

ATHENS AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: COMMUNITY

TITLE: VOLUNTEERS AND
CHAPERONES

ADOPTED: September 8, 2015

REVISED:

<p>1. Authority SC 111 23 Pa. C.S.A. Sec. 6301 et seq</p> <p>2. Definition</p> <p>3. Guidelines</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">916. VOLUNTEERS AND CHAPERONES</p> <p>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 Board shall permit and encourage a program of school volunteer assistance and training.</p> <p>Volunteers shall not be asked to assume the professional responsibilities of the district staff, but may, under the direction of a staff member who has been granted administrative permission, provide assistance in the identified activity which is supportive, reinforcing or enriching in nature.</p> <p>The basic requirements for volunteer service shall be an interest and enjoyment of children and a sincere belief that s/he has a contribution to make to the learning process.</p> <p>The district shall require district volunteers and chaperones to have the Act 34 clearance prior to participation in any district programs.</p> <p>Volunteer shall mean any person not employed by the district who serves in any capacity on an unpaid basis within the district.</p> <p>With the approval of the district administrators, <u>volunteers assigned on a regular, routine basis</u>, i.e. coaches, advisors, etc., who may be reasonably expected to be present with students <u>without a district employee present</u> in the immediate area shall be required to:</p> <p><u>Complete A Volunteer Personal Data Sheet</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Obtain a current (less than one (1) year old) Act 34 State Police Criminal History Background Clearance. 2. Obtain a current (less than one (1) year old) Act 151 Child Abuse History Clearance.
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Title 22
Sec. 12.41

3. Obtain a current Act 114 FBI Clearance.
4. Complete the Act 24 Arrest/Conviction Certification form.
5. Undergo a tuberculosis examination if volunteering more than ten (10) hours per week (field trips excluded).

Temporary volunteers such as field trip chaperones must obtain only the Act 34 clearance unless the trip is over-night, in which case the Act 114 clearance is required also.

Persons who volunteer a minimum of once per year shall not be required to submit clearances each year; however, the Act 24 Certification Statement will be in effect and notification of an arrest or conviction within seventy-two (72) hours is required.

Classroom or assembly guest speakers are not required to obtain clearances, provided a school employee is present at all times.

If a volunteer meets the criteria established to serve as volunteer and can complete per administrative directive the scope of the duties of a volunteer, the administration shall approve them as a volunteer with a specific assignment.

The Board shall approve all individuals as volunteers upon recommendation of the district administration.

References:

School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 111

State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 8.1 et seq., 12.41

Child Protective Services Law – 23 PA C.S.A. Sec. 6301 et seq.