

# PSL Process

By Allison Camper

Perry Service Learning is a class offered at Perry High School that gives students the opportunity to help out their own community. Taught by Mrs. Trentanelli and Mr. Soeder, the class takes two full semester blocks, and gives students an English and History credit along with a community service credit. Students learn how to service their own community, by working with an organization like Footprints Center for Autism or Perry Rec sports. The class starts off with a lesson on rules, and an introduction to some of the curriculum they will go over. By the second week, students are preparing for interview day.

Interview day is the day when students are interviewed by multiple representatives of organizations they can possibly work with. It's a big day, the teachers make it as professional as possible, and students dress up as if it were a real world interview for a serious job. Students are typically interviewed 3-4 times, and are put in what is deemed to be the best fit for them. When they are given an offer by one of the organizations, students typically accept and off to work by the end of the first month.

Earlier this year, two students, Zoe Hicks and Addy Reanu, brought in over 700 dollars at a swim meet for their fundraiser with Footprints Center for Autism. "We have a number of students who have done such a good job, and their supervisors are so impressed with them that they have offered them positions," Trentanelli says, when asked if any students continue their work after graduation. "There was a student our very first year at PSL who matched with her organization [Project Hope]...yesterday was her last day on the job, she has worked there for the past 17 years." Through PSL, Students can make powerful connections that last for a long time, whether it's in the workplace, college, or other projects.