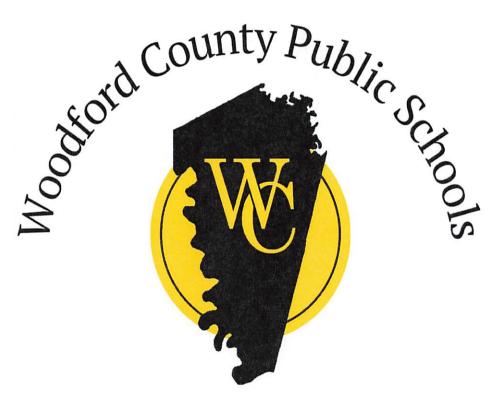
# WOODFORD COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION AGENDA ITEM

11 EN 1#: DATE: May 3, 2023
TOPIC/TITLE: District Volunteer Handbook 25-26 SY
PRESENTER: Kim Johnson
ORIGIN:
<ul> <li>□ TOPIC PRESENTED FOR INFORMATION ONLY (No board action required.)</li> <li>□ ACTION REQUESTED AT THIS MEETING</li> <li>□ ITEM IS ON THE CONSENT AGENDA FOR APPROVAL</li> <li>□ ACTION REQUESTED AT FUTURE MEETING: (DATE)</li> <li>□ BOARD REVIEW REQUIRED BY</li> </ul>
STATE OR FEDERAL LAW OR REGULATION BOARD OF EDUCATION POLICY OTHER:
PREVIOUS REVIEW, DISCUSSION OR ACTION:
<ul> <li>□ NO PREVIOUS BOARD REVIEW, DISCUSSION OR ACTION</li> <li>□ PREVIOUS REVIEW OR ACTION</li> </ul>
DATE: ACTION:
BACKGROUND INFORMATION:
The district has a volunteer handbook per policy to outline the expectations surrounding volunteering in the schools.  SUMMARY OF MAJOR ELEMENTS:
Requesting that the Board approve the Volunteer Handbook for the 25-26 SY with updates. This handbook will be incorporated into the volunteer registration process.
IMPACT ON RESOURCES: none
TIMETABLE FOR FURTHER REVIEW OR ACTION:
SUPERINTENDENT'S RECOMMENDATION: q Recommended   Not Recommended
NI U

# 2025-2026

# Volunteer Handbook



# Where Kids Win!

**Woodford County Schools** 

180 Frankfort Street

Versailles, KY 40383

(859) 879-4600

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Volunteer handbooks from the following schools and districts served as reference material for this handbook: Baraboo School District, Baraboo, WI; Beaverton School District, Beaverton, OR; Bracken County Middle School, Brooksville, KY; Lakeridge Elementary School, Mercer Island, WA; Montgomery County Public Schools, Mount Sterling, KY; and Woodford County Middle School, Versailles, KY.



Insert message from new superintendent

# WOODFORD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS 180 Frankfort Street Versailles, KY 40383-9214 (859) 879-4600 Vacant, Superintendent



Dear Woodford County Public Schools Parents and Community,

Warm regards,

New superintendent's name

Superintendent

Woodford County Public Schools

#### **BOARD MEMBERS**

Adam Brickler, Chair - Ambrose Wilson, Vice Chair

KT Gould - Sarah McCoun - Sherri Springate

**Equal Education and Employment Opportunities** 

#### **Mission Statement**

The Woodford County Public Schools, in partnership with families and the community, will **provide** challenging learning opportunities for all students, **promote** student growth and achievement, and **prepare** students to strive for excellence.

#### **Core Values**

The Woodford County Public Schools believes these core values are an essential foundation to achieving the mission of the district.

**Learning-** The Woodford County Public Schools will provide opportunities and experiences that prepare all students with academic and life skills to promote high achievement.

**Collaboration-** The Woodford County Public Schools will foster respectul, honest and caring relationships among students, families, staff, and the community to achieve common goals.

**Communication**- The Woodford County Public Schools effectively communicate in order to meet the diverse needs of our students as well as demonstrate understanding of stakeholders' perspectives, experiences and culture.

**Problem-Solving-** The Woodford County Public Schools will evaluate challenges and be innovative in decision making with high levels of integrity and in the best interest of students.

**Contribution-** The Woodford County Public Schools will continually strive to make positive contributions to the entire community.

#### **Volunteers Matter**

Research shows<sup>2</sup> that students with involved parents, regardless of family income and background, are more likely to:

- Earn higher grades and test scores, and enroll in higher-level programs
- Be promoted, pass their classes, and earn credits
- Attend school regularly
- Have better social skills, show improved behavior, and adapt well to school
- Graduate and go on to post-secondary education

Parent and community volunteers matter in the lives of students.

