

Penn Middle School Clearance Help Information

This was created to help volunteers understand what clearances and forms are required to volunteer in the school setting here at Penn Middle School.

The numbers listed below coordinate with the previous page clearances.

★ Volunteering for 8th grade Farewell and PSSA Snack Distribution:

- #1-Act 34 PA State Police (online)
- #2- Act 152 Dept. of Public Welfare Child Abuse History (online)
- Act 114 Volunteer Waiver (attached)
- #4-Act 24 Arrest and Conviction (attached)
- #5- PT Policy 824 (attached)

★ Volunteering for Book Fair, Clubs, Gettysburg, JABiztown, and School Play:

- #1- Act 34 PA State Police (online)
- #2- Act 152 Dept. of Public Welfare Child Abuse History (online)
- #3- Act 114 Fingerprints (online registration)
- #4- Act 24 Arrest and Conviction (attached)
- #5- PT Policy 824 (attached)

Penn-Trafford School District Information for Obtaining Clearances (Extracurricular Volunteers)

The purpose of this information sheet is to ensure applicants are aware of 24 P.S. §1-111, as amended, and Chapter 8 of the State Board of Education Regulations concerning criminal history background checks.

Act 114 of 2006 specifies that all applicants for employment with public and private schools including employees of independent contractors, but excluding employees who do not have direct contact with students undergo background checks. In addition, Act 114 extended the background check requirements to include student teacher candidates. The following five background checks are required:

1. Pennsylvania State Police Request for Criminal Records Check - Act 34

Complete the request on-line at <https://epatch.state.pa.us/Home.jsp> Print results for your records. Results are NOT sent to you.

2. Department of Public Welfare Child Abuse History Clearance - Act 151

Complete the request on-line at <https://www.compass.state.pa.us/cwis/public/home> Create a new account. You will then enter all of the requested information into the child welfare portal. You may check the status of clearance on-line. When the check is complete, please print for your records. You may also request a paper copy be mailed to you. Results may take up to 3 weeks to receive.

3. Federal Criminal History Record Information – Fingerprints - Act 114

The fingerprint -based background check is a **multiple-step process**. Applicants must register prior to going to the fingerprint site. Registration is completed on-line. Registration is available 24 hours/day, seven days per week at <http://uenroll.identogo.com>

Registration/fingerprint process: enter code **1KG6ZJ**, select schedule or manage appointment, enter required information, select a security question (note for future reference), please choose the document you will use for ID at processing center, select a location and schedule an appointment (specific or walk-in), submit registration and print confirmation. Please note that payment is processed when your prints are taken. Once your fingerprints have been completed, print your unofficial report which is emailed to you and provide a copy to the district. The report must include the UE ID# for verification purposes.

4. ACT 24 - Arrest and Conviction- Self Reporting

5. PT Policy 824- Adult and Student Boundaries- Acknowledgement needed

All clearances must be current (within 1 year) of employment for newly placed volunteers . Act 153 requires that all employees and volunteers of the school district MUST renew their clearances every 5 years.

*****Volunteers may not report to any activity until all clearances are submitted and verified by Penn Trafford School District.**

Penn Trafford School District

VOLUNTEER AFFIDAVIT

(Submitted in Lieu of Fingerprint-based FBI Clearance pursuant to 23 Pa.C.S.A. §6344.2(b.1))

Act 114
Waiver

Name:
Address:
Telephone:
Volunteer Position(s) Applied For:

DATE:

I, _____ hereby attest that all information provided below is correct and current. I understand that if there are any false statements can and will be punishable by law.

1. I hereby attest and understand that the volunteer position for which I am applying is an unpaid position.
2. I hereby attest that I have been a resident of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania during the entirety of the previous ten-year period, i.e. from [date ten years prior to current date], to the current date of this application.
3. I hereby swear and affirm that I have not been convicted of any of the following offenses under Title 18 (relating to crimes and offenses), or any offense similar in nature to the crimes listed below, under the laws or former laws of the United States or one of its territories or possessions, another state, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico or a foreign nation, or under a former law of this Commonwealth.

