DWIGHT PROCEDURAL GUIDE



Dear Families:

This procedural guide, along with the district publication, *A Family Guide to the Fairfield Public Schools*, will help you be informed about all that is going on in our district.

Welcome to the 2013-14 school year and have a great year!

Sincerely,

Mimi Maniscalco

Dwight Elementary Procedural Guide

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TIMOTHY DWIGHT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

1600 REDDING ROAD FAIRFIELD, CT 06824 PHONE: (203) 255-8312 FAX: (203) 255-8201

Dwight Web Site:

<u>https://www.fairfieldschools.org/schools/dwt</u>
(website currently under construction)

Principal	Mimi Maniscalco
Instructional Improvement Teacher/Language Arts Specialist.	Ashley Furnari
Language Arts Specialist	Karen Carelli
Math/Science Specialist	Mary Jo French
Gifted Math/Language Arts Teacher	Pat Flynn
Psychologist	Carol Balgach
Office Staff - Hours 8:30 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.	
Building Secretary	Mary Varga

Custodial Staff

Administrative Team

Head CustodianBill AugustineNight CustodianPaul Hutter

SCHOOL HOURS BY GRADE

Grades K-5 8:55 A.M. to 3:30 P.M.

Pre-School Session I 8:45 – 11:30

Session II 12:30 – 3:15

Early Dismissal (K-5) 8:55 A.M. to 1:40 P.M.

Delayed Opening 10:55 A.M. to 3:30 P.M.

ABSENTEE CALL-IN LINE 255-8411 GUIDANCE & NURSE 255-8313

EARLY CLOSING HOTLINE 255-TALK (8255)

Student drop-off begins at 8:45 A.M. Please do not drop-off students any earlier unless specific arrangements have been made, as there is no supervision available until 8:45 A.M.

TIMOTHY DWIGHT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

2013-2014 SCHOOL STAFF

Administrative Team

Principal	Mimi Maniscalco
IIT/Language Arts	Ashley Furnari
Specialist	
Language Arts	Karen Carelli
Specialist	
Math/Science	Mary Jo French
Specialist	
Gifted Math/	Pat Flynn
Language Arts	
Psychologist	Carol Balgach

Office Staff

School Secretary	Mary Varga
Part-Time Secretary	Cindy Ficalora
M: 8:30 – 4:30	•
T-TH: 8:30 – 12:30	
Part-Time Secretary	Patti Dyer
T-TH: 12:30 – 4:30	– ,
F: 8:30 – 4:30	
Nurse	Janine Corona
Social Worker	Kirsten Sabrowski

Teaching Staff

Teaching Siajj	
Pre-School	Dale Morrissey
Kindergarten	Alicen Gachi
_	Kathy Rafsky
Grade 1	Stephanie Littrell
	Shannon Pascone
Grade 2	Elaine Casale
	Karen Giaquinto
	Joan Robb
Grade 3	Diane Anjone
	Melissa Barbiero
Grade 4	Kathleen Gallucci
	Rana Hilinski
Grade 5	Ryan Carroll
	Jessica Kensek

Specialized Teaching Staff

Art Teacher	Stephanie Peterson-Jones
Band Teacher	Sheila Doherty
Library Media	Kristin Robinson
Center Specialist	
Library Media	Holly Gavey
Center Assistants	Sally Pierson

Specialized Teaching Staff, cont.

Music Teacher	Sheila Doherty
P.E. Teacher	Gennaro Gelsi
Orchestra Teacher	Jennifer Ficks
Spanish Teacher	Laura Williams
Speech/Language	Keri Cocchiola
Teachers	Michelle Cutler
Occupational	Eva Provost
Therapy	Alisha Fedner
Physical Therapy	Kristina Smeragulio

Special Education Staff

	3.7
Student Support	Abby McCorry
Center Teacher	Kristen Mancini
Special Ed.	Shani Husted
Teachers	Rosemarie Michaels
	Mary Kate Ross
Ed. Trainers	Mary McCready
	Ali Radle
	Kelly Rogers
Support	Cindy Austin
Teachers	Nancy Buoni
	Eileen Delaney
	Tracy Henchcliffe
	Pam Hoeplinger
	Jenna Liporace
	Liz Scheller
	Jen Solari
	Tracy Surrick
	Darlene Trupp
	Chantel Upchurch
Behavioral	Becky Munday
Specialist	

Building Support Staff

Buttating Support Staff				
Cafeteria Manager	Marybeth Szymanski			
Cafeteria Staff	Ginny Carris			
Head Custodian	Bill Augustine			
Night Custodian	Paul Hutter			
Bldg. Substitute	Kristen Mancini			
Teacher	Allison McGrath			
	Heather Dean (12 wks.)			
Student Teacher	Lindsay Molgano			
Intern	Angela Fratarcangeli			