## **Volunteer Opportunities**

Volunteer opportunities vary by school and student age group, but they generally fall into these categories: Instructional, Staff Support, Special Event, and Organization.

#### Instructional

Instructional volunteers provide direct services to students on a regular basis under the direct supervision of professional educators, administrators, and staff. Services can include, but are not limited to the following:

- Tutoring one-on-one or in small group settings in any subject: reading, math, science, art, languages, physical education, music, special education, handwriting, etc.
- Coaching
- Mentoring
- Reading to students

#### Staff Support

Staff support volunteers free teachers from non-teaching tasks; and support administrators and clerical staff in the day-to-day operation of the school. Service opportunities can include, but are not limited to the following:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Anne T. Henderson and Karen L. Mapp, A New Wave of Evidence: The Impact of School, Family, and Community Connections on Student Achievement (Austin TX: Southwest Educational Development Laboratory, 2002)

- Making copies
- Cutting out shapes
- Decorating bulletin boards, doors, classrooms, hallways, the lunchroom, the library, or the office
- Performing clerical duties
- Filing

- Shelving or checking out books
- Stuffing folders
- Distributing materials
- Sharpening pencils
- Organizing supplies and materials
- Monitoring halls
- Landscaping

#### **Special Events**

Special event volunteers provide curriculum enrichment; and facilitate classroom and schoolwide special event programming throughout the year. Opportunities may include the following:

- Planning parties
- Chaperoning field trips
- Overseeing games and/or activities at carnivals, field days, plays, dinners, book fairs, open houses, awards ceremonies, and fundraisers
- Demonstrating crafts
- Sharing hobbies or collections
- Discussing careers

- Providing food, decorations, or materials
- Playing an instrument
- Helping with newsletters, yearbooks, or publicity
- Writing grants
- Soliciting funds and support from the community

#### Organization

Independent parent and community organizations work on behalf of the schools to enrich the lives of students and their families. Though each volunteer organization generally has a specific purpose, some of the activities typical of these groups are special project planning, fundraising, and community outreach. Some of these organizations include the following:

- PTO/PTA
- Band Boosters
- Sports Boosters
- 4-H
- Woodford Educational Endowment Foundation (WEEF)
- Woodford Association for Gifted Education (WAGE)

#### **Volunteer Procedures**

#### **Background Check**

A state criminal records check shall be conducted 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. It could take up to 2-4 weeks to obtain the results of a criminal background check. The official volunteer background check paid by our district and required

through the Administrative Office of the Courts (AOC) and CAN (Child abuse and Neglect registry) check is now good for 3 years. The Superintendent may also require such a volunteer to provide a letter from the Cabinet for Health and Family Services stating that there are no findings of substantiated child abuse or neglect on record.

#### **Training**

Prior to volunteering, check with the school office to see if they have any additional volunteer information, forms, or face-to-face training/orientation. Individual schools may require additional procedures to meet their specific needs.

#### Volunteer Interest Page

Individuals should submit a completed Volunteer Interest Page **every** school year. Forms are available in the school offices, at the district office, and at training sessions.

#### Sign In/Sign Out

All volunteers must <u>sign in and sign out by scanning bar code on name badges</u> each time they volunteer. There are many good reasons for signing in and signing out:

- For the 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.

#### Name Tags

All volunteers are required to wear a name tag/sticker (with picture and bar code) while on site. Name tags are available upon entry into the school with photo ID.

#### Participation/Confidentiality Statement

All volunteers must sign the Volunteer Participation/Confidentiality Statement and this can be completed online.

# **Volunteer Confidentiality**

We have a legal obligation to protect the privacy of students and staff.

#### What is confidentiality?

Confidentiality means **all** school volunteers protecting **all** school records and personally identifiable information about a student.

#### What is personally identifiable information?

- Student and family names and address
- Student social security 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

#### What are school records?

- Student grades
- Health information
- Attendance reports
- Conduct reports
- Court records
- Test scores and results
- Applications and status for state and federal assistance

#### Why must this type of information be kept confidential?

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.

#### What can happen to school volunteers if they share confidential student information?

A parent may file a formal complaint with the Office of Civil Rights (OCR). The OCR will investigate the matter and make a ruling that could include federal funds being withheld from the district. Also, parents may take legal action against the district, individual district employees, or volunteers.

