

Palmyra Area School District

SECTION: COMMUNITY

TITLE: VOLUNTEERS

ADOPTED: AUGUST 14, 2014
MAY 14, 2015,
AUGUST 11, 2016

916. VOLUNTEERS	
1. Purpose	In order to devote more time to teaching, coaching, and exposing students to the benefits of the diverse talents and skills of community resources, the Palmyra Area School District shall permit and encourage a program of school volunteer assistance and training.
2. Definition	<p>Visitor – one who enters the school for a specific purpose such as a conference with a teacher or administrator or to provide a one-time service (such as an assembly or presentation to a class or classes). A visitor does not provide ongoing service to the school district or interact one on one with the children. A visitor does not act in a caretaking role with the children and is not left in the company of the children without approved supervision. In addition, a visitor may or may not be compensated for their services to the district as with an assembly or presentation. A visitor is not considered to be a volunteer with the district. Examples include, but are not limited to, volunteering to assist in classroom celebrations, attending school assemblies or concerts, reading to students, collecting tickets at sporting events, working concession stands, participating in “Career Day”, “Kid’s Night Out”, “Field Day”, school dances, “Mini-thon” (not overnight), carnivals/fairs, and PTO/Booster events, etc.</p> <p>Volunteer – is an adult, whose role is more than that of a visitor, one who voluntarily offers a service to the school district, providing care, supervision, guidance or control of children and having routine interaction with children, without compensation. A volunteer is not a school employee. Examples include, but are not limited to, long-term volunteers, overnight/off campus chaperone/volunteers, tutors, coaches, activity/club advisors, recess or library aides, district security personnel, band/musical personnel, etc.</p> <p>Long-Term Volunteer – one who voluntarily provides a service to the school district, without compensation, from time to time throughout the entire school year. Said service does not necessarily have to be performed on consecutive days; the intent, however, is to use a long-term volunteer over an extended period of time throughout the school year. A volunteer that provides a one time service for ten (10) or more hours is also considered to be long term.</p>

<p>3. Guidelines</p> <p>SC111 23 PA CSA 6301 et seq</p> <p>28 PA CODE Sec. 23.44</p> <p>SC111 Title 22 Sec. 8.1 et seq. 23 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 6301 et seq.</p>	<p>Overnight/Off Campus Chaperone/Volunteer – one who voluntarily provides a service to the school district, without compensation, as a chaperone on a trip where the students leave the campus or stay overnight at a hotel, motel, school, or other arrangements approved by the school district. This includes volunteers/chaperones who offer their home to students who are visiting our community through such events as district band, state band, or foreign exchange.</p> <p>The names of all volunteers shall be submitted for approval by the Superintendent or designee, with the exception of volunteer coaches, which shall be submitted for approval by the Board.</p> <p>All volunteers shall work under the direction of and be responsible to the teacher or coach to whom they are assigned.</p> <p>The building administrator or designee shall assume general authority and responsibility over all volunteers serving at that site.</p> <p>Volunteers shall at no time assume responsibility for the complete direction and/or control of students.</p> <p>Prior to service as a volunteer who works directly with students, all candidates will be provided training to familiarize them with the procedures governing their service, including Mandated Reporting Guidelines.</p> <p>Volunteers as herein defined shall be required to submit current Act 34 PA State Police Criminal History, Act 151 Child Abuse Certification, Act 24 Arrest/Conviction Report, and FBI Federal Criminal History, as well as proof of a Tuberculosis Screening.</p> <p>Certifications from another organization that were issued less than five years from the current date may be submitted. All certifications are valid for five years from the date of issuance and must be renewed pursuant to law.</p> <p>A student, eighteen (18) years of age or older, who is volunteering for an event or activity sponsored by the school in which the student is enrolled and occurring on the school's grounds, shall not be required to submit certifications except when the event or activity is for children in the care of a child-care service or the student will otherwise be responsible for the welfare of a child. Certifications are required for students age 18 or older serving as counselors for Outdoor Education. In-state affidavit will be accepted for FBI certification.</p> <p>References: School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 111 State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 31 et seq. State Department of Health Regulations – 28 PA Code Sec. 23.44 Child Protective Services Law – 23 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 6301 et seq.</p>
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