SUBJECT: SCHOOL VOLUNTEERS

The Board recognizes the need to develop a school volunteer program to support District instructional programs and extracurricular activities. The purpose of the volunteer program will be to:

a) Assist employees in providing more individualization and enrichment of instruction;

b) Build an understanding of school programs among interested citizens, thus stimulating widespread involvement in a total educational process;

c) Strengthen school/community relations through positive participation.

Volunteers are persons who are willing to donate their time and energies to assist building principals, teachers, and other school personnel in implementing various phases of school programs. Volunteers will serve in that capacity without compensation or employee benefits except for liability protection under the District's insurance program.

An application must be filled out by each prospective volunteer and forwarded to the District Office for evaluation. All volunteers must complete the application and provide knowing written consent to criminal record checks by the District and the Wayne-Finger Lakes BOCES so that the District can make reasonable and practicable efforts to identify individuals with criminal convictions bearing upon fitness to serve as volunteers in an educational setting, and applicants must be approved by the District.

Approval of volunteer applications is in the sole discretion of the District. The building principal will forward his or her decisions concerning selection, placement and replacement of volunteers to the Superintendent for final evaluation. Following approval from the Superintendent, volunteers selected for work in the District will be placed on the list of approved volunteers. However, the Superintendent retains the right to approve or reject any volunteer applications submitted for consideration. The Superintendent may revoke approval of a volunteer at any time, without prior notice.

Volunteers shall at all times when on duty on school property or at school-sponsored activities sign in and wear their visitor's badges, and shall be subject to District school-visit security procedures. When acting as a volunteer, they are expected to abide by all district policies and regulations, and with the directions of the administrators and faculty in charge of the activities to which the volunteers are assigned. This is true for in-district activities as well as out of district activities such as field trips.

Volunteer Protection Act of 1997, 42 USC § 14501 et seq.
Education Law §§ 3023 and 3028
Public Officers Law § 18

NOTE: Refer also to Policy #6540 -- Defense and Indemnification of Board Members and