

POLICY: VOLUNTEERS AND WORK STUDY STUDENTS

The Rochester School Board recognizes the valuable contributions made to the schools by volunteers and work study students. It further recognizes that appropriate supervision of volunteers and work study students will enhance their contributions as well as fulfill the responsibility that the school district has for the education and safety of its students.

Definitions

For purposes of this policy and administrative rules and procedures developed pursuant to this policy:

1. **Volunteer** means an individual not employed by the school district who works on an occasional or regular basis in the school setting to assist the staff. A volunteer works without compensation or economic benefits.
2. **Work Study Student** means a post secondary student who receives compensation for work performed at a school operated by the district as part of a work experience program sponsored or provided by the college or university at which he or she is enrolled. A student working toward a teaching credential who is placed as a student teacher at a district school is not a work study student.

Policy

The Superintendent shall develop administrative rules and procedures to ensure that volunteers and work study students are appropriately screened prior to entering into service in the school district, and that only volunteers and work study students who have been screened and approved by the superintendent have extended unsupervised contact with students. The screening process utilized by the school district shall minimally include a name and birth date check with the Vermont Internet Sex Abuse Registry for any person being considered for service as a work study student. A person who is on the Vermont Internet Sex Offender Registry shall not be eligible to be a work study student.^{ii[2]}

Date Warned:

Date Adopted:

Legal Reference(s): 16 V.S.A. §260

Cross Reference:

^{i[1]} A school board policy on the “supervision of volunteers and work study students” is required by 16 V.S.A. §260.

^{ii[2]} Section 7b of S.13, enacted in 2009 and effective on its date of passage, requires “...superintendents...and their contractors (to) check the names and date of birth of any work study students with the Vermont Internet sex offender registry prior to allowing work study students unsupervised contact with schoolchildren.” The law further provides that “(A) person who is on the Vermont Internet sex offender registry shall not be eligible to be a work study student.” See 16 V.S.A. §260 as amended by S.13 Section 7b. At the option of the school board, this prohibition could be extended to include volunteers as well as work study students.