

POLICY

SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE CHATHAMS

COMMUNITY
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Volunteer Athletic Coaches

9181. VOLUNTEER ATHLETIC COACHES

The Board of Education recognizes the services of volunteer coaches bring unique skills to the district, enrich the athletic program, assist district's coaching staff members in the performance of their duties, and enhance the relationship between the school district and the community. The term volunteer coach refers to someone who serves as a coach, but whose position is not funded by the School District of the Chathams. The Board directs a program for the utilization of volunteer athletic coaches in grades nine through twelve.

The High School Principal and/or Athletic Director will be responsible for the recruitment and screening of volunteer coaches and their assignment. The district is not obligated to utilize the proffered services of a volunteer coach whose abilities or interests do not serve the needs of the school district as determined by the Superintendent. Coaching volunteers must be persons of known character, responsibility, and integrity. Volunteer coaches shall be approved for one season at a time with the understanding their appointment is limited to the particular sport and season for which they were approved and that there is no entitlement to a future appointment. They must be recommended by the Superintendent and approved by the Board of Education prior to assuming any coaching responsibilities.

The Athletic Director will prepare and promulgate rules of conduct for volunteer athletic coaches, as approved by the Superintendent. Each volunteer athletic coach will be given a copy of this policy and the rules of conduct.

The following guidelines shall govern the service of a volunteer athletic coach:

1. Volunteer athletic coaches may serve only under the direction and immediate supervision of a head and/or assistant coach employed by the Board;
2. Volunteer athletic coaches must clearly understand their duties and responsibilities, and comply with all state and district rules, policies and regulations, as well as the regulations of the NJSIAA, and perform no services outside those duties;

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3. Volunteer athletic coaches serve only in a support capacity and only head or assistant coaches employed by the Board are responsible for the supervision and instruction provided to pupils participating in the athletic program;
4. Volunteer athletic coaches shall respect the individuality, dignity and worth of each pupil;
5. Volunteer athletic coaches are not permitted access to pupil records;
6. Volunteer athletic coaches must exercise discretion in disclosing any confidential pupil matters the coach becomes aware of as a result of their volunteer responsibilities, as per all state laws that apply to public school teachers;
7. Volunteer athletic coaches must consult with the Athletic Director regarding any matters or questions regarding their duties and responsibilities;
8. Volunteers shall receive no financial remuneration from the School District of the Chathams;
9. Volunteer athletic coaches, may be immediately relieved of their volunteer responsibilities, with or without cause, by the Superintendent with such action to be recommended to the Board by the Superintendent at the next Board Meeting following relief of duties;
10. Volunteer athletic coaches will be required to attend/participate in workshop/training in First Aid/CPR if he or she does not possess First Aid/CPR certification, as well as other State Mandated and District Required Training(s);
11. Volunteer athletic coaches must hold a New Jersey Teaching certificate or current New Jersey substitute certificate. They must be fingerprinted and have a criminal background check.

N.J.S.A. 18A:6-7.1

Adopted: January 10, 2011