



Board Agenda Item #	Agenda # II C
Date:	December 14, 2017
To:	MPS Parent and Community Engagement Committee
From:	Caprice Young, Ed.D., CEO & Superintendent
Staff Lead:	Ismael Soto, Interim Chief External Officer & David Yilmaz, Chief Accountability Officer
RE:	Volunteer Policy – Conditions for Classroom and School Volunteer, Visitation, Shadowing, and Removal Policy

Proposed Board Recommendation

For discussion only

Previous Board Actions on the Agenda

The draft policy was brought to the board on November 9 for discussion/information and was reviewed by the Board Academic Committee on November 30 and the Parent and Community Engagement Committee on December 14.

Background

MPS encourages parents/guardians and interested members of the community to visit MPS and view the educational program. MPS also endeavors to create a safe environment for students and staff. Additionally, parents volunteering in the classroom can be extremely helpful to our teachers and valuable to our students. To ensure the safety of students and staff as well as to minimize interruption of the instructional program, MPS has established the attached policy and procedures to facilitate volunteering and visitations during regular school days.

The attached policy describes two types of volunteers: certified and single event. The application process for certified volunteers is described and an application form is attached. It is important that MPS check fingerprinting and background clearance and ask for TB risk assessment to volunteers that would like to volunteer with MPS on an ongoing basis and may have unsupervised exposure or contact with students. For all prospective volunteers (both C-Volunteers and SE-Volunteers), the MPS Principal or designee will review California Megan’s Law online database at <http://www.meganslaw.ca.gov> to ensure that prospective volunteers are not registered sex offenders.

The policy describes volunteer commitment and procedures as well as visitation/shadowing guidelines. It is important to emphasize that volunteer hours are non-mandatory. We encourage our stakeholders to volunteer and make sure that it is not interpreted as mandatory. Our charter petitions encourage parents to volunteer for non-mandatory 10 hours per year.

MPS has a parent involvement policy, which is included in our student/parent handbook. This volunteer policy is more about volunteering and visitation procedures; details can be found in the attached. We have worked with our legal counsel in creating this policy. In doing that, we reviewed our handbooks, charter petitions, and comparable district policies.

Budget Implications

N/A

How Does This Action Relate/Affect/Benefit All MSAs?

The policy provides guidelines and directions in volunteering and visitation and helps streamline our procedures.

Name of Staff Originator:

David Yilmaz, Chief Accountability Officer

Attachments

- Conditions for Classroom and School Visitation and Removal Policy 20171214

MAGNOLIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

CONDITIONS FOR CLASSROOM AND SCHOOL VOLUNTEER, VISITATION, SHADOWING, AND REMOVAL POLICY

Magnolia Public Schools (“MPS”) encourages parents/guardians and interested members of the community to visit MPS and view the educational program, MPS also endeavors to create a safe environment for students and staff. Additionally, parents volunteering in the classroom can be extremely helpful to our teachers and valuable to our students. We thank all parents for their willingness to volunteer in this manner.

To ensure the safety of students and staff as well as to minimize interruption of the instructional program, MPS has established the following procedures to facilitate volunteering and visitations during regular school days:

Volunteering Categories and Application Process

A. Certified Volunteers (“C-Volunteers”)

- a. Who are C-Volunteers: These are volunteers that would like to volunteer with MPS on an ongoing basis and may have unsupervised exposure or contact with students. Examples may include but are not limited to: classroom volunteers, tutors, field-trip volunteers, etc.
- b. Application Process: C-Volunteers must provide MPS with the following documents:
 - Volunteer Application Form (signed)
 - Volunteer Commitment Form (signed)
 - Fingerprinting and Background Clearance (if volunteering outside of the direct supervision of a credentialed employee)
 - Tuberculosis risk assessment or examination
 - Valid photo I.D. (driver’s license, passport, military ID, US or other government identification)

B. Single Event Volunteers (“SE-Volunteers”)

- a. Who are SE-Volunteers: These are volunteers that would like to volunteer at MPS for a one (1) days special event or activity and have no unsupervised exposure or contact with students. Examples may include but are not limited to: guest story reader, guest speaker, senior exhibition panel member, etc.
- b. Application Process: SE-Volunteers are not required to submit a volunteer application but must comply with the Volunteering Guidelines below and provide MPS with a valid photo I.D.