Chapter 25 (relating to criminal homicide)	Section 3129 (relating to sexual intercourse with animal)
Section 2702 (relating to aggravated assault).	Section 4302 (relating to incest).
Section 2709.1 (relating to stalking).	Section 4303 (relating to concealing death of child).
Section 2901 (relating to kidnapping).	Section 4304 (relating to endangering welfare of children).
Section 2902 (relating to unlawful restraint).	Section 4305 (relating to dealing in infant children).
Section 2910 (relating to luring a child into a motor vehicle or structure).	A felony offense under section 5902(b) (relating to prostitution and related offenses).
Section 3121 (relating to rape).	Section 5903(c) or (d) (relating to obscene and other sexual materials and performances).
Section 3122.1 (relating to statutory sexual assault).	Section 6301 (relating to corruption of minors).
Section 3123 (relating to involuntary deviate sexual intercourse).	Section 6312 (relating to sexual abuse of children).
Section 3124.1 (relating to sexual assault).	Section 6318 (relating to unlawful contact with minor).
Section 3124.2 (relating to institutional sexual assault).	Section 6319 (relating to solicitation of minors to traffic drugs).
Section 3125 (relating to aggravated indecent assault).	Section 6320 (relating to sexual exploitation of children).
Section 3126 (relating to indecent assault).	The attempt, solicitation or conspiracy to commit any of the offenses set forth in this list.
Section 3127 (relating to indecent exposure).	

• A felony offense under the act of April 14, 1972 (P.L. 233, No. 64) known as The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act, committed within the five-year period immediately preceding verification under this

section.

A reportable offense additionally consists of the following:

- An offense graded as a felony offense of the first, second or third degree, other than one of the enumerated offenses listed above, if less than ten (10) years has elapsed from the date of the expiration of the sentence for the offense.
- An offense graded as a misdemeanor of the first degree, other than one of the enumerated offenses listed above, if less than five (5) years has elapsed from the date of the expiration of the sentence for the offense.
- An offense under 75 Pa C.S. Section 3802 (a), (b), (c) or (d) (relating to driving under the influence of alcohol or a controlled substance) graded as a misdemeanor of the first degree under 75 Pa C.S. Section 3803 (relating to grading), if the person has been previously convicted of such an offense and less than three (3) years has elapsed from the date of expiration of the sentence for the most recent offense.

I hereby verify and affirm that I understand that a conviction for any of the offenses outlined above or any similar offense under federal or other state law or former law disqualifies me from approval for service as an unpaid volunteer. I further understand and agree that I have an obligation to submit written notice to the Superintendent or other designated administrator disclosing any future arrest or conviction for any such offenses, and/or any notification that I have been listed as a perpetrator in a founded or indicated report, within 72 hours, of the occurrence of such arrest, conviction, or notification of listing as a perpetrator.

I hereby verify that all statements in the within Affidavit are true and correct to the best of my knowledge, information and belief. I understand that my statements are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa. C.S. § 4904 relating to unsworn falsification to authorities, which provides that if I knowingly make false averments, can and will subject me to criminal penalties.

Signed by: _____ Date: _____

Attest/Witness: _____ Date: _____

ARREST/CONVICTION REPORT AND CERTIFICATION FORM

(under Act 24 of 2011 and Act 82 of 2012)

#4

Section 1. Personal Information

Full Legal Name: _____

Date of Birth: ____/____/____

Other names by
which you have
been identified:

Section 2. Arrest or Conviction

By checking this box, I state that I have NOT been arrested for or convicted of any Reportable Offense.

By checking this box, I report that I have been arrested for or convicted of an offense or offenses enumerated under 24 P.S. §§1-111(e) or (f.1) ("Reportable Offense(s)"). See Page 3 of this Form for a list of Reportable Offenses.

Details of Arrests or Convictions

For each arrest for or conviction of any Reportable Offense, specify in the space below (or on additional attachments if necessary) the offense for which you have been arrested or convicted, the date and location of arrest and/or conviction, docket number, and the applicable court.