#### 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 in the Woodford County Public Schools' policies and procedures for confidentiality. Copies of the Woodford County Public Schools' policies and procedures may be obtained at the district office.

Please contact the Director of Special Education at (859) 879-4600 if you have any questions.

#### Confidentiality Do's and Don'ts

- If you overhear a conversation or witness an incident of any kind between students, staff, or administrators; do not repeat it to others. If possible, leave the area. Do not allow yourself to be put in a controversial situation.
- Volunteers should not read or browse through folders, papers, notebooks, backpacks, or bags of any kind left in the office, in any classroom, on any desk, or in any filing cabinet.
- Sometimes students discard confidential information: report cards, detention slips, misconduct reports, etc. If you find any of these documents on school grounds, report it to the school counselor or principal. Do not take care of the matter yourself!

• Respect the privacy of the students and their families, the school staff and administrators, and other volunteers. In doing so, you'll protect yourself from any unnecessary liability.

#### **Volunteer Information**

#### Authority

Principals have the final authority over what happens in their schools, including the actions of volunteers. Please be respectful of school policies and procedures. If you have any questions, please contact the school office.

#### Etiquette

Respect instructional time. Please refrain from the following activities:

- Chattering in the hallways and classrooms
- Answering or making phone calls in the hallways and classrooms
- Wandering in the hallways
- Peeking into doorways
- Interrupting teachers

#### Dependability

Please be on time for scheduled volunteer duties. Students, teachers, and staff members rely on and plan around the services performed by volunteers. If you are unable to volunteer on your scheduled day and time, please call the school office as soon as possible.

#### **Appearance**

Volunteers should dress appropriately for the conditions and performance of their duties. Please **avoid** the following:

- Clothing with offensive logos, language, or innuendo
- See-through, ripped, frayed, or overly casual clothing (Ex. ripped jeans, pajama pants, leggings, house shoes)
- Clothing that exposes your midriff, back, cleavage, or undergarments

Shorts, skirts, and dresses should be knee-length. When in doubt, please use the school's dress code as your guide.

#### Discipline

Volunteers should intervene only if the safety of a student is in question, however volunteers should **not** discipline students. Discipline is the responsibility of the professional staff. Report—Don't Enforce!

#### **Parking**

Please park in designated parking spots. Do not park in bus loading and unloading zones or in parent drop-off and pick-up zones.

#### School Equipment

Before you use a piece of office equipment for the first time, please ask the office personnel for training. If the equipment breaks down, report the problem to the office staff immediately.

#### Internet Usage

Volunteers, who use school computers in the performance of their duties, are required to sign a WCPSNet User Contract. The WCPSNet User Contract is kept on file by the school technology coordinator or the district technology integration coordinator. Any violation of the terms of the contract may result in the loss of privileges, disciplinary action, and/or appropriate legal action. For more information, please contact the district technology integration coordinator.

#### Prohibition on Recording

Photography, audio recording, and video recording are <u>prohibited</u> during the school day except with prior permission from the school administration. The prohibition also includes after-school social events for students and after-school activities sponsored by school clubs that are not open to the public. Photography, audio recording, and video recording are permitted at school events considered to be in the public arena such as academic competitions, sporting events, awards programs, concerts, plays, and graduation ceremonies. When in doubt, please contact the school office.

#### **Valuables**

Please do not bring valuables to school. Ask your supervising teacher or the office staff where you should store your coat, umbrella, purse, or other personal items.

#### Weapons

Except for authorized law enforcement officials, the Woodford County School Board specifically prohibits the carrying of concealed weapons on school property. This policy applies to students, staff members, volunteers, and visitors to the school. Violations by volunteers and visitors will be reported to a law enforcement agency.

#### Smoking/Tobacco Use

The use of any tobacco product, alternative nicotine product, or vapor product as defined in KRS 438.305 is <u>prohibited</u> inside Woodford County School Board-owned buildings or vehicles, on school-owned property, and during school-related student trips. The ban is in effect twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week.

#### Drugs/Alcohol

Woodford County schools are drug-free/alcohol-free schools. Violations of the drug-free/alcohol-free policies may result in the notification of law enforcement officials.

#### Tax Deductions

If you itemize, some of your out-of-pocket expenses connected with volunteering may be tax deductible. Please consult your tax advisor for more information.

#### Weather Policy

Unless contacted otherwise, all volunteer activities are canceled when schools are closed for inclement weather. School closings are announced on the district website and on area radio and TV stations.

#### Preschoolers/Siblings

Please do not bring preschoolers or siblings to the school when you volunteer. Exceptions may be made for classroom parties and some field trips. Please check with your supervising teacher.

