VISTA UNIFIED SCHOOL DISTRICT

Community Relations

BOARD POLICY NO. 1240: VOLUNTEER ASSISTANCE

The Board of Education encourages parents/guardians and other members of the community to share their time, knowledge and abilities with students. Volunteer assistance in schools enriches the educational program, enhances supervision of students and contributes to school safety while strengthening the schools' relationships with the community. The Board also encourages community members to serve as mentors providing support and motivation to students.

The Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement a plan for recruiting, screening and placing volunteers, including strategies for reaching underrepresented groups of parents/guardians and community members. He/she may also recruit community members to serve as mentors and/or make appropriate referrals to community organizations.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures to protect the safety of students and adults. These procedures shall include laws related to tuberculosis testing and may also include laws related to criminal record checks.

Volunteers shall be provided with information about school goals, programs and practices and shall receive an orientation and other training related to their specific responsibilities as appropriate. Employees who supervise volunteers shall ensure that volunteers are assigned meaningful responsibilities that capitalize on their skills and expertise and maximize their contribution to the educational program.

Volunteers shall act in accordance with district policies, regulations and school rules. At their discretion, employees who supervise volunteers may ask any volunteer who violates school rules to leave the campus. Employees also may confer with the principal or designee regarding any such volunteers. The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible for investigating and resolving complaints regarding volunteers.

Volunteer maintenance work shall be limited to those projects that do not replace the normal maintenance duties of classified staff.

Volunteer aides shall not be used to assist certificated staff in performing teaching or administrative responsibilities in place of regularly authorized classified employees who have been laid off. (Education Code 35021)

Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE
35021 Volunteer aides
35021.1 Automated records check
44010 Sex offense; definition
44227.5 Classroom participation by college methodology faculty
44814-44815 Supervision of students during lunch and other nutrition periods
45125 Fingerprinting requirements
45340-45349 Instructional aides
45360-45367 Teacher aides
49406 Examination for tuberculosis

GOVERNMENT CODE
3100-3109 Oath or affirmation of allegiance
3543.5 Prohibited interference with employees' rights
HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE
1596.871 Fingerprints of individuals in contact with child day care facility clients
LABOR CODE
3364.5 Persons performing voluntary services for school districts
PENAL CODE
290 Registration of sex offenders
290.4 Information re sex offenders
CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 22
101170 Criminal record clearance
101216 Health screening, volunteers in child care centers
UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 20
6319 Qualifications and duties of paraprofessionals, Title I programs
ATTORNEY GENERAL OPINIONS
COURT DECISIONS
Whisman Elementary School District, 15 Public Employee Reporter for California, 22043

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