

**SENIOR GRADUATION PROJECT
HANDBOOK**



EVANSVILLE HIGH SCHOOL

EHS SENIOR GRADUATION PROJECT

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Evansville Community School District's senior project graduation requirement is for students to develop personal growth through an experiential and/or service learning opportunity. This culminating self-selected project will serve as the capstone demonstrating students' ability to seek knowledge through inquiry and experience, which in turn will allow them the opportunity to apply their knowledge and growth in all of their future endeavors, benefitting our local and global communities.

PHILOSOPHY

The Evansville Community School District, in active partnership with families and the community, will provide a positive learning environment that challenges all students to achieve personal excellence and become contributing citizens of the world community.

We believe this project will allow our graduates to maximize their personal excellence and contributions to the world community.

SERVICE-BASED/COMMUNITY SERVICE LEARNING PATH

Students will have the opportunity to choose the type of work that they would like to complete in order to meet criteria for their Senior Project. The project choices have been divided into two categories. The first type of project is a service-based or community service project. The second type of project is an experiential or project-based task. The differences between the two types of project learning paths are outlined below.

Service-Based / Community Service Projects

These types of projects are centered on serving others in the community. In order to complete a service project, students must use their time, talent, and ability to better the world around them—either locally, or globally. The project must have a meaningful impact on others. Examples (but certainly not limited to) of projects that fit into this category are:

1. Coordinate Canned Food Drive
2. Coed Elementary Basketball Camp
3. Park Restoration
4. Children's Hospital Fundraiser
5. Sewing Projects for Homeless
6. Blood Drive
7. Shiners' Hospital Golf Tournament
8. Toys for Tots Foundation Drive
9. Run for Youth
10. Sponsor Ethiopian Child
11. Teen Gift Drive
12. Elementary Classroom Assistant
13. Elementary Soccer Camp
14. Make-A-Wish Talent Fundraiser
15. Elementary Cheer Camp
16. Dominican Republic Fundraiser
17. Start Nonprofit Organization
18. Organize Youth Music Event
19. Music Variety Show Fundraiser
20. Invisible Children Awareness
21. 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament
22. Coach Youth Soccer
23. Community Resource Handbook
24. Create Brochure for Teens
25. Create Church Kiosk
26. Create Quilt for Project Linus
27. Run Homework Club
28. Build and Donate a... Bike, Dresser, Entertainment Center, Telescope, Dog House, Acoustic Guitar, Go-Kart, etc...

EXPERIENTIAL LEARNING PATH

Experiential Learning Projects

Projects that fall into this category are centered on a project or experience that the student would like to undertake. The student must be able to demonstrate meaningful growth over time through the completion of their chosen project. Additionally, the student must demonstrate self-improvement as a result of completing the project. Examples (but certainly not limited to) of projects that could fit into this category are as follows:

1. Write Full-Length Movie Script
2. Research Education Reform
3. Train for and Run a Marathon
4. Design Animated Stories
5. Landform & Topography Models
6. Photography Portfolio
7. 4-Tier Stacked Cake Decoration
8. Cooking Portfolio with 15 Recipes
9. Custom Longboard Trucks
10. Film & Edit Wedding Video
11. Vehicle Body Restoration
12. Solo, Duet & Quartet Performance
13. Local Sports History Book
14. Document Life of Grandparents
15. Modern Tattoo Magazine
16. Repair & Refurnish Furniture
17. Enclose Existing Carport
18. Middle Eastern Horse Barding
19. Remodel Bathroom & Build Closet
20. Computer Hacking Research
21. Take Ceramic Lessons
22. Create Comedic Action Comic
23. Build Two-Story Dog House
24. Ski / Snowboard Movie
25. Car Sound System
26. Construct Elizabethan Gown
27. Create Bow Drill Manual
28. Write Full-Length Children's Book

TIMELINE

Completed by April of Junior year:

