

## SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS

The Board of Education supports community involvement as an integral part of the educational goals of the school district. Therefore, the development of volunteer relationships is recommended and encouraged.

Specifically, volunteers can:

- Enrich the school program by sharing their experiences and talents with students.
- Stimulate community interest, concern and support for education.
- Provide an opportunity for interested community members to become directly involved with education.
- Provide students with reinforcement of skills.
- Strengthen school-community partnerships through direct and positive participation within the schools.
- Improve student self-image and help make learning enjoyable.
- Enhance all aspects of the education process.

Duties may involve service to the libraries, classrooms, athletic events, music programs and field trips, tutoring/mentoring youth and similar activities. Volunteers shall not teach but may reinforce skills taught by district staff.

The safety and well-being of the students, staff and volunteers of the district is paramount. Therefore, the district shall conduct criminal background checks on all volunteers who will be **working directly with and/or who have access to students. Background checks will be conducted prior to the first time the individual volunteers work with the students and the district reserves the right to conduct additional background checks periodically thereafter.**

School volunteers shall be expected to abide by all applicable laws, district policies and administrative procedures when performing their assigned responsibilities. All district employees working directly with a volunteer are responsible for directing and supervising the activities of the volunteer **with broad supervision provided by the building principal.** Volunteers shall be covered under the district's liability policy while performing their authorized duties.

Volunteers shall be restricted from access to confidential student and employee record information except as otherwise specifically provided and consistent with legal requirements and district policies and procedures. Volunteers shall be responsible for maintaining confidentiality regarding information seen or heard while working as a volunteer.

It is the responsibility of district teacher and administrators to recognize the contributions of volunteers, with the advice and assistance of other employees.

APPROVED: December 19, 2000