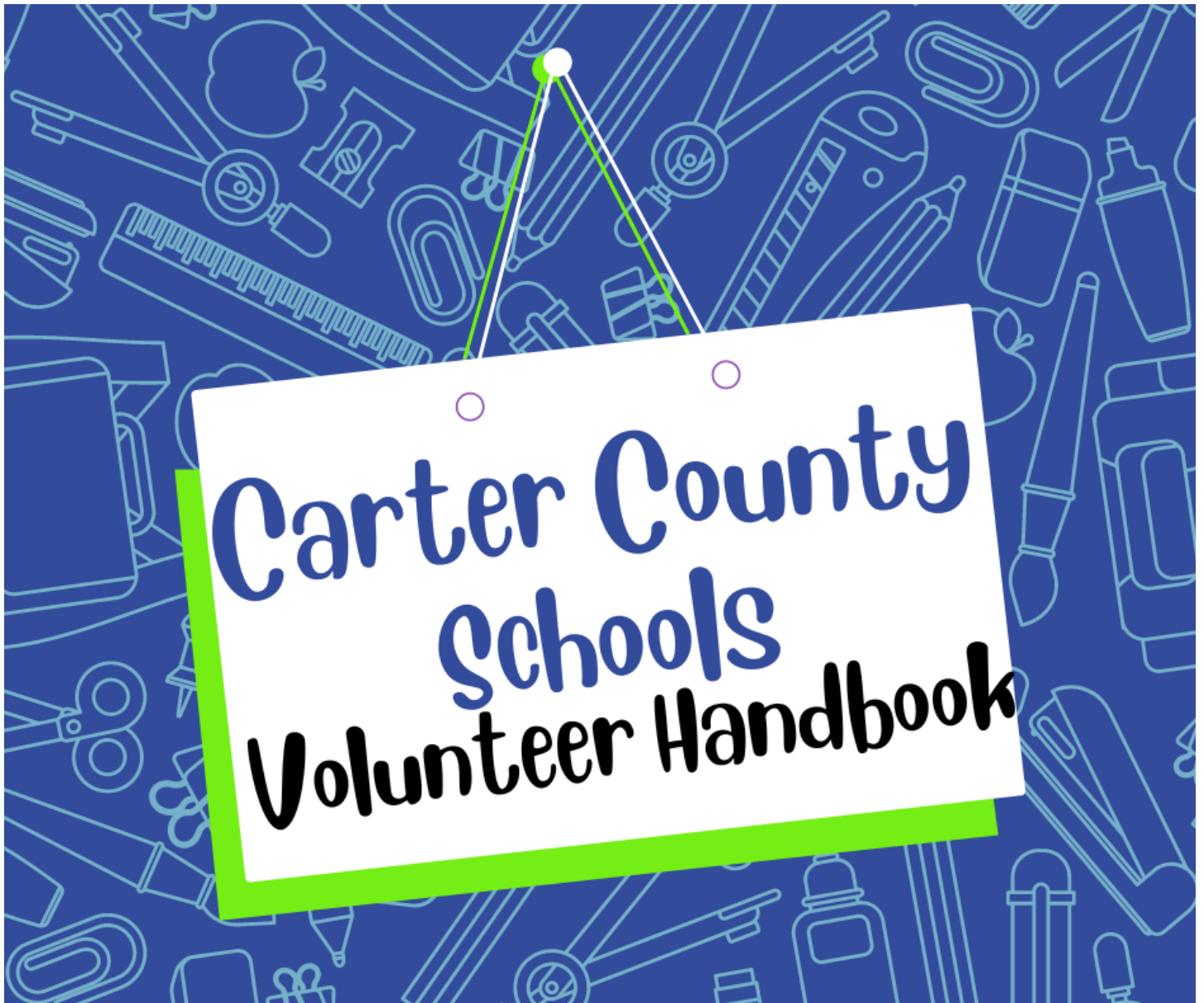


Volunteers make a difference.



Superintendent Dr. Paul Green
Chief Academic Officer Dr. Jennifer Fraley

Carter County Schools Volunteer Handbook

Mission

The mission of Carter County Schools is to create a collaborative community that ensures all students excel and graduate prepared to be a global citizen.