Section 3. Child Abuse

By checking this box, I state that I have NOT been named as a perpetrator of a founded report of child abuse within the past five (5) years as defined by the Child Protective Services Law.

By checking this box, I report that I have been named as a perpetrator of a founded report of child abuse within the past five (5) years as defined by the Child Protective Services Law.

Section 4. Certification

By signing this form, I certify under penalty of law that the statements made in this form are true, correct and complete. I understand that false statements herein, including, without limitation, any failure to accurately report any arrest or conviction for a Reportable Offense, shall subject me to criminal prosecution under 18 Pa.C.S. §4904, relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.

Signature _____

Date _____

INSTRUCTIONS

Pursuant to 24 P.S. §1-111(c.4) and (j), the Pennsylvania Department of Education developed this standardized form (PDE-6004) to be used by current and prospective employees of public and private schools, intermediate units, and area vocational-technical schools.

As required by subsection (c.4) and (j)(2) of 24 P.S. §1-111, this form shall be completed and submitted by all current and prospective employees of said institutions to provide written reporting of any arrest or conviction for an offense enumerated under 24 P.S. §§1-111(e) and (f.1) and to provide notification of having been named as a perpetrator of a founded report of child abuse within the past five (5) years as defined by the Child Protective Services Law.

As required by subsection (j)(4) of 24 P.S. §1-111, this form also shall be utilized by current and prospective employees to provide written notice within seventy-two (72) hours after a subsequent arrest or conviction for an offense enumerated under 24 P.S. §§1-111(e) or (f.1).

In accordance with 24 P.S. §1-111, employees completing this form are required to submit the form to the administrator or other person responsible for employment decisions in a school entity. Please contact a supervisor or the school entity administration office with any questions regarding the PDE 6004, including to whom the form should be sent.

PROVIDE ALL INFORMATION REQUIRED BY THIS FORM LEGIBLY IN INK.

LIST OF REPORTABLE OFFENSES

- **A reportable offense enumerated under 24 P.S. §1-111(e) consists of any of the following:**

- (1) An offense under one or more of the following provisions of Title 18 of the Pennsylvania Consolidated Statutes:
 - Chapter 25 (relating to criminal homicide)
 - Section 2702 (relating to aggravated assault)
 - Section 2709.1 (relating to stalking)
 - Section 2901 (relating to kidnapping)
 - Section 2902 (relating to unlawful restraint)
 - Section 2910 (relating to luring a child into a motor vehicle or structure)
 - Section 3121 (relating to rape)
 - Section 3122.1 (relating to statutory sexual assault)
 - Section 3123 (relating to involuntary deviate sexual intercourse)
 - Section 3124.1 (relating to sexual assault)
 - Section 3124.2 (relating to institutional sexual assault)
 - Section 3125 (relating to aggravated indecent assault)
 - Section 3126 (relating to indecent assault)
 - Section 3127 (relating to indecent exposure)
 - Section 3129 (relating to sexual intercourse with animal)
 - Section 4302 (relating to incest)
 - Section 4303 (relating to concealing death of child)
 - Section 4304 (relating to endangering welfare of children)
 - Section 4305 (relating to dealing in infant children)
 - A felony offense under section 5902(b) (relating to prostitution and related offenses)
 - Section 5903(c) or (d) (relating to obscene and other sexual materials and performances)
 - Section 6301(a)(1) (relating to corruption of minors)
 - Section 6312 (relating to sexual abuse of children)
 - Section 6318 (relating to unlawful contact with minor)
 - Section 6319 (relating to solicitation of minors to traffic drugs)
 - Section 6320 (relating to sexual exploitation of children)
- (2) An offense designated as a felony under the act of April 14, 1972 (P.L. 233, No. 64), known as "The Controlled Substance, Drug, Device and Cosmetic Act."
- (3) An offense SIMILAR IN NATURE to those crimes listed above in clauses (1) and (2) under the laws or former laws of:
 - the United States; or
 - one of its territories or possessions; or
 - another state; or
 - the District of Columbia; or
 - the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico; or
 - a foreign nation; or
 - under a former law of this Commonwealth.