DWIGHT STAFF E-MAILS

Name	Position	Email
Anjone, Diane	Grade 3 Teacher	danjone@fairfieldschools.org
Bill Augustine	Head Custodian	baugustine@fairfieldschools.org
Austin, Cindy	Support Teacher	laustin@fairfieldschools.org
Azimova, Marina	Behavioral Consultant/Analyst	mazimova@fairfieldschools.org
Balgach, Carol	Psychologist	cbalgach@fairfieldschools.org
Barbiero, Melissa	Grade 3 Teacher	mrubertino@fairfieldschools.org
Buoni, Nancy	Support Teacher	nbuoni@fairfieldschools.org
Carelli, Karen	Language Arts Specialist	kcarelli@fairfieldschools.org
Carroll, Ryan	Grade 5 Teacher	rcarroll@fairfieldschools.org
Casale, Elaine	Grade 2 Teacher	ecasale@fairfieldschools.org
Cocchiola, Keri	Speech/Language Teacher	kcocchiola@fairfieldschools.org
Corona, Janine	School Nurse	jcorona@fairfieldschools.org
Cutler, Michelle	Speech/Language Teacher	mcutler@fairfieldschools.org
Delaney, Eileen	Support Teacher	edelaney@fairfieldschools.org
Doherty, Sheila	Music & Band Teacher	sdoherty@fairfieldschools.org
Dyer, Patti	Part-Time Secretary	pdyer2@fairfieldschools.org
Fedner, Alisha	Occupational Therapy	afedner@fairfieldschools.org
Ficalora, Cindy	Part-Time Secretary	cficalora@fairfieldschools.org
Ficks, Jennifer	Orchestra Teacher	ificks@fairfieldschools.org
Flynn, Pat	Gifted Math/Language Arts	pflynn@fairfieldschools.org
Fratarcangeli, Angela	Intern	afratarcangeli@fairfieldschools.org
French, Mary Jo	Math/Science Specialist	mfrench@fairfieldschools.org
Furnari, Ashley	IIT/ LAS	afurnari@fairfieldschools.org
Gachi, Alicen	Kindergarten Teacher	amasi@fairfieldschools.org
Gallucci, Kathleen	Grade 4 Teacher	kgallucci@fairfieldschools.org
Gavey, Holly	LMC Assistant	hgavey@fairfieldschools.org
Gelsi, Gennaro	Physical Education Teacher	ggelsi@fairfieldschools.org
Giaquinto, Karen	Grade 2 Teacher	kgiaquinto@fairfieldschools.org
Henchcliffe, Tracy	Support Teacher	thenchcliffe@fairfieldschools.org
Hilinski, Rana	Grade 4 Teacher	rhilinski@fairfieldschools.org
Hoeplinger, Pam	Support Teacher	phoeplinger@fairfieldschools.org
Husted, Shani	Special Education Teacher	shusted@fairfieldschools.org
Hutter, Paul	Custodian	N/A
Kensek, Jessica	Grade 5 Teacher	jkensek@fairfieldschools.org
Liporace, Jenna		jliporace@fairfieldschools.org
•	Support Teacher Grade 1 Teacher	· · ·
Littrell, Stephanie		slittrell@fairfieldschools.org
Mancini, Kristin	Building Substitute Teacher	kmancini@fairfieldschools.org
Maniscalco, Mimi	Principal SSC Tagghan	mmaniscalco2@fairfieldschools.org
McCorry, Abby	SSC Teacher	amccorry@fairfieldschools.org
McCready, Mary	Support Teacher	mmccready@fairfieldschools.org
McGrath, Allison	Support Teacher	amcgrath@fairfieldschools.org
Michaels, Rosemarie	Special Education Teacher	rmichaels@fairfieldschools.org
Molgano, Lindsay	Student Teacher	lmolgano@fairfieldschools.org
Morrissey, Dale	Pre-School Teacher	dmorrissey@fairfieldschools.org
Munday, Becky	Behavioral Specialist	bmunday@fairfieldschools.org
Pascone, Shannon	Grade 1 Teacher	spascone@fairfieldschools.org
Peterson-Jones, Stephanie	Art Teacher	spetersonjones@fairfieldschools.or

DWIGHT STAFF E-MAILS, CONT.