Family and Community Engagement

Carter County Schools recognizes that family and community engagement is essential as we partner to educate our students and prepare them for the future. Carter County Public Schools envision a districtwide culture that promotes collaborative partnerships to support student learning, enrich educational experiences, and prepare them to excel as successful citizens.

Parents Matter

Research shows that students with involved parents are more likely to:

- Earn higher grades and test scores
- Enroll in higher-level programs
- Pass their classes and earn credits
- Attend school regularly
- Have better social skills, improved behavior, and adapt well to school

What is Family Engagement?

Family engagement is a shared responsibility to actively support a child's learning and development. Engagement is continuous throughout a child's life, spanning from birth until high school graduation. Family engagement is carried out everywhere that children learn- at home, in pre-schools, in afterschool programs, community programs, and extracurricular activities.

Staying involved in your child's education is the single most important factor in educating your child. Thank you for dedicating time to your child's school and the investment into the educational process. It does take a village and we are so thrilled to have you as one of the most valuable members of our team.

How do I get started?

Volunteer Procedures

Background Check

In an effort to continue to provide for the safety of our students, Kentucky law specifically requires all schools to obtain criminal records checks for adult volunteers in our schools (KRS 161.148).

- The law considers a volunteer to be any adult who assists teachers, administrators, or other staff in public school classrooms, schools, or school district programs, and who does not receive compensation for their assistance.
- A records check is required for all volunteers who have contact with students on a regularly scheduled or continuing basis, or who have supervisory responsibility for children at school or on school-sponsored trips.
- Requests for records will be made to the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC). Furthermore, records for volunteerism will be kept and maintained by Carter County Schools Human Resource department for a period of four (4) years. After four (4) years, the records will be deleted from the database and volunteers are required to reapply for a background check.

- CA/N Completed
- Criminal Check Completed
- Orientation is now required before getting scheduled to volunteer

Required Documents

1. [Criminal Background Check](https://kycourts.gov/AOC/Information-and-Technology/Pages/Background-Checks.aspx)
<https://kycourts.gov/AOC/Information-and-Technology/Pages/Background-Checks.aspx>
2. [CAN Check Registry Online](https://ssointernal.chfs.ky.gov/adfs/ls/?wa=wsignin1.0&wtrealm=https%3A%2F%2Fkog.chfs.ky.gov%2Fhome%2F&wctx=rm%3D0%26id%3Dpassive%26ru%3D%252Fhome%252F&wct=2022-07-22T19%3A01%3A04Z) - requires a copy of birth certificate, social security card or driver's license to be uploaded into the system. \$10 fee.
<https://ssointernal.chfs.ky.gov/adfs/ls/?wa=wsignin1.0&wtrealm=https%3A%2F%2Fkog.chfs.ky.gov%2Fhome%2F&wctx=rm%3D0%26id%3Dpassive%26ru%3D%252Fhome%252F&wct=2022-07-22T19%3A01%3A04Z>

Volunteer Times are at the discretion of the building principal. Times and activities will vary from school to school.

All volunteers who pass the background check will attend a required orientation prior to beginning to volunteer in your child's school.

Confidentiality

We have a legal obligation to protect the privacy of students and staff. Schools are required by the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) and the Kentucky Family Education Rights and Privacy Act to keep student information confidential.

How do I keep from violating the requirements of FERPA?

Do not provide verbal, audio, video, or written information about students to other individuals unless they work directly with the student and have a legitimate educational interest as defined.

Confidentiality means PROTECTING all school records and personally identifiable information about a student.

What are school records?

- Student grades
- Health information
- Attendance reports
- Conduct reports
- Court records
- Test scores and results
- Applications

What is personally identifiable information?

- Student and family names and address
- Student social security numbers or school identification number
- Descriptions about the student or situations in which the student has been involved
- Any information, including behavior, which is shared with others which makes it possible to identify a student

Volunteer Guidelines

School Management

Principals are responsible for the management of buildings and have the final authority over what happens in the school. Teachers are responsible for the management of individual classrooms. Please be respectful of classroom, school and district policies and procedures.

Sign In Procedure

All volunteers and visitors are asked to sign in and out of the office for many reasons:

Volunteers will wear a volunteer badge or identification tag.

