



TRINITY AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

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Dr. Michael P. Lucas
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Dear Prospective Trinity Area Volunteer:

Recently the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania made significant changes to the background check requirements pertaining to adults who volunteer within public schools in the Commonwealth. Thus, the Trinity Area School District Board of Directors is adopting policies and procedures that align with these changes in the law.

The law now requires individuals who wish to serve as volunteers in a public school district in Pennsylvania to obtain certain clearances. Trinity Area School District's policies and procedures are based on the assumption that all volunteers within the District will or may have direct contact with children or be responsible for the welfare of children; therefore Trinity Area School District is requiring clearances of all volunteers, without exception.

The District has adopted a new Administrative Regulation (**copy enclosed**) which addresses the new requirements for volunteer clearances, as well as new procedures that the District will be implementing immediately regarding approval of prospective volunteers. **It is very important that you read the enclosed Administrative Regulation in order to become informed of these new requirements and procedures. Different requirements will apply depending upon your past volunteer history and the next date on which you seek to volunteer. Therefore, it is important that you read the entire Administrative Regulation to understand all provisions that may apply to you.**

The Board is also in the process of reviewing and updating its Policies regarding volunteers and child abuse, in order to bring these Policies in line with the new requirements of the law and updated District procedures. It is anticipated that these Policies, as updated, will be adopted by the Board in February. The Policy will be available for review on the District website shortly thereafter. You are encouraged to review these Policies.

If you have any questions about the enclosed Administrative Regulation or the District's new Policies and procedures addressing child abuse and volunteer clearances and approval, please contact a building principal. The building principals will be presenting volunteer information at their February PTA meeting.

We understand that the new requirements and procedures regarding volunteers will be an inconvenience for some. However, the goal is always to follow the law and provide a safe environment for our students.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Dr. Michael P. Lucas
Superintendent