Name	Position	Email
Pierson, Sally Jacob	LMC Assistant	spierson@fairfieldschools.org
Provost, Eva	Occupational Therapy	eprovost@fairfieldschools.org
Radle, Ali	Ed. Trainer	aradle@fairfieldschools.org
Rafsky, Kathy	Grade 1 Teacher	krafsky@fairfieldschools.org
Robb, Joan	Grade 2 Teacher	jrobb2@fairfieldschools.org
Robinson, Kristin	Library Media Specialist	krobinson@fairfieldschools.org
Rogers, Kelly	Support Teacher	krogers@fairfieldschools.org
Ross, Mary Kate	Special Education Teacher	mross@fairfieldschools.org
Sabrowski, Kirsten	Social Worker	ksabrowski@fairfieldschools.org
Scheller, Liz	Support Teacher	escheller2@fairfieldschools.org
Smeragulio, Kristina	Physical Therapist	ksmeragulio@fairfieldschools.org
Solari, Jen	Support Teacher	jsolari@fairfieldschools.org
Surrick, Tracy	Support Teacher	tsurrick@fairfieldschools.org
Szymanski, MaryBeth	Cafeteria Manager	mszymanski@fairfieldschools.org
Trupp, Darlene	Support Teacher	dtrupp@fairfieldschools.org
Upchurch, Chantel	Support Teacher	cupchurch@fairfieldschools.org
Varga, Mary	School Secretary	mvarga1@fairfieldschools.org
Williams, Laura	Spanish Teacher	lwilliams@fairfieldschools.org

Timothy Dwight Elementary School Building Map

All Call #0

	Symnasium Gelsi Room 034			Speech Cocchiola Room 031		5 th Grade Carroll Room 012
Music/Band Doherty Room 030			Outside Walkway	Koom 031		OT/PT Smeragulio Provost/Fedner
Social Wrkr. Sabrowski Room 026	Stud	dent			Special Ed.	Room 033
Psychologist Balgach Room 133	Restr				Resource Michaels/ Ross Room 010	Anjone Room 011
Faculty Room Room 036	Reso Hus Balg Roon	ted/ gach			3 rd Grade Barbiero Room 008	Math/Science Spec. and Gifted Teacher French/Flynn Room 009
Littrell Room 020	Gra Op Roon	en			4 th Grade Gallucci Room 006	4 th Grade Hilinski Room 007
Pascone Room 018	Kinder Ga Roon	chi			2 nd Grade Casale Room 004	2 nd Grade Giaquinto Room 005
Pre-School Morrissey Room 016	Kinder Raf Roor	-	Library Media C Robinson	enter	Art Peterson- Jones	Conference Room/Netbook Lab
Room 014 McCorry Custodian Augustine/	Book Media Room	Adult Rest Room	Room 029		Student Restroom	Room 003 2 nd Grade Robb Room 001
Hutter Back Entrance			Main Hallwa	y		Front Entrance
All Purpose Room (APR) Kitchen/Cafeteria (Szymanski) 046			Main Office - *800 Mimi Maniscalco – Principal Ashley Furnari – IIT/Language Arts Specialist Karen Carelli – Language Arts Specialist Mary Varga – School Secretary Cindy Ficalora – Part-Time Secretary Patti Dyer – Part-Time Secretary Janine Corona – Nurse 039			

TIMOTHY DWIGHT SCHOOL VISION STATEMENT

Timothy Dwight School is a place where the educational needs of our children take precedence over all else. It is a COMMUNITY, based on a respectful and caring working relationship established among our staff members, students, and parents.

Dwight School is a school of expectations and dreams. It is a place where dreams and ideas are nurtured and encouraged; a place where expectations are high for everyone who walks through the doors.

At Dwight School, our staff serves as the role model, emulating the ideals of intellectual curiosity, tolerance, human interdependence, and the pursuit of excellence. They focus on what can and should be done based on the latest educational research. Utilizing their talent, creativity, and commitment to the children, the staff works as one to prepare students for "what will be" as well as "what is." Their outlook is positive as they seek to build student self-esteem through challenging age-appropriate activities within the curriculum. They provide for recognition of student academic achievement as well as other student contributions that reflect the Dwight community spirit. The staff appreciates traditions and time-honored strategies that prepare students for what lies ahead. They are not, however, afraid to look, to listen, or to change. Their strength is in the conviction that what is ultimately the best for children is what should be pursued, regardless of inconvenience or temporary discomfort.

Dwight is a school where the process of learning is emphasized. We offer our students boundless opportunities, not only to develop effective learning processes but to practice them as well.

