

Community Relations

SUBJECT: SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS

The Board recognizes the need to develop a school volunteer program to support District instructional programs and extracurricular activities. The purpose of the volunteer program will be to:

- a) Assist employees in providing more individualization and enrichment of instruction;
- b) Build an understanding of school programs among interested citizens, thus stimulating widespread involvement in a total educational process;
- c) Strengthen school/community relations through positive participation.

Volunteers are persons who are willing to donate their time and energies to assist principals, teachers, and other school personnel in implementing various phases of school programs. Volunteers shall serve in that capacity without compensation or employee benefits except for liability protection under the District's insurance program. In addition, the Gouverneur Central School District Board of Education provides Workers' Compensation coverage for volunteers for school related activities. The District shall keep accurate records regarding the name(s) of volunteers, the days and hours worked and the job(s) performed.

An application shall be filled out by each prospective volunteer and forwarded to the District Office for evaluation. The Building Principal will forward his/her decisions concerning selection, placement and replacement of volunteers to the Superintendent for final evaluation. Following approval from the Superintendent of Schools, volunteers selected for work in the District shall be placed on the list of approved volunteers. However, the Superintendent retains the right to approve or reject any volunteer applications submitted for consideration.

The Board of Education directs the Superintendent/designee to develop regulations to implement this policy and to periodically inform the Board of the progress of the school volunteer program.

Volunteer Protection Act of 1997,
42 United State Code (USC) Section 14501 et seq.
Education Law Sections 3023 and 3028
Public Offices Law Section 18

NOTE: Refer also to Policy # 6540 -- Defense and Indemnification of Board Members and Employees

Adopted: 8/5/96
Revised: 7/6/98