IJOC School Volunteers

Issued 8/10

Purpose: To establish the board's vision for the use of volunteers in the district's programs.

The board supports volunteer programs which are professionally organized and promote better educational opportunities for students. The board believes in using resources in the community to increase the learning opportunities for students. The board also believes that the appropriate use of volunteers will allow teachers to function in their professional capacities.

A professionally run school volunteer program serves as a means of coordinating all volunteer activity in the schools. The school volunteer program is school-oriented. All projects and requests originate within the school and are supervised by the professional staff. The board encourages teachers to use volunteers but that use is optional. Volunteers will work with students under the immediate supervision and direction of a certificated person.

The school volunteer program is decentralized except that the approval of volunteers requires appropriate background checks, which are processed and approved at the district office. These background checks will include a check of the National Sex Offender Registry (see IJOC-R). Each principal or teacher plans for volunteer help in areas that fulfill a different need in each school. At the district level, the superintendent or his/her designee serves as a consultant in areas of implementation, coordination, training, placement and recognition. The school volunteers, though unpaid, have been and will continue to be professional and dependable in the donation of their time.

Except where otherwise provided by law, all prospective volunteers will inform the principal/supervisor or the district’s chief human resources officer if they have a communicable disease that poses any significant health or safety risk to students or staff members prior to assisting at any district location. If the principal/supervisor is notified of the prospective volunteer's condition, he/she will notify the chief human resources officer. Upon receiving notice that a prospective volunteer has a communicable disease, the chief human resources officer will consult with the district’s legal counsel prior to making any decision/recommendation regarding the individual’s ability to volunteer in the district. Information shared during this process is strictly confidential.

Adopted 11/23/72; Revised 1/22/80, 7/1/03, 8/10/10

Legal references:
South Carolina Code of Laws, 1976, as amended:

Section 16-3-655—Criminal sexual conduct with a minor; aggravating and mitigating circumstances; penalties; repeat offenders.

Section 16-1-60—Violent crimes defined.

Section 23-3-115—Fees for criminal record searches conducted for charitable organizations.

Section 23-3-130—Determination of information to be supplied and methods of evaluation and dissemination; promulgation of rules and regulations.

Section 23-3-430—Sex offender registry; convictions and not guilty by reason of insanity findings requiring registration.

Section 59-19-117—Background checks.

Richland County School District Two