Students are expected to give 100 percent of their mental acuteness to the task of becoming "educated." Dwight School seeks to develop in its students the ability to think and to foster in them the conviction that learning is a lifelong pursuit. It is a place where students are held accountable for their actions and where they are encouraged and guided to develop ethical behaviors for themselves that will make them a positive force in the communities to which they belong. It is a school where children are led to understand and to value the interdependent nature of humankind.

ATTENDANCE

Regular daily attendance is very important. It assists children in their academic progress and helps them to be more secure in their school group. It also gives them an appreciation of the importance of education. All outside activities should be scheduled after school hours. Dental and medical appointments should also be arranged for after school hours whenever possible.

Tardiness/Absences

Promptness will help your child with establishing a sense of responsibility and dependability. If a child is to be tardy or absent, parents must report the tardiness or absence using the Absentee Call-in line at 203-255-8411.

If students arrive to school after 8:55 A.M., an adult must escort them to the office to sign them in and obtain a late pass. Students cannot be dropped off at the curb. Upon the child's return to school following an absence of any kind, parents are required to send a note to the classroom teacher regarding the nature of the child's absence.

ARRIVAL AND DISMISSAL PROCEDURES

Arrival

- Mr. Bill, our custodian, will open the doors for students at 8:45 A.M. As you enter the school's driveway, please bear left past the tennis courts and drive up to the back loop, where an adult will be present to assist your children. Please do not drop your children off before 8:45 A.M. as there is no supervision available until that time.
- Students arriving on buses will enter through the front doors at 8:45 A.M.

Dismissal

- Pre-School students dismissed at 11:30 A.M. should be picked up in the front entrance of the school.
- Students dismissed at 3:30 P.M. will arrive in the APR at 3:25 P.M. and will be directed to sit in their designated areas. When you arrive to school for student pick-up, please enter and exit the building through the back APR door. An adult on duty will dismiss your child to you.
- Bus students will assemble in the APR (near the stage) at 3:25 P.M. and will be escorted to their buses by a staff member.

Early Dismissal Days

All students, including kindergarten, are dismissed at 1:40 P.M. on early dismissal days.

Alternate Dismissal

- If a student is going to have an alternate dismissal, please inform us in writing. Teachers will send these notes to the office so we have a record of all changes of dismissal.
- We will only accept alternate dismissals over the phone in the event of an emergency. We will not accept changes in dismissal after 2:00 P.M., unless Mr. Bannon or Mrs. Furnari approves it.
- E-mail changes of dismissal will not be accepted as occasional mail system outages make this method of communication too unreliable.
- If your child needs to leave during the day for any reason, he or she must bring written notification to his or her teacher in the morning. In order to pick-up your child during the school day, you must stop in the office to sign him or her out and office staff will then call your child down from his or her classroom.

Open House

Open House is a parent event established as a way to learn about Dwight and individual classroom expectations. This brief informational presentation is given at 7:00 pm in the All Purpose Room (APR), followed by visits to the classroom for teacher presentations. The date of Open House is Tuesday, September 17, 2013. Classroom teachers will present two identical presentations. The first one will start at 7:30P.M., and the second will begin at 7:50P.M.

Parent/Teacher Conference Schedule

Timely communication between home and school is an important part of a successful learning experience. While this communication happens on an on-going basis and takes a variety of forms, specific Parent/Teacher Conference Days for the elementary schools have been established in the fall and spring to facilitate the process. Please mark your calendars with the following dates:

Thursday, October 17, 2013 Wednesday, March 26, 2014 Wednesday, October 23 2013 Wednesday, April 2, 2014 Thursday, October 24, 2013 Thursday, April 3, 2014

Generally, parents sign up for both the fall and spring Parent/Teacher Conferences during Open House on September 17, 2013. If you are unable to attend the Open House, you may contact your child's teacher to obtain a conference date.

LUNCH, SNACKS AND CAFETERIA PROCEDURES

Snacks in the Classroom

Most classrooms have snacks during the morning, and we would ask that you provide healthy snacks for your children. Students cannot have soda and candy during the day. At Dwight, we believe in promoting the importance of physical activity and proper nutrition in our daily lives.

We would like to challenge all Dwight families to make an effort to provide healthy, nutritious snacks for all children. Please make a conscious effort to leave behind the sugary, unhealthy treats and introduce smarter, healthier choices to our children. Please see the examples below of healthy snacks.