- Choose your topic and topic path (personal growth experiential or service learning)
- Find Advisor
- Complete Project Proposal
- Obtain Approval signatures
 - a. Principal
 - b. Senior Graduation Project Coordinator
 - c. Advisor
 - e. Parent

Over summer before and through Senior year:

Work towards achieving the action steps and completion of project; complete time logs and acquire necessary signatures

- Document (digital video; digital photos; interviews; etc.) progress
- Work toward completion of project
- Achieve 5 checkpoint signatures, and 5 journal entries/reflections

December or May of Senior year (depending upon approved presentation window):

- Prepare portfolio and digital presentation
- Present to panel of judges

PROJECT GUIDELINES

- Completed proposal form and contract; acknowledgement of choice of experiential versus community service project
- Signed agreement between student, parent, project advisor, and principal
- Five signed/completed checkpoints throughout the 12th grade year
- Minimum of 30 invested hours, total
- Documentation of hours of work via traditional/video journaling and creation of portfolio, which will include:
 - Cover Page
 - Student name
 - Project name
 - Resume
 - Description and rationale for project
 - Project proposal
 - Five journal entries signed by your advisor
 - Time log
 - Photos/drawings/digital media associated with project
 - Written summary and personal reflection
- Digitally-grounded presentation to panel (7 to 10 minutes in length)
- A proficient oral presentation score as evidenced by rubric from panel members
- A successfully completed checklist that includes adequate scores on contract, time logs, portfolio, and oral presentation

PROJECT PROPOSAL

(SAMPLE)

Students will need to get a signed project approval by their parent, Mentor, Senior Graduation Project Graduation Coordinator, and by either Mr. Everson or Mr. Cashore.

Evansville High School Senior Graduation Project

Graduation Project Contract Proposal

Student Name: _____ Date: _____

Student Email: _____

Parent Name: _____ Parent E-mail: _____

Home Phone #: _____ Parent Work/Cell #: _____

Title of Project: Remodel Evansville Community Daycare

Learning Path: *Service-Learning/Community Service* **OR** *Experiential*

A. ABSTRACT

For my Senior Project I plan on remodeling the Evansville Daycare. This remodel will consist of retexturizing the wall surfaces, painting the walls, cubbies and shelves, carpeting the floor, hanging blinds and window treatments. Additionally, I will design floor plans to best utilize the space provided. In order to complete this project the daycare will be funding \$500 (estimated cost of materials). In addition I will organize and hold a bake sale at an EHS Football game. Once Ms. Smith and Mr. Hanke have approved all plans I will begin the remodel with the guidance of my mentor, Mr. Kostroun.

B. LEARNING PATH/STEPS – *Experiential Learning Path*

1. I will need to learn the vocabulary/terms used in remodeling.
2. I will need to learn how to patch holes in drywall.
3. I will need to learn how to prepare a wall for painting.
4. I will need to learn how to pull up carpet.
5. I will need to learn how to create a floor plan.
6. I will need to learn how to use a color chart.

C. PROJECT STEPS

- | | |
|---|----------|
| 1. Contact Ms. Smith from daycare for written permission for remodel of daycare center. | 15 Min. |
| 2. Meet with mentor, Mr. Kostroun, to go over ideas. | 1 Hr. |
| 3. Design plans/layout of remodel. | 1 Hr. |
| 4. Review plans/layout with Ms. Smith, make changes if necessary. | 1.5 Hrs. |
| 5. Purchase supplies. | 3 Hrs. |
| 6. Clear out room. | 1 Hr. |
| 7. Prep walls (clean, scraping, putty holes, sand). | 3 Hrs. |
| 8. Texture walls with guidance | 4 Hrs. |
| 9. Paint walls/window trim. | 5 Hrs. |
| 10. Clean tile floor. | 1 Hr. |
| 11. Put down carpet with assistance. | 2 Hrs. |
| 12. Paint cubbies and shelves (may need prepping). | 2 Hrs. |
| 13. Hang blinds and window treatments. | 2 Hr. |
| 14. Set-up room. | 2 Hrs. |
| 15. Feedback from Mr. Kostroun | 1 Hr. |
| 16. Make changes if necessary; feedback from Ms. Smith | 1 Hr. |
| 17. Send thank you letters. | .5 Hr. |