- **A reportable offense enumerated under 24 P.S. §1-111(f.1) consists of any of the following:**

- (1) An offense graded as a felony offense of the first, second or third degree, other than one of the offenses enumerated under 24 P.S. §1-111(e), if less than (10) ten years has elapsed from the date of expiration of the sentence for the offense.
- (2) An offense graded as a misdemeanor of the first degree, other than one of the offenses enumerated under 24 P.S. §1-111(e), if less than (5) five years has elapsed from the date of expiration of the sentence for the offense.
- (3) An offense under 75 Pa.C.S. § 3802(a), (b), (c) or (d) (relating to driving under influence of alcohol or controlled substance) graded as a misdemeanor of the first degree under 75 Pa.C.S. § 3803 (relating to grading), if the person has been previously convicted of such an offense and less than (3) three years has elapsed from the date of expiration of the sentence for the most recent offense.

Book	Policy Manual
Section	800 Operations
Title	Maintaining Professional Adult/Student Boundaries
Code	824
Status	Active
Adopted	July 1, 2016
Last Revised	December 7, 2020

Authority

This policy applies to district employees, volunteers, student teachers, and independent contractors and their employees who interact with students or are present on school grounds. For purposes of this policy, such individuals are referred to collectively as **adults**. The term **adults** as used in this policy, does not include district students who perform services on a volunteer or compensated basis.

All adults shall be expected to maintain professional, moral and ethical relationships with district students that are conducive to an effective, safe learning environment. This policy addresses a range of behaviors that include not only obviously unlawful or improper interactions with students, but also precursor grooming and other boundary-blurring behaviors that can lead to more egregious misconduct.

The Board directs that all adults shall be informed of conduct that is prohibited and the disciplinary actions that may be applied for violation of Board policies, administrative regulations, rules and procedures.[1]

This policy is not intended to interfere with appropriate pre-existing personal relationships between adults and students and their families that exist independently of the district or to interfere with participation in civic, religious or other outside organizations that include district students.

Definition

For purposes of this policy, **legitimate educational reasons** include matters or communications related to teaching, counseling, athletics, extracurricular activities, treatment of a student's physical injury or other medical needs, school administration or other purposes within the scope of the adult's assigned job duties.

Delegation of Responsibility

The Superintendent or designee shall annually inform students, parents/guardians, and all adults regarding the contents of this Board policy through employee and student handbooks, posting on the district website, and by other appropriate methods.

The building principal or designee shall be available to answer questions about behaviors or activities that may violate professional boundaries as defined in this policy.

Independent contractors doing business with the district shall ensure that their employees who have interaction with students or are present on school grounds are informed of the provisions of this policy.[2]

Guidelines

Adults shall establish and maintain appropriate personal boundaries with students and not engage in any behavior that is prohibited by this policy or that creates the appearance of prohibited behavior.

Prohibited Conduct

Romantic or Sexual Relationships -

Adults shall be prohibited from dating, courting, or entering into or attempting to form a romantic or sexual relationship with any student enrolled in the district, regardless of the student's age. Students of any age are not legally capable of consenting to romantic or sexual interactions with adults.[3][4]

Prohibited romantic or sexual interaction involving students includes, but is not limited to:

1. Sexual physical contact.
2. Romantic flirtation, propositions, or sexual remarks.
3. Sexual slurs, leering, epithets, sexual or derogatory comments.
4. Personal comments about a student's body.
5. Sexual jokes, notes, stories, drawings, gestures or pictures.
6. Spreading sexual or romantic rumors.
7. Touching a student's body or clothes in a sexual or intimate way.
8. Accepting massages, or offering or giving massages other than in the course of injury care administered by an athletic trainer, coach, or health care provider.
9. Restricting a student's freedom of movement in a sexually intimidating or provocative manner.
10. Displaying or transmitting sexual objects, pictures, or depictions.

Social Interactions -

In order to maintain professional boundaries, adults shall ensure that their interactions with students are appropriate.