#### **Emergency Procedures**

Please familiarize yourself with the Universal Emergency Procedures listed in the next section, then review the site-specific instructions posted by the door at your volunteer location. If you have any questions, please ask your supervising teacher or the office staff for more information.

# Universal Emergency Procedures<sup>3</sup>

# A. <u>Evacuation</u> (For use when conditions outside are safer than inside)

When announcement is made or alarm sounded:

- Take the closest and safest way out as posted (use secondary route if primary route is blocked or hazardous).
- Take roll book for student accounting.
- Assist those needing special assistance.
- Do not stop for student/staff belongings.
- Go to designated Assembly Area.
- Check for injuries.
- Take attendance; report according to Student Accounting and Release procedures.
- Wait for further instructions.

# B. <u>Reverse Evacuation</u> (For use when conditions inside are safer than outside)

When the announcement is made:

- Move students and staff inside as quickly as possible.
- Assist those needing special assistance.
- Report to classroom.
- Check for injuries.
- Take attendance; report according to Student Accounting and Release procedures.
- Wait for further instructions.

# C. <u>Severe Weather Safe Area</u> (For use in severe weather emergencies)

When announcement is made or alarm sounded:

- Take the closest, safest route to shelter in designated safe areas (use secondary route if primary route is blocked or dangerous).
- Occupants of portable classrooms shall move to the main building to designated safe areas.
- Take roll book for student accounting.
- Take attendance; report according to Student Accounting and Release procedures.
- Assist those needing special assistance.
- Do not stop for student/staff belongings.
- Close all doors.
- Remain in safe area until the "all clear" is given.
- Wait for further instructions.

# D. <u>Shelter in Place</u> (For use in external gas or chemical release)

When the announcement is made:

- Students are to be cleared from the halls immediately and to report to nearest available classroom or other designated location.
- Assist those needing special assistance.
- Close and tape all windows and doors and seal the gap between bottom of the door and the floor (external gas/chemical release).
- Take attendance; report according to Student Accounting and Release procedures.
- Do not allow anyone to leave the classroom.
- Stay away from all doors and windows.
- Wait for further instructions.

# E. <u>Lockdown</u> (For use to protect building occupants from potential dangers in the building)

When the announcement is made:

- Students are to be cleared from the halls immediately and to report to nearest available classroom.
- Assist those needing special assistance.
- Close and lock all windows and doors and do not leave for any reason.
- Cover all room and door windows.
- Stay away from all doors and windows and move students to interior walls and drop.
- Shut off lights.
- BE QUIET!
- Wait for further instructions.

# F. <u>Drop, Cover and Hold</u> (For use in earthquake or other imminent danger to building or immediate surroundings)

When the command "Drop" is made:

- DROP to the floor, take cover under a nearby desk or table and face away from the windows.
- COVER your eyes by leaning your face against your arms.
- HOLD on to the table or desk legs, and maintain present location/position.
- Assist those needing special assistance.
- Wait for further instructions.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Kentucky Community Crisis Response Board (KCCRB). (2001). School-Centered Emergency Management and Recovery.

# **Volunteer Checklist**

To get off to a good start, please do the following:

Check with the school to see if they have training requirements.		
Comp	lete a Volunteer Interest Page at the back of this booklet, or a form preferred by the	
school		
Read t	the Volunteer Handbook.	
Read and sign the Volunteer Participation/Confidentiality Statement (required)		
Take your valid driver's license and social security card to any Woodford County school office		
to initiate the required background check or submit a completed Volunteer Letter of Intent to		
the sc	hool office by September 15 <sup>th</sup> to keep a current background check valid. (required)	
Learn the procedure for signing in and signing out.		
Get to know the school grounds.		
Learn the emergency procedures for the school.		
Learn how to use the office machines.		
Discuss the following with your supervising teacher or staff member:		
	Volunteer schedule	
	Classroom and/or school policies, procedures, and rules	
	Duties	
	Contact information	
	Expectations	
	Storage of personal items	

#### **Contact Information**

#### **Board of Education Members**

Mr. Adam Brickler, Chair Mr. Ambrose Wilson, Vice Chair Dr. KT Gould Ms. Sherri Springate Ms. Sarah McCoun

#### **Central Office**

180 Frankfort Street, Versailles, KY 40383
859-879-4600
Vacant, Superintendent
Mr. Garet Wells, Asst. Superintendent/Director of
Pupil Personnel DPP
Mr. Ryan Asher, Chief Academic Officer CAO
Ms. Susan Tracy, Director of Student Achievement
Mr. Scott Hundley, Coordinator of Curriculum,
Instruction, & Assessment
Ms. Tracey Francis, Director of Special Education
Dr. Josh Rayburn, Director of Technology, Chief
Information Officer CIO
Mr. Shane Smith, Chief Financial Officer CFO, Chief
Operating Officer COO

