

The board recognizes the valuable contributions which school volunteers can make to the learning process and educational goals of the school district. Instructional programs are enhanced through the participation of community members, local business and industry, and parents of the students. These volunteers contribute time, resources, and expertise and provide needed support to help ensure educational success for all children.

Schools will notify parents of their right to take four hours of paid leave from their jobs every year in order to volunteer in the schools as stated in G.S. 95-28.3.

The board encourages schools to develop and implement plans for utilizing school volunteers. The superintendent and his or her designees will be responsible for the implementation and supervision of school volunteer programs. School volunteer programs must provide the following:

- adequate screening of volunteers based upon the amount of contact they will have with students;
- reasonable supervision of volunteers based at least in part upon the amount of contact they will have with students; and
- adequate training of volunteers, including familiarizing volunteers with applicable laws, board policies, administrative procedures and school rules.

Volunteers may be subject to background, criminal record and reference checks to the same extent as school system employees. Principals may limit or terminate the activities of a volunteer in the best interest of the school.

All school volunteers will be expected to be professional and dependable in their volunteer activities.

Legal References: G.S. 115C-36, -47; -203 to -209.1

Cross References: Parental Involvement (policy 1310/4002), Participation in Research Projects (policy 5230)

Administrative Procedure: Yes

Adopted: April 9, 1998 to become effective July 1, 1998

Revised: November 8, 2007, March 12, 2009