Examples of prohibited conduct that violates professional boundaries include, but are not limited to:

1. Disclosing personal, sexual, family, employment concerns or other private matters to one or more students.
2. Exchanging notes, emails or other communications of a personal nature with a student.
3. Giving personal gifts, cards or letters to a student without written approval from the building principal.
4. Touching students without a legitimate educational reason. (Reasons could include the need for assistance when injured, a kindergartner having a toileting accident and requiring assistance, appropriate coaching instruction, or appropriate music instruction).
5. Singling out a particular student or students for personal attention or friendship beyond the ordinary professional adult-student relationship.
6. Taking a student out of class without a legitimate educational reason.
7. Being alone with a student behind closed doors without a legitimate educational reason.
8. Initiating or extending contact with a student beyond the school day or outside of class times without a legitimate educational reason.
9. Sending or accompanying a student on personal errands.
10. Inviting a student to the adult's home.
11. Going to a student's home without a legitimate educational reason.
12. Taking a student on outings without prior notification to and approval from both the parent/guardian and the building principal.
13. Giving a student a ride alone in a vehicle in a nonemergency situation without prior notification to and approval from both the parent/guardian and the building principal.
14. Addressing students or permitting students to address adults with personalized terms of endearment, pet names, or otherwise in an overly familiar manner.
15. Telling a student personal secrets or sharing personal secrets with a student.
16. For adults who are not guidance/counseling staff, psychologists, social workers or other adults with designated responsibilities to counsel students, encouraging students to confide their personal or family problems and/or relationships. If a student initiates such discussions, the student should be referred to the appropriate school resource.
17. Furnishing alcohol, drugs or tobacco to a student or being present where any student is consuming these substances.
18. Engaging in harassing or discriminatory conduct prohibited by other district policies or by state or federal law and regulations.[5][6]

Electronic Communications -

For purposes of this policy, **electronic communication** shall mean a communication transmitted by means of an electronic device including, but not limited to, a telephone, cellular telephone, computer, computer network, personal data assistant or pager. Electronic communications include, but are not limited to, emails, instant messages and communications made by means of an Internet website, including social media and other networking websites.

As with other forms of communication, when communicating electronically, adults shall maintain professional boundaries with students.

Electronic communication with students shall be for legitimate educational reasons only.

When available, district-provided email or other district-provided communication devices or platforms shall be used when communicating electronically with students. The use of district-provided email or other district-provided communication devices or platforms shall be in accordance with district policies and procedures.[7]

All electronic communications from coaches and advisors to team or club members shall be sent in a single communication to all participating team or club members, except for communications concerning an individual student's medical or academic privacy matters, in which case the communications will be copied to the building principal. In the case of sports teams under the direction of the Athletic Director, such medical or academic communications shall also be copied to the Athletic Director.

Adults shall not follow or accept requests for current students to be friends or connections on personal social networking sites and shall not create any networking site for communication with students other than those provided by the district for this purpose, without the prior written approval of the building principal.

Exceptions

An emergency situation or a legitimate educational reason may justify deviation from the rules regarding communication or methods for maintaining professional boundaries set out in this policy. The adult shall be prepared to articulate the reason for any deviation from the requirements of this policy and must demonstrate that s/he has maintained an appropriate relationship with the student.

Under no circumstance will an educational or other reason justify deviation from the "Romantic and Sexual Relationships" section of this policy.

There will be circumstances where personal relationships develop between an adult and a student's family, e.g. when their children become friends. This policy is not intended to interfere with such relationships or to limit activities that are normally consistent with such relationships. Adults are strongly encouraged to maintain professional boundaries appropriate to the nature of the activity.

It is understood that many adults are involved in various other roles in the community through nondistrict-related civic, religious, athletic, scouting or other organizations and programs whose participants may include district students. Such community involvement is commendable, and this policy is not intended to interfere with or restrict an adult's ability to serve in those roles; however, adults are strongly encouraged to maintain professional boundaries appropriate to the nature of the activity with regard to all youth with whom they interact in the course of their community involvement.

