

WHAT IS S.W.A.P.?

- ➔ A collaboration between the Skagit County Truancy Program, local organizations, and schools to increase the number of sites that provide truant students a learning environment, opportunities for restorative accountability and the chance to build positive relationships.
- ➔ Throughout the year participating sites will be approached by a few students who have been court ordered to fulfill volunteer hours for missing school.
- ➔ Students will work on meaningful projects at S.W.A.P. sites with a supervisor to guide, support, and encourage them.
- ➔ Students are considered truant if they miss school without a valid excuse. It is not a criminal offense.

WHY BE A S.W.A.P. SITE?

- As a S.W.A.P. site you will be contributing to the health of our Skagit County students.
- The students who serve at your site will be providing valuable assistance to support your organization.
- With your support and encouragement these students may choose to continue volunteering with your organization or in the community.

To become a S.W.A.P. site contact:

Truancy Intervention Program

Tel: (360) 419-3420

Erica Fletcher

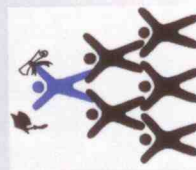
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**“Working Together Towards
Student Success”**



- ➔ SERVICE to others provides students accountability and a connection with their community.
- ➔ WITH your help students build meaningful relationships and develop important life and work skills.
- ➔ A traditional community service model misses important elements for sustainable change in students. S.W.A.P. brings focus to nurturing relationships, meaningful work, and community partnerships.
- ➔ Service with a PURPOSE creates opportunities for students to make valuable contributions within our community and for organizations to lend support and guidance.

STUDENT BENEFITS

- Students who are engaged in their community are more likely to do well in school, graduate, vote, and be philanthropic.
- Restorative accountability supports a student's commitment to their community while helping them gain applicable life and work skills needed to help shape their future.
- Students develop competencies in communication, problem solving, and relationship building when working with supportive adults. For many this will be their first work experience. For some, this experience will lead them to future volunteering in their communities.



Skagit County Community Services
Truancy Intervention Program
 309 South Third Street, Mt. Vernon

COMMUNITY BENEFITS

- With just one hour of service a week students are 50% less likely to abuse drugs, alcohol, cigarettes, or engage in destructive behavior.
- By changing misconceptions of truant students S.W.A.P. creates opportunities for integration and positive contributions.
- When students have fulfilling experiences working in their community, it reinforces their commitment to that community and to themselves.
- The economy benefits when students graduate from high school.

