

MASSP IS PROUD TO PARTNER WITH



Horace Mann



# Minnesota Association of Secondary School Principals

## Star of Innovation Award Application Form

School Name Mora High School Grade Levels 7-12

Name of School District Mora Public Schools

Name of Principal Brent Nelson and Nick Bakke

Application Submitted By Jeremy Schultz

School Street Address 118 N 9th St

City, Zip Mora, MN 55051

Telephone Number 320-679-6200

MASSP Division Central

Name of Program Mustang Volunteers

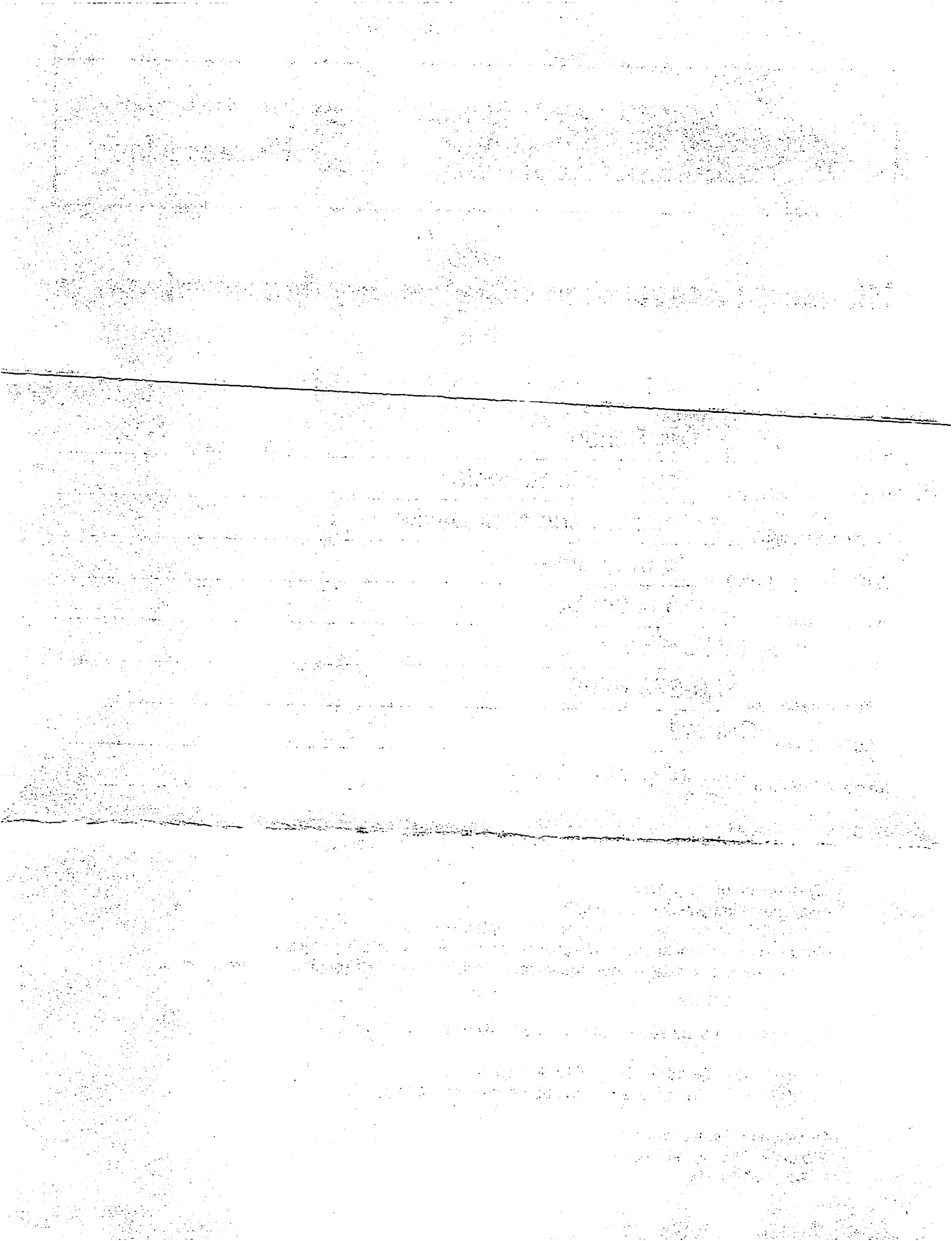
Please answer the following questions on a separate sheet/s of paper.

- Description of the program.
- How has it impacted your school?
- What difficulties did you encounter in its implementation?
- What issue/s might another school encounter in replicating this program?
- Do you have any data to show the impact of this program? If so, please share it with us.

Applications must be submitted to MASSP offices by March 1.

PHONE: 612-361-1510 • FAX: 612-361-6340  
MASSP • 2 Pine Tree Drive • Suite 380 • Arden Hills, MN 55112

Questions? Please contact:  
Bob Driver, Executive Director  
612-361-6159



## **The World's Greatest Volunteers**

### **Description of the program:**

Community members show up to our building everyday with a smile. They greet our students, make deliveries, make copies, pick up our clothing closet and food shelf, cut out laminating, and take on any other special tasks we have for them. We provide a space to put their coats, a warm welcome, and a few treats in payment for their time. Volunteers are taken through a short orientation process, with mandatory onboarding information and an interest inventory being given. We currently have nine volunteers total, with two volunteers each day from 7:45-10am. We could likely expand this program with an afternoon shift when we get additional volunteers signed on.

### **How has it impacted your school?**

Anecdotally, students being greeted at the doors have shown a significant increase in the number that make eye contact and interact with our volunteers. Teachers are pleased that passes are delivered to classrooms and they can have copies made and delivered to them. Office staff are happy to have the added help in getting through the morning tasks and can focus on answering phone calls and helping students directly.

### **What difficulties did you encounter in its implementation?**

No real hurdles in getting this program up and running, but now we are looking to expand the volunteer opportunities and are having some difficulties in getting new volunteers interested.

### **What issue/s might another school encounter in replicating this program?**

Having a space for them to check in each day? A space that you would leave your coat for the morning, clean and with treats available.

Efficient background check process? District pays for background check.

Line item for treats? Volunteers like sweet treats: cookies, breads, bars, etc.

Point person to interact with volunteers daily? Principals get busy, delegate this out.

Negative volunteer? Be upfront with expectations during orientation and monitor.

### **Do you have any data to show the impact of this program?**

From the 10/23/23 through 2/9/24, volunteers have put in 253 total hours in service at Mora High school.