Volunteering Guidelines

Parents or guardians who are interested in volunteering must adhere to the following guidelines:

1. Volunteers must arrange volunteering schedule with the classroom teacher and/or MPS Principal or designee, at least forty-eight (48) hours in advance. Volunteering in class may be limited to certain hours or specific assignments as determined by the classroom teacher(s) or MPS administration.
2. For all prospective volunteers (both C-Volunteers and SE-Volunteers), the MPS Principal or designee will review California Megan's Law online database at <http://www.meganslaw.ca.gov> to ensure that prospective volunteers are not registered sex offenders.
3. Prior to volunteering in the classroom or on campus, the volunteer should communicate with the teacher and/or MPS staff to discuss the expectations for volunteering needs. Classroom volunteers are there to benefit the entire class and are not in class solely for the benefit of their own child. Classroom volunteers must follow the instructions provided by the classroom teacher or aide. Classroom rules also apply to volunteers to ensure minimal distraction to the teacher. If a volunteer is uncomfortable following the direction of the teacher or aid the volunteer may leave their volunteer position for that day.
4. Information gained, overheard, or inadvertently acquired by volunteers regarding students (e.g. academic performance or behavior) is to be maintained in strict confidentiality and may not be shared with any individual except with the MPS Principal.
5. Volunteers shall follow and be governed by all other guidelines indicated elsewhere in this Policy. This includes, but is not limited to, the process of registering and signing out of the campus at the main office as indicated below.
6. Volunteer hours are applied to the non-mandatory 10 hours of volunteering requested pursuant to the Charter Petition/Student-Parent Handbook. All parents are encouraged – but not required – to contribute a minimum of 10 hours per year to the school. No child will be excluded from the Charter School or school activities due to the failure of his or her parent or legal guardian to fulfill the encouraged volunteer hours.
7. This Policy does not authorize MPS to permit a parent/guardian to volunteer or visit the campus if doing so conflicts with a valid restraining order, protective order, or order for custody or visitation issued by a court of competent jurisdiction.

Visitation Guidelines

1. Visits during school hours should first be arranged with the teacher and MPS Principal or designee, at least three (3) school days in advance. If a conference is desired, an appointment should be set with the teacher during non-instructional

time, at least three (3) school days in advance. Parents seeking to visit a classroom during school hours must first obtain the written approval of the classroom teacher and the MPS Principal or designee.

2. All visitors shall register in the main office immediately upon entering any school building or grounds when during regular school hours. When registering, the visitor is required to provide his/her name, address, age (if under 21), his/her purpose for entering school grounds, and proof of identity. For purposes of school safety and security, the MPS Principal or designee have designated that each visitor wear a visitor's pass/sticker as a visible means of identification for visitors while on school premises.
3. Except for unusual circumstances, approved in advance by the MPS Principal, MPS visits should not exceed approximately sixty (60) minutes in length and may not occur more than twice per semester.
4. While on campus, visitors are to enter and leave classrooms as quietly as possible, not converse with any student, teacher, or other instructional assistant unless permitted, and not interfere with any school activity. No electronic listening or recording device may be used in a classroom without the teacher's and MPS Principal's advance written permission.
5. Before leaving campus, the visitor shall sign out of the Visitors Log Book in the main office.
6. The MPS Principal, or designee, may refuse to register a visitor or volunteer if it is believed that the presence of the visitor or volunteer would cause a threat of disruption or physical injury to teachers, other employees, or students.
7. The MPS Principal or designee may withdraw consent to be on campus even if the visitor has a right to be on campus whenever there is reason to believe that the person has willfully disrupted or is likely to disrupt MPS' orderly operation. If consent is withdrawn by someone other than the MPS Principal, the MPS Principal may reinstate consent for the visitor if the MPS Principal believes that the person's presence will not constitute a disruption or substantial and material threat to MPS' orderly operation. Consent can be withdrawn for up to fourteen (14) days.
8. The MPS Principal or designee may request that a visitor who has failed to register, or whose registration privileges have been denied or withdrawn, promptly leave school grounds. When a visitor is directed to leave, the MPS Principal or designee shall inform the visitor that if he/she reenters the school without following the posted requirements he/she will be guilty of a misdemeanor.

9. Any visitor who is denied registration or has his/her registration revoked may request a conference with the MPS Principal. The request shall be in writing, shall state why the denial or revocation was improper, shall give the address to which notice of conference is to be sent, and shall be delivered to the MPS Principal with fourteen (14) days of the denial or revocation of consent. The MPS Principal shall promptly mail a written notice of the date, time, and place of the conference to the person who requested the conference. A conference with the MPS Principal shall be held within seven (7) days after the MPS Principal receives the request. If no resolution can be agreed upon, the MPS Principal shall forward notice of the complaint to the MPS Board of Directors. The MPS Board of Directors shall address the Complaint at the next regular board meeting and make a final determination.
10. At each entrance to the campus, signs shall be posted specifying the hours during which registration is required, stating where the office of the MPS Principal or designee is located, and what route to take to that office, and setting forth the penalties for violation of this policy.
11. The MPS Principal or designee shall seek the assistance of the police in managing with or reporting any visitor in violation of this Policy.

