



Volunteers make the impossible possible.

In today's schools, there are simply far more jobs and responsibilities than there are people to do them. By helping with special events and routine tasks, volunteers allow teachers and staff to focus more on helping children learn and grow. The school can accomplish more, and offer children and families more services, with the help of volunteers.

Volunteering in a school is an exciting experience and a privilege for both the school and volunteer. The White River School District has the confidence that you will uphold the high standards we expect of our district employees. This includes maintaining positive and professional relationships with students.

Be a good ambassador. As a volunteer, you will represent the school and the district not just "on the job," but everywhere in the community. Help spread the word about the good things that your school is doing. Answer questions when you can, or urge people to call the school for more information.

Be courteous and respectful. Your attitude makes the school a happier place, which helps the school be a good member of its

community. Treat individuals with respect and courtesy. The ideal volunteer has a professional attitude and is interested in and enthusiastic about working with young people and has the ability to work cooperatively with school staff.

Do not discipline students. Adult volunteers have the responsibility to inform staff if there is a problem. Volunteers should not discipline a child unless they are expressly instructed to do so by the supervising staff member.

Be punctual and reliable. If you must be late or absent, call the school and let them know. The students will be disappointed if you can't come, but reassured that you cared enough to call.

Keep confidential information confidential. As a volunteer, you may learn confidential information about White River students. This includes grades, behaviors, disciplinary actions, Individual Education Plan (IEP) information, and more. It is critical that you keep that information confidential, and not divulge it, even to friends or family. Students are trusting you to maintain their rights and privacy.

Volunteers are asked to notify the teacher, principal, or counselor if a student confides in them about an abusive situation. Likewise, volunteers should notify staff if they observe signs of physical or sexual abuse, malnutrition or neglect. Staff will do the reporting and follow-up.

Exercise conscious judgment in determining whether to touch students and under what circumstances. Touching children in the school setting has positive educational aspects. However, it also carries the risk that the volunteer may be accused of improper touching. If a student indicates by word or action that he/she is not comfortable with touching, physical contact should be avoided with that student, unless such contact is absolutely necessary for safety reasons.



White River School District Volunteers must:

- **Complete a Volunteer Registration Form each year**
- **Pass a Washington State Patrol Criminal Background Check**
- **Wear a district name tag,** so staff and students will recognize you as a safe volunteer
- **Sign in at the start of a volunteer shift.** This lets the office staff know you are in the building and where they can find you if they need you. This also ensures that you are covered by the district's liability insurance in case of an accident.
- **Smoking is not permitted on any school district property.**

Tips for Volunteers

- Be patient when working with students.
- Treat individuals with respect and courtesy and expect the same in return.
- Encourage and support student successes. Build the student's self-confidence by giving praise honestly and frequently. Accentuate the positive and minimize the negative.
- Avoid making comparisons between students, between teachers or between schools. Always remember to be fair.
- Be trustworthy and honest in your approach and attitude. Students will trust and respect you when you are "on the level."
- Remember that you are acting as a role model for children through your dress and behavior.
- Volunteers have the right to say "no" and teachers do too.



*Volunteering
should be FUN!*



Where to call in the White River School District

Elk Ridge Elementary	360 829-3354
Foothills Elementary	360 829-3355
Mountain Meadow Elem	360 829-3356
Wilkeson Elementary	360 829-3357
Glacier Middle School	360 829-3395
White River High School	360 829-3352
District Office	360 829-3814



Volunteer Guidelines

