

**PARTICIPATION BY THE PUBLIC**

The Board encourages volunteers and/or residents of the community who are especially qualified because of training, experience, or personal characteristics to take an active part in school affairs. Such persons may be invited to act as advisers both as groups and individually in:

- A. Clarifying the general ideas and attitudes held by our residents regarding school;
- B. Determining the purposes of courses of study and special services to be provided for pupils; evaluating the extent to which these purposes are being achieved by present practices;
- C. Giving active assistance to the professional staff in the actual operation of classes and services where the Superintendent or his/her designee and staff deem such aid valuable;
- D. Offering suggestions on a specific problem or set of closely related problems about which the Board must make a decision;
- E. Coordinating the delivery of social services to students.

The following guidelines shall govern the service of school volunteers:

- 1. Volunteers may serve only under the direction and supervision of a teaching staff member;
- 2. Volunteers should clearly understand their duties and responsibilities and perform no service outside those duties;
- 3. Volunteers serve only in a support capacity in that only teaching staff members are responsible for educational planning and decisions and the teaching of new concepts;
- 4. Volunteers shall respect the individuality, dignity, and worth of each student;
- 5. Volunteers are not permitted access to pupil records;
- 6. Volunteers should exercise discretion in discussing their school activities with others in the community;
- 7. Volunteers may consult with the Building Principal regarding their duties and responsibilities; and

8. Volunteers shall receive no financial remuneration from the Board.

Volunteers carrying out prescribed functions under the supervision of designated professional staff members shall be covered by the Board's liability insurance policy. All school volunteers that have regular contact with pupils for more than twenty (20) hours per month must have a criminal background check, receive training and information on the Board's Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying Policy, and be fingerprinted at the Board's expense, sign a waiver for workers' compensation and provide documentation that a Mantoux test has been administered.

The Superintendent or his/her designee shall supervise development of programs and procedures to enlist community participation in school events and deliberations. He/she shall keep on file information on all volunteers and documentation that requirements of law have been fulfilled. The Superintendent or his/her designee shall report to the Board on all aspects of community support of the educational program.

Neither the Superintendent nor any Building Principal shall be obligated to utilize the proffered services of a volunteer, whether or not his/her abilities or interests serve the needs of pupils.

The Board, Superintendent, Superintendent's designee and the staff will give substantial weight to the advice that they receive from individuals and community groups interested in the school, especially those individuals and groups that have been invited or created to advise them regarding selected problems. The Board, Superintendent, Superintendent's designee and staff shall use their own best judgment in arriving at decisions.

The Superintendent or his/her designee shall report to the public annually on all aspects of community support of the educational program.

Date: February 11, 1997

Reviewed/Revised: November 24, 2008

Reviewed/Revised: April 30, 2012

<b><u>Legal References:</u></b>	N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1	Criminal history record; employee in regular contact with pupils
	N.J.S.A. 18A:11-1	General mandatory powers and duties
	N.J.S.A. 18A:54-20	Powers of Board (county vocational schools)
	N.J.A.C. 6A:10A-53 <i>et seq</i>	Establishment of School Leadership Council
	N.J.A.C. 6A:32-12.1	Reporting requirements

Anti Bullying Bill of Rights Act

Manual for the Evaluation of Local School Districts

**Possible**

<b><u>Cross References:</u></b>	1000/1010	Concepts and roles in community relations; goals and objectives
	1120	Board of education meetings
	1210	Community organizations
	1220	Ad hoc advisory committees
	5020	Role of parents/guardians
	5131.1	Harassment, Intimidation and Bullying
	6162.4	Community resources