Reporting Inappropriate or Suspicious Conduct

Any person, including a student, who has concerns about or is uncomfortable with a relationship or interaction between an adult and a student, shall promptly notify the building principal or Title IX Coordinator. Reports may be made using the Discrimination/Sexual Harassment/Bullying/Hazing/Dating Violence/Retaliation Report Form or by making a general report verbally or in writing. Upon receipt of a report, school staff shall promptly notify the building principal.[5][8]

All district employees, independent contractors and volunteers who have reasonable cause to suspect that a child is the victim of child abuse, shall immediately report the suspected abuse, in accordance with applicable law, regulations and Board policy.[9][10]

An educator who knows of any action, inaction or conduct which constitutes sexual abuse or exploitation or sexual misconduct under the Educator Discipline Act shall report such misconduct to the Pennsylvania Department of Education on the required form, and shall report such misconduct to the Superintendent, Title IX Coordinator and his/her immediate supervisor, promptly, but not later than fifteen (15) days following discovery of such misconduct.[5][8][11][12]

If the Superintendent or designee reasonably suspects that conduct being reported involves an incident required to be reported under the Child Protective Services Law, the Educator Discipline Act or the Safe Schools Act, the Superintendent or designee shall make a report, in accordance with applicable law, regulations and Board policy.[9][10][11][12][13][14][15][16][17][18]

It is a violation of Board policy to retaliate against any person for reporting any action pursuant to this policy or for participating as a witness in any related investigation or hearing.[5][8]

Investigation

The Title IX Coordinator shall promptly assess and address allegations of inappropriate conduct in accordance with the procedures for reports of discrimination or Title IX sexual harassment.[5][8]

It is understood that some reports made pursuant to this policy will be based on rumors or misunderstandings; the mere fact that the reported adult is cleared of any wrongdoing shall not result in disciplinary action against the person making the report or any witnesses. If as the result of an investigation any individual, including the reported adult, the person making the report, or a witness is found to have knowingly provided false information in making the report or during the investigation or hearings related to the report, or if any individual intentionally obstructs the investigation or hearings, this may be addressed as a violation of this policy and other applicable laws, regulations and Board policies. Obstruction includes, but is not limited to, violation of "no contact" orders given to the reported adult, attempting to alter or influence witness testimony, and destruction of or hiding evidence.[5][8][12][19][20][21][22]

Disciplinary Action

A district employee who violates this policy may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination, in accordance with all applicable district disciplinary policies and procedures.[8][12][19]

A volunteer, student teacher, or independent contractor or an employee of an independent contractor who violates this policy may be prohibited from working or serving in district schools for an appropriate period of time or permanently, as determined by the Superintendent or designee.

Training

The district shall provide training with respect to the provisions of this policy to current and new district employees, volunteers and student teachers subject to this policy.

The district, at its sole discretion, may require independent contractors and their employees who interact with students or are present on school grounds to receive training on this policy and related procedures.

Legal

1. 24 P.S. 510
2. Pol. 818
3. 16 Pa. C.S.A. 3124.2
4. 24 P.S. 2070.9f
5. Pol. 103
6. Pol. 103.1
7. Pol. 815
8. Pol. 104
9. 23 Pa. C.S.A. 6311
10. Pol. 806
11. 24 P.S. 2070.9a
12. Pol. 317.1
13. 22 PA Code 10.2
14. 22 PA Code 10.21
15. 22 PA Code 10.22
16. 24 P.S. 1302.1-A
17. 24 P.S. 1303-A
18. Pol. 805.1
19. Pol. 317
20. Pol. 113.1
21. Pol. 218
22. Pol. 233
24. P.S. 2070.1a et seq
22. PA Code 235.1 et seq
23. Pa. C.S.A. 6301 et seq

#5

PENN-TRAFFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT

My signature on this form is only an acknowledgement that I have received a copy of the Penn-Trafford School District Maintaining Professional Adult / Student Boundaries Policy and I have read it.

Name (Please Print)

Signature

Date