

Series 1000

Community Relations

Volunteers, Student Interns and other Non-Employees

For the purpose of this policy, volunteers are defined as those individuals who volunteer their time to assist in schools for the benefit of the student body with the express knowledge, consent and direction of an Eastford School employee. Student interns are defined as individuals currently enrolled in a post-secondary program for which an authorized internship is required or for which the student may be granted credit as part of an approved course of study. As with other volunteers, all student interns must be approved in advance by the building administrator or his/her designee and must be under the direction of a Board employee.

The Board of Education recognizes that volunteers can make many valuable contributions to our schools. The Board endorses a program encouraging community residents to take an active role in improving schools and to become school volunteers in schools subject to suitable regulations and safeguards to be developed by the Administration. Appropriate recognition of volunteer services shall be made by the Board and school district administration.

The Board of Education encourages the use of volunteers to: (1) increase students' educational attainment, (2) provide enrichment experiences for students, (3) increase the effective utilization of staff time and skills, (4) give more individual attention to students, and (5) promote greater community involvement.

The Superintendent shall establish procedures for securing and screening resource persons and volunteers. Volunteers may be required to submit to state and federal criminal record checks and a record check of the Department of Children and Families ("DCF") Child Abuse and Neglect Registry. No person who is required to register as a sex offender under state or federal law, or whose name is currently listed on the DCF registry shall be allowed to volunteer at the Eastford Elementary School.

Volunteers, interns and other such non-employees working within the schools ("volunteers") must work under the supervision of Eastford Elementary School staff. Volunteers are held to the same standards of conduct as school staff and must observe all Board of Education policies, including applicable policies on the confidentiality of student information.

Employees of the Eastford School District who choose to serve as volunteers on committees or in organization such as, but not limited to PTO or Sports Boosters, will not be compensated.

Persons interested in volunteering their services should contact the school principal.

Legal References:

Connecticut General Statutes §10-4g Programs to encourage participation in the educational process;
 § 10-235 Indemnification of teachers, board members, employees and certain volunteers and students in damage suits; expenses of litigation.

Connecticut General Statutes § 10-220

Connecticut General Statutes § 54-250 et seq.

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