TOTAL	30 Hrs.
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D. DOCUMENTATION

I will provide documentation with both pictures and video showing me at work. I will also save all receipts, floor plans, letters, etc. My photos will show the room before and after. I will also include feedback from Ms. Smith and Mr. Kostroun. At my presentation, I will have all the documentation listed above as well as a video recording the progress of my work. I will also have wall-to-wall sketches of my original plans as reviewed in my project steps and a letter of evaluation from parents who send their kids to the daycare.

E. PROJECT JUSTIFICATION

This project will be a challenge for me since I have little experience in interior decorating and no experience in remodeling. This will definitely be an experiential learning opportunity, while at the same time doing some good for a local business in the community. I have worked on my own bedroom in the past, but have never done something as significant as this for an audience, which opens it up to others' reviews. I know that the remodeling will challenge my strength and follow through; tearing out carpet and sanding walls are new skills that will require my time and patience. Working with the requests of others for colors and design will also test my communication skills. I will also be forced to work on my fear of talking to adults, in order to obtain assistance and donations. Overall, I feel this project will be a significant challenge and is a valid Senior Project for me.

F. ACADEMIC HONESTY

I know it is illegal to copy someone else's words without giving them credit. It is also illegal to fabricate information and/or have someone else write any part of my paper or do my work on the project. Any of these things constitutes plagiarism and violates the

school's Academic Honesty Policy. To do so will result in a failing grade on the paper, the project, or both, and if guilty, I will not graduate, or take part in the ceremony in June.

G. COMPLETION DATES

- April – Contact Ms. Smith at daycare; request permission to remodel
- August – Prep and Paint Room
- September – Complete Project

December

OR

May – Present to the panel, then I'm done!

COSTS

Estimated costs will be \$500. These costs will include paint, supplies, carpet, window coverings, and other decorations. All costs will be covered by the Daycare Center.

X _____ (Parent signature to verify their awareness of the costs and source of funding for the costs)

Commitment/Authenticity Oath:

“I understand all of my responsibilities in completing this project, including meeting all deadlines, handing in the time log, written report, and completing the oral presentation. I also understand that all work on my Graduation Project must be my original work. I will properly cite all sources used in accordance with Evansville Community School District policy. Any plagiarism will invalidate my project and will jeopardize my graduation.”

Student Signature: _____ Date _____

Parent Signature: _____ Date _____

Advisor Signature: _____ Date _____

Principal Signature: _____ Date _____

SENIOR GRAUDATION PROJECT EVALUATION

Name: _____ Presentation date/time: _____

Topic: _____

Actual time: _____

Write in the number (1-5) representing your evaluation of the category. 1=Poor, 5=Excellent.
You may use the space at the bottom to explain and provide comments on your evaluation.

Portfolio-25 point maximum (advisor grades)

- A. Contains all required material _____
- B. Appropriate length of items in portfolio _____
- C. Organized, typed, neatness _____
- D. Grammar/spelling in portfolio material _____
- E. Summary _____

Sub total _____

Project-25 point maximum (advisor grades)

- A. Relevance & value of project to student _____
- B. Originality _____
- C. 30 hours or more of actual involvement _____
- D. Evidence of quality work _____
- E. Effort toward project _____

Sub total _____

Presentation-25 point maximum (panel member grades)

- A. Meets 7 min minimum*/10 min. maximum) _____
- B. Organized, ordered flow of presentation _____
- C. Described steps taken during project _____
- D. Visual Aids (videos, photos, etc.) _____
- E. Able to answer panel's questions _____

Sub total _____

Time Line-25 point maximum (advisor grades)

- A. Evidence of paced work on project _____
- B. Appropriate length of time for project _____

Sub total _____

Total Points _____

COMMENTS:

____ Accept

____ Reject