Shadowing Guidelines

Shadowing gives parents and students an opportunity to observe instruction during an ordinary school day and can help open dialog between parents and students about school. Parents are welcome to shadow their children, that is, to follow them through their school day. In order to maximize the benefits of shadowing, we request that parents adhere to the following guidelines:

- Follow the above procedure for providing three (3) school days advance notice of your visit, signing in at the main office when arriving at MPS, and obtaining a visitor's pass/sticker. Notice of your visit and intent to shadow should be provided by completing the Shadow Request Form, below, and submitting it to MPS at least three (3) school days in advance of your visit.
- Shadowing is not a time for parent/teacher conferences. If you desire a conference, please make prior arrangements with your child's teachers.
- To preserve the academic environment, please do not take part in the lesson unless invited to do so by the teacher. Do not visit with your child or other students during class time. At no time may visiting parents address other students directly. Visitors are not allowed to record audio or video, or take photos. Should you have any concerns, report them to the MPS administrators.
- Meet with MPS administration to debrief your visit.

MPS administration has the right to withdraw consent for a visitor to be on campus, as described above. All persons making the visit shall be deemed to have waived claims against the school for injury, accident, illness, or death occurring during or by reason of visit.

Penalties

1. Pursuant to the California Penal Code, if a visitor does not leave after being asked or if the visitor returns without following the posted requirements after being directed to leave, he/she will be guilty of a crime as specified which is punishable by a fine of up to \$500.00 (five hundred dollars) or imprisonment in the County jail for a period of up to six (6) months or both.
2. Under California Education Code section 44811, disruption by a parent, guardian or other person at a school or school sponsored activity is punishable, upon the first conviction by a fine or no less than \$500.00 (five hundred dollars) and no more than \$1,000.00 (one thousand dollars) or by imprisonment in a County jail for no more than one (1) year, or both the fine and imprisonment.
3. Disruptive conduct may lead to MPS' pursuit of a restraining order against a visitor, which would prohibit him/her from coming onto school grounds or attending school activities for any purpose for a period of up to three (3) years.

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Shadow Request Form

Visiting Person Information:

Person Visiting Is: Parent/Guardian Student Other _____

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Home Address: _____

Phone #: _____ Email: _____

Student Name: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Grade: _____

If student is not a current student at MPS:

Is the student enrolled in MPS for the next school year? Yes No _____

Current School Name: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Country: _____

Health Concerns: _____

Visit Details:

Date(s) Wishing to be a Visitor: _____

Reason for Visit: _____

Signatures:

Visiting Student Signature: _____ Date: _____

Visiting Parent/Guardian Signature: _____ Date: _____

Principal's Approval:

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Parent Contact Made on Date: _____

MAGNOLIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Certified Volunteer (C-Volunteer) Application Form

Magnolia Public Schools (“MPS”) encourages parents/guardians and interested members of the community to volunteer at MPS as volunteering in the classroom can be extremely helpful to our teachers and valuable to our students. We thank all parents/guardians/community members for their willingness to volunteer.

School Name/Location and School Year : _____ (Date: _____)

Name: _____
Last First Middle Maiden Name/Other Names Used

Residence Address: _____
Street City State Zip

Home Telephone: (_____) Work or Mobile Telephone: (_____)

Emergency Contact Name and Phone: _____ (_____) _____

Date of Birth: ____ / ____ / ____ CA Driver’s License or ID Card: Yes () No () Number: _____

Physical Limitations: Yes () No () Explain: _____

Relationship to any student(s) or staff members at school? Yes () No () Explain: _____

Languages spoken: _____

Please respond to the following: “I am interested in volunteering because _____

Do you have any felony convictions*: Yes () No () If so, please list: _____

Have you **EVER** been convicted* of any sex offense for which you must register with any Law Enforcement Agency pursuant to Penal Code Section 290? Yes () No ()

*Conviction includes a finding of guilty by a court in a trial with or without a jury or a plea or verdict of guilty.

I certify under penalty of perjury that the foregoing statements are true and complete, and I authorize MPS to complete a background check as a condition of school volunteer service, as provided by California Education Code 45125.1.

I understand that I will not receive any compensation or salary, or any other health or retirement benefits, or workers’ compensation insurance coverage during this volunteer assignment. I agree to waive all claims against the MPS and hold the MPS, its officers, agents, employees, authorizer, and volunteers harmless from any and all liability or claims which may arise out of or in connection with my participation in this volunteer activity.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

MAGNOLIA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Volunteer Commitment and Procedures

The administration, staff, and students of Magnolia Public Schools (“MPS”) are appreciative of all persons who are willing to commit time and energy to helping students succeed and to provide an excellent place of learning for all students. Most of the MPS activities and events simply would not happen without the participation of our volunteers.

