

“WHAT CAN WE DO TO HELP AS VOLUNTEERS?”

*The Pleasanton Unified School District greatly values and appreciates the many contributions of parents and community members who serve as volunteers in our schools. Each year across the school district, hundreds of volunteers work in our classrooms, serve as field trip chaperones, and assist our schools in countless other ways. **Thank You!!***

While volunteers can help to supplement and enrich our schools and the educational experience for our students, there are some restrictions on the assistance that volunteers can provide. For privacy reasons, volunteers are not allowed to assist in a capacity that would give them access to confidential student, family, or staff information. Also, due to the layoffs that have resulted from the state budget crisis, volunteers cannot perform tasks that replace the work that would be normally performed by our regular staff.

While there are some rules and regulations that limit what volunteers can do in schools, there is so much that you can do to help! We welcome your ideas and involvement. If you have a question or an idea related to volunteering or campus beautification, please contact your school principal. The principal can discuss your idea with you and will then communicate with the appropriate district office staff as needed.

Q: What can I do to minimize the impact of our increased class sizes?

A: Classroom volunteers are welcome and appreciated. Each school site has the necessary forms and information to assist you in applying to be a volunteer.

Q: Our school library closes at 3:00. Can we volunteer to keep the library open later so students can study?

A: The library must be supervised by an authorized staff member. Parents are welcome to volunteer to assist school personnel in the library program either during the school day or after school.

Q: The multipurpose room at my student's site needs to be painted. Can I bring a group of parents who are willing and able to volunteer on a week-end and paint the room?

A: For a number of employment, safety and liability reasons, needed building maintenance, repairs, painting, etc. must be done by a qualified district employee. If a group of volunteers want to focus on updating any school facility, they can confer with the district to get a cost estimate and raise funds designated specifically for that purpose. Those funds will be used by the District to pay for the necessary labor and materials.

Q: The grounds around my school are in need of sprucing up. The grass needs to be mowed and some of the bushes need trimming. A group of us want to volunteer to come in and clean up the school.

A: We appreciate the work that volunteers have done in helping to keep our campuses clean by showing up and picking up trash on the fields and around the buildings. Grounds maintenance (mowing, trimming, etc.) must be done by a qualified district employee. Additional time may be funded by volunteer fund raising to allow the grounds crews to increase their time, thereby increasing the frequency of grounds work.

Q: I would like to help out as a volunteer in the school office. Can I do this?

A: As noted above, for privacy reasons, volunteers are not allowed to assist in a capacity that would give them access to confidential student, family, or staff information. The school may at times use volunteers to assist our regular office personnel with some non-confidential tasks in the office.