#### Woodford County High School 145 School House Road, Versailles, KY 40383

Mr. Dennis Johnson, District Athletic Director

859-879-4630
Mr. Tyler Reed, Principal
Mr. Chris O'Bryan, Assistant Principal
Mr. Clay Mattingly, Assistant Principal
Ms. Amanda Best, Associate Principal and BAC
Ms. Yvonne Jointer, Secretary
Ms. Jessica Greathouse, Secretary

#### Woodford County Middle School 100 School House Road, Versailles, KY 40383

859-879-4650
Ms. Rebecca Preston, Principal
Vacant, Assistant Principal
Mr. Kyle Norton, Assistant Principal
Mr. Dennis Wallace, Administrative Dean
Ms. Kristina Brookshire, Administrative Secretary
Ms. Sara Martin, Bookkeeper

#### Safe Harbor Academy

134 Macey Avenue, Versailles, KY 40383 859-879-4694 Mr. Logan Culbertson, Principal

#### **Huntertown Elementary School**

120 Woodburn Hall Drive, Versailles, KY 40383 859-879-4680 Mr. Ryan Wilson, Principal Ms. Amanda Nugent, Administrative Dean Vacant, Secretary

#### **Northside Elementary School**

500 Northside Drive, Midway, KY 40347 859-879-4690 Ms. Robin Taylor, Principal Lerin Parker, Administrative Dean Ms. Teter Montgomery, Secretary

#### **Simmons Elementary School**

830 Tyrone Pike, Versailles, KY 40383 859-879-4670 Mr. Joe Albert, Principal Ms. Kim Ford, Administrative Dean Ms. Wendy Bernard, Secretary Mr. Steve Sutton, WCPS Chief of Police/Safety Coordinator/Simmons SRO

#### **Southside Elementary School**

1300 Troy Pike, Versailles, KY 40383 859-879-4660 Ms. Paige Samples, Principal Ms. Mackenzie Durr, Academic Dean Ms. Shannon Brehm, Secretary

#### **Early Childhood Program**

180 Frankfort Street, Versailles, KY 40383 859-879-4699 Ms. Kim Johnson, Preschool Director Ms. Miranda Fazio, Secretary/Bookkeeper

# Community Education Program 120 Woodburn Hall Dr., Versailles, KY 40383

859-879-4628
Ms. Kim Johnson, Community Ed Director
Ms. Ashley Sullivan, Community Education
Program Manager

#### Parent/Volunteer Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_ 2025-2026 Mailing Address: **V**olunteer Home Phone: Cell Phone: Interest Email Address: **P**age Student Name(s), Grade(s), and Homeroom Teacher(s): \_\_\_\_\_ **Volunteer Opportunities** Student School(s): Please check all areas of interest and My work experience, special talents, interests, and hobbies: return this form to the school office. Thank you for supporting **Woodford County schools! Staff Support** Special Event Instructional Help as needed: Work directly with students: Assist staff in these areas: Planning parties Tutoring in the Chaperoning field trips Classroom classroom Overseeing games and/or activities at carnivals, Office field days, plays, dinners, book fairs, open Subject(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Library houses, awards ceremonies, and fundraisers **Computer Lab** Providing food, decorations, or materials Cafeteria **Demonstrating crafts** Coaching Art Sharing hobbies or collections Mentoring Music Discussing careers PΕ Reading to Helping with newsletters, yearbooks, or publicity Family Resource students Playing an instrument Center Writing grants Days: M T W TH F Days: M T W TH F Soliciting funds and support from the Times: community Times: Organization **Comments:** Help the following organizations: PTO/PTA **Band Boosters Sports Boosters** 4-H WEEF WAGE



# Volunteer Participation/Confidentiality Statement



Please read and initial the following:				
A Volunteer Handbook has been made availa	able to me either in print or electronic form.			
I have <b>read</b> the section on <b>volunteer confide</b> understand that any information I see and/or hear inteachers or students is to remain confidential.	**************************************			
I agree to sign in and sign out every time.				
I will wear a name tag or sticker every time.				
I agree to follow the Woodford County Public Schools' policies and procedures for volunteers as spelled out in the Volunteer Handbook.				
Volunteer Name (Please Print)	School Name			
Volunteer Signature	Date			