Ways a Volunteer can help

- Room Parent
- Clerical Help
- Tutoring students (e.g.: math, computer activities, reading with students, etc.)
- Morning, lunch, yard, and/or dismissal supervision
- Chaperone Field Trips
- Help with special class events (e.g.: career fairs, fundraisers, etc.)
- Athletic support

Below are ethics and **guidelines** that must be followed while you are volunteering at MPS. These guidelines are designed:

- to promote a productive and safe environment
- to set appropriate expectations
- to clarify roles & responsibilities

APPLICATION AND SCREENING:

C. Certified Volunteers (“C-Volunteers”)

- a. Who are C-Volunteers: These are volunteers that would like to volunteer with MPS on an ongoing basis.
- b. Application Process: C-Volunteers must provide MPS with the following documents:
 - Volunteer Application Form (signed)
 - Volunteer Commitment Form (signed)
 - Fingerprinting and Background Clearance (if volunteering outside of the direct supervision of a credentialed employee)
 - Tuberculosis risk assessment or examination
 - Valid photo I.D. (driver’s license, passport, military ID, US or other government identification)

D. Single Event Volunteers (“SE-Volunteers”)

- a. Who are SE-Volunteers: These are volunteers that would like to volunteer at MPS for a one (1) days special event or activity.
- b. Application Process: SE-Volunteers are not required to submit a volunteer application but must comply with the Volunteering Guidelines below and provide MPS with a valid photo I.D.

CONFIDENTIALITY: Volunteers should realize that they have a position of trust. Personal information pertaining to students or staff, as well as conversations between parents, teachers, staff members, and students **MUST** be kept confidential. Volunteers are **NOT** permitted to view any part of a student's records including test scores, report cards, attendance reports, or any other document to that would be included in student records. What you **SEE** or **HEAR** in a classroom, hallway, bathroom, on a field trip, or on the playground should be considered confidential and only discussed with a teacher,

counselor or principal. For MPS to provide the best environment for learning, everyone's privacy must be respected. No gossiping will be permitted.

LIABILITY: MPS is proud to provide liability coverage and an accident policy for its volunteers, after any other valid and collectible insurance. In order to have this protection, all volunteers must sign in on MPS' volunteer / visitor sign in sheet (in every school office) every time they volunteer. Volunteers are not covered by Workers' Compensation.

CHILD NEGLECT AND ABUSE REPORTING: MPS volunteers are obligated under mandatory child reporting laws to report any suspected child neglect or abuse. Please refer to MPS mandatory reporting guidelines located in the MPS Employee Handbook.

SUPERVISION: Volunteers perform under the direction and supervision of MPS personnel. Volunteers should know and follow MPS policies and rules. MPS, in its discretion and without a statement of reasons, may suspend any volunteer from further volunteer activities. No statement by the MPS establishes a property right to perform volunteer work.

COMMUNICATION: If you are unable to make it to school when you are expected, please call MPS and leave a message. Similarly, MPS staff will contact you if your time is cancelled or changed for any unforeseen reason. You may contact the MPS main Office at [REDACTED], or email [REDACTED] with questions or for assistance. Please be dependable and on-time. Teachers and staff count on you!

STUDENT/VOLUNTEER RELATIONSHIP: Volunteers function in a position of trust and MPS does not extend that volunteer / student trust relationship outside of the supervised school environment. It is the responsibility of the volunteer to notify MPS immediately if he/she becomes involved with a student / family outside the school environment.

DISCIPLINE: A teacher or staff member is responsible for student discipline. If you see a child behaving in a way that endangers themselves or others, you need to stop the behavior and report it to a staff member. If a student continues to be noncompliant, disrespectful, or disruptive after a verbal warning, please notify a teacher or staff member. Student safety is the responsibility of all adults, but student discipline is the responsibility of MPS staff.

SIGN IN: Volunteers should always sign in at the front desk. A volunteer should always have a visitor's pass/sticker on while working on campus or while acting as a chaperone on a class field trip.

CELL PHONE/PHOTO/SOCIAL MEDIA: Cell phones may be used on campus however we ask that you use a "silent setting" so that the class is not disturbed. Phones should only be used for emergencies. Volunteers are not allowed to take photos or post on social media unless approved by MPS.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES: Classroom procedures and escape routes are located in each room. Drills are performed throughout the year. During a fire drill, the entire building is evacuated and each classroom reports to a designated area outside on the MPS campus. Please take the time to familiarize yourself with these safety plans.

I have read the above information and agree to the guidelines and responsibilities.

Name: _____

Date: _____

Signature: _____