

Lewis Center for Educational Research

**BP 1260: COMMUNITY RELATIONS
FAMILY/COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT**

Adopted: June 5, 2003

Revised:

The Foundation Board encourages parents/guardians and other members of the community to share their time, knowledge and abilities with our students. Parent/guardian and community volunteers in our schools enrich the educational program and strengthen our schools' relationships with homes, businesses, public agencies, and private institutions. By their presence in the classroom and on school grounds, volunteers influence student achievement and conduct and may enhance supervision of students which contributes to school safety.

The Board expects schools to strive to create a learning environment which encourages parent/guardian and community volunteerism through the elementary grades and on into middle school and high school. Volunteers may enhance student learning through providing mentoring, modeling, "coaching," and job shadowing opportunities for both students and teachers. Secondary schools are also encouraged to identify student aptitudes and establish business partnerships, which will assist schools in developing career pathways for students.

The President/CEO or designee may authorize the use of volunteers and establish procedures to protect the safety of both students and volunteers. The President/CEO or designee may require tuberculosis testing and fingerprinting of volunteers and may request criminal records checks as authorized by law. Volunteers shall act in accordance with Lewis Center policies and regulations.

The primary responsibility for everyday maintenance of the schools and grounds rests with the Lewis Center's classified employees. However, the Board encourages volunteers to work on short-term projects to the extent that they enhance the classroom or school, meet a specific need, comply with established building and safety codes, do not significantly increase maintenance workloads, and comply with employee commitments and contracts.