. The school’s Korean Drumming Club, for example, visits local schools and students work with children in the Waltham public schools.

“We want to establish that community service is part of your education,” Chesley said. “The thinking was that the students would be doing something they enjoy and that community service will become a tradition for them. Our goal is to put the school mission into action.”

Community service is good for the individual spirit, school spirit and the community, school officials believe.

“We believe it is our responsibility as a school to educate our students in the great works of literature, in simple and complex math and in the arts, but we also have a certain responsibility to give back to our community and to teach students what it means to be a citizen,” Martin said. “These are things you might not find in the curriculum in other schools. At Chapel Hill-Chauncy Hall, they are part of the curriculum. We are willing to make sacrifices in class time because these are things we value.”

“Knowing you have done something to benefit the community is good for the individual spirit and for our spirit as a school,” he said. “And what better way is there for the Greater Waltham community to get to know more about us?”

“I firmly believe this is something that schools need to do,” Martin continued. “I’m happy to be part of a school that values what we have and what we can give to the community.”

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- The chance to meet their local state legislators and acquaint them with their school or college. Last May, members did this at another free event – MANS&C Day at the Statehouse.
  - MANS&C Quarterly newsletters and the Web site, [www.man-sac.org](http://www.man-sac.org), which deliver timely information on bills and issues, useful tips and articles on how member institutions are serving their communities.
  - E-mail alerts on troublesome bills that require immediate action.
  - Guidance on how to create a Community Impact Statement that details their institution’s economic and social contributions to the community.
- For more information about membership renewal or joining MANS&C, contact Bruce T. Amsbary at [bamsbary@rivers.org](mailto:bamsbary@rivers.org), 339-686-2221, or Julaine McInnis at [jmccinnis@walnuthillarts.org](mailto:jmccinnis@walnuthillarts.org), 508-650-5015.