- Safety and security of students, staff, and volunteers; school officials need to know who is in the school building at all times.
- Schools report the number of volunteer hours contributed in annual reports to local, state, and federal agencies
- Volunteer hours and statistics may be used in grant applications.
- NOTE: When you sign in, you are agreeing to abide by our confidentiality policy. On the sign-in sheet, indicate your purpose, destination and time.

Discipline is the responsibility of the professional staff. Report- Don't Discipline!

Dependability

Our volunteers serve as role models for all students. Volunteers should dress appropriately for the conditions and performance of their duties. Follow the dress code for the Faculty.

Volunteering is important. Once scheduled, know that activities will be scheduled based on that. Please, respect instructional time by focusing on the tasks. It is not a time for impromptu teacher conferences. Children cannot attend volunteer activities with you.

Emergency Procedures

Follow the posted information in the classroom.

Commonwealth of Kentucky
Court of Justice
Criminal Background Check

Please **Print or Type** the individual's information clearly.

Name: _____

Maiden or Alias names: _____

Date of Birth: _____ Social Security No. _____

Street Address _____

City, State, Zip Code: _____

Phone Number _____

Email Address: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

School Name: _____ Carter County Schools _____

I understand that failure to accurately provide the information requested may result in my prosecution under K.R.S. 523.100. I have provided the basic information necessary to qualify for record processing.

Please remit to:

Cindy Thomas
Personnel Department
Carter County Schools
228 S Carol Malone Blvd.
Grayson, KY 41143

Administrative Office of the Courts

Pretrial Services, Records Division,
100 Mill Creek Park, Frankfort, KY 40601

Pledge of Confidentiality

As a product of your association with the staff and students, there will be times when you have access to personal or academic information of a student. This information is strictly confidential and should never be discussed with anyone else including volunteers or parents. Gossip can only hurt the child and serves no purpose or benefit to the program.

I, _____, promise to keep all information obtained during my volunteer work or related to my work strictly confidential. This includes, but not limited to, knowledge of grades, behaviors or issues related to the child.

Signature

Date

Witness Signature

Dress Code

Appropriate Attire Required

It is important to maintain professionalism in the workplace. As a volunteer, you need to dress appropriately to assist with school needs.

I, _____, verify that I have received and read the Appropriate Attire Required (Dress Code) document and agree to abide by the contents as a volunteer at Carter County Schools and the Family Resource Center.

Signature

Date

Witness Signature

What can parents help us do? How can parents assist their child's school?

- Assist administration and certified staff with early and late duty procedures
- Assist FRYSC- food drives, organizing backpacks, or other activities as directed
- Assist with cafeteria supervision with an administrator or member of the professional staff
- Make copies (every copier is different).
- Develop/Design bulletin boards
- Laminate
- Cut out cards
- Assist with project days (collect and organize)
- Assist with reward days (help run a station, post, or area)
- Supplement non instructional and instructional activities as long as it is under the direction and supervision of the professional administrative and teaching staff.
- Lead families during orientation
- Participation in Parent Teacher Organizations
- Assist with Open House Activities, Fall Festivals, Winter Celebrations, Spring Carnivals, book projects, science fairs, field events, and more
- Co-sponsor a club
- Assist with sporting events
- Act as judges for competitions in which their own children are not involved
- Organize/Assist with donation drives
- Career Education - Career Day

The key is that all volunteers need a specific description of their role or description of the task they need to complete. Ask your teachers to develop a check list of items they may need a volunteer to help them with throughout the year. It is always helpful to know the number of needed copies. See *example* below:

Teacher: Henry Brown	Room number:	Class Size
<input type="checkbox"/> Copies	<input type="checkbox"/> Cut apart	<input type="checkbox"/> grading/see key
<input type="checkbox"/> Staple	<input type="checkbox"/> Staple	<input type="checkbox"/> Sort in ABC order
<input type="checkbox"/> Write the list of words on index cards	<input type="checkbox"/> Sort cards into ziploc bags	<input type="checkbox"/> Organize math manipulatives

Carter County Schools Board Policy

Volunteers 03.6

Definition

Volunteers are persons who do not receive compensation for assisting in school or District programs. Volunteers are encouraged to use their time and effort to support school and District programs. The Superintendent shall develop procedures that encourage volunteers to assist in school and/or District programs and to facilitate effective communication with persons who volunteer.

Teacher education students or students enrolled in an educational institution and who participate in observations and educational activities under direct supervision of a local school teacher or administrator in a public school shall not be considered volunteers.

Supervision

All volunteers shall provide assistance only under the direction and supervision of a member of the professional administrative and teaching staff.

Volunteers who assist in the District on a scheduled and/or continuing basis shall be provided with the same liability insurance coverage as a District employee and shall be provided with a written task description detailing responsibilities and expectations, as well as specific qualifications that may be required.

Records Check

The District shall conduct, at District expense, a state criminal records check on all volunteers who have contact with students on a regularly scheduled and/or continuing basis, or who have supervisory responsibility for children at a school site or on school-sponsored trips.

Pursuant to [KRS.160.380](#), the Superintendent/designee also may require volunteers to submit to a state and national criminal history background check and to provide a clear CA/N check. With prior approval of the Superintendent/designee, the background checks will be conducted at District expense. Otherwise, except as stated previously, the volunteer must pay for the background checks.

No volunteer shall be utilized to supervise students, or deemed to have authority to supervise students, unless the volunteer has been designated to supervise students by

the Principal and approved by the Superintendent/designee, and the volunteer has undergone the required records check.

Link to DPP-156 Central Registry Check and more information on the required CA/N check:

<https://kycourts.gov/AOC/Information-and-Technology/Pages/Background-Checks.aspx>

Work-Based Site Supervisors

Work-based learning site supervisors are considered volunteers. Pursuant to [KRS.160.380](#) and [KRS 161.148](#), prior to being assigned to supervise a student for more than one day in a work-based learning experience, the site supervisor shall have undergone a state criminal background check either as required by their employer at time of employment or within the past twelve months, whichever is the more recent.

KRS.161.148 Use of volunteer personnel - Criminal Records Check

- (1) As used in this section, “volunteers” means adults who assist teachers, administrators, or other staff in public school classrooms, schools, or school district programs, and who do not receive compensation for their work.
- (2) Local school districts may utilize adult volunteers in supplementary instructional and non instructional activities with pupils under the direction and supervision of the professional administrative and teaching staff.
- (3) Each board of education shall develop policies and procedures that encourage volunteers to assist in school or district programs.
- (4) Each local board of education shall develop and adopt a policy requiring a state criminal records check on all volunteers who have contact with students on a regularly scheduled or continuing basis, or who have supervisory responsibility for children at a school site or on school-sponsored trips. The request for records may be from the Justice and Public Safety Cabinet or the Administrative Office of the Courts, or both, and shall include records of all available convictions as described in [KRS 17.160\(1\)](#). Any request for a criminal records check of a volunteer under this subsection shall be on a form or through a process approved by the Justice and Public Safety Cabinet or the Administrative Office of the Courts. If the cabinet or Administrative Office of the Courts charges fees, the local board of education shall arrange to pay the cost which may be from local funds or donations from any source including volunteers.

- (5) The local board of education shall provide orientation material to all volunteers who have contact with students on a regularly scheduled or continuing basis, including school policies, safety and emergency procedures, and other information deemed appropriate by the local board of education.
- (6) The provisions of this section shall not apply to students enrolled in an educational institution and who participate in observations and educational activities under direct supervision of a local school teacher or administrator in a public school.

Effective: June 26, 2007

History: Amend 2007 Ky. Acts ch. 85, sec. 170, effective June 26, 2007.--Amended 2001 Ky. Acts ch. 60, sec. 1, effective June 21, 2001.-- Created 2000 Ky. Acts. ch. 336, sec. 1, effective July 14, 2000.

Orientation

The Superintendent/designee shall develop orientation materials to be provided to all volunteers who have contact with students on a regularly scheduled basis. These materials shall include, but not be limited to, pertinent policies and safety and emergency procedures.

References:

KRS 161.148
KRS 160.380
KRS 161.044

Related Policies:

03.5
08.113; 08.1131

Adopted/Amended 7/18/2019
Order #: 4K