Suggested Nutritious Snacks:			
Applesauce (with a spoon)			
Bagel (mini or half portion)			
Cereal – healthy choices only			
Cheese – slices, sticks, or cubes			
Cinnamon Toast			
Cold cut pinwheels – turkey, roast beef, ham and cheese			
Cottage Cheese (snack-sized cups w/spoon)			
Crackers			
Dried Fruit			
Fruit or Veggies (sliced or peeled)			
Fruit Cup (with a spoon)			
Goldfish			
Granola/Oatmeal Bars (low sugar, no trans fats)			
Hard-Boiled Egg			
Hummus - with vegetables or crackers			
Nuts and/or Peanut Butter (if no classroom allergies)			
Pita Chips			
Pretzels			
Pudding (non-chocolate)			
Raisins			
Rice Cakes			
Tortilla with Cream Cheese			
Trail Mix			
Vegetables - with dip			
Yogurt (in cup with a spoon) or Yogurt Smoothie			

Peanut Free Table

A peanut free table is available for students with known nut allergies. A student can choose one friend to join them at the table. Any child joining a friend at this assigned table must have hot lunch. The only child that can bring a cold lunch to the peanut free table is the child with the nut allergy.

Recess/Lunch Schedule

<u>Grade</u>	Recess	<u>Lunch</u>
Kindergarten	12:00 – 12:20	12:25 – 12:45
Grade One	12:35 – 12:55	1:00 – 1:20
Grade Two	11:45 – 12:05	12:10 – 12:30
Grade Three	12:35 – 12:55	1:00 – 1:20
Grade Four	11:30 – 11:50	11:55 – 12:15
Grade Five	12:15 – 12:35	12:40 – 1:00

DWIGHT PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION (PTA)

Dwight School has a wonderful tradition of enthusiastic parent involvement through its Parent Teacher Association. All Dwight families and the school staff are encouraged to join the PTA for a nominal fee. The Dwight PTA holds monthly meetings that provide information about school programs and events. All PTA members are invited to attend these meetings, which are an excellent way to keep up with what is happening at Dwight.

The Board oversees committees and programs that enhance and enrich the school's learning environment. Parent volunteers, who work in close coordination with the principal and staff, run these committees and programs. Many parents ask, "What can I do to help?" The Dwight PTA has a place for everyone who can give some of his or her time to volunteer. Volunteer opportunities range from typing our directory at home for publishing, to teaching in the classroom about famous artists, to working on a committee planning a family event, or working in the Library Media Center. For more information about using your time and skills to help the PTA and the school, please contact the 2012-2013 Volunteer Coordinators. Please remember you must have a Volunteer/Resource Person registration form on file in the office.

The Dwight PTA holds several fundraisers throughout the year. The money raised is used for curriculum enrichment programs, field trips, classroom materials, family events, and scholarships, to name a few areas.

<u>Please Note</u>: Any student or parent participating in a PTA or school-sponsored activity or program may be eligible for financial assistance. Inquiries are confidential and should be made directly to Mr. Bannon, Dwight School Principal.

GUIDELINES FOR PARENT VOLUNTEERS

Thank you for offering to lend a hand as a parent volunteer at Dwight School! As a staff, we firmly believe that there is a direct correlation between the quality of education that can be achieved in a school and the visible presence of caring parent volunteers.

Volunteers must adhere to the highest standards of personal discretion and confidentiality regarding all sensitive school-related matters. <u>In addition, there must be a clear understanding of and appreciation for the special "trust" that is formed between the school and the parent volunteer. Generating rumors or prying on the part of a volunteer to make personal or private matters public, simply cannot be tolerated.</u> The school reserves the right to "uninvite" a parent volunteer who is not able to adhere to these ethical standards.

We have drafted the following list of <u>ethical standards</u> for parents who serve as volunteers at Dwight. We want and need your help!

- 1. Volunteers must aspire to "professional standards" of ethical conduct while serving in the school and while communicating about school activities outside of the school. There should be no judgmental or comparative anecdotal conversations in school or within the school community regarding the following:
 - Perceived strengths, weaknesses, or "styles" of individual children

- Children who display developmental delays or a need for special education or social services (school psychologist, social worker, speech and language pathologist, etc.)
- Children's social, economic, academic, or emotional challenges or advantages
- Perceived strengths, weaknesses, or "styles" of individual teachers
- 2. Volunteers must try to adhere to the schedules they have worked out with their cooperating teachers. An unanticipated failure to appear disappoints children and upsets teachers who have come to rely upon your presence and assistance. Please call in advance if you are not able to keep to your schedule.
- 3. Volunteers with questions about the methods or practices of a teacher should seek clarification from the teacher.
- 4. Volunteers should be prepared to tactfully redirect any efforts of other parents to question them about sensitive school-related matters.
- 5. Volunteers may be involved by working with children directly or handling management tasks (laminating, copying machine, etc.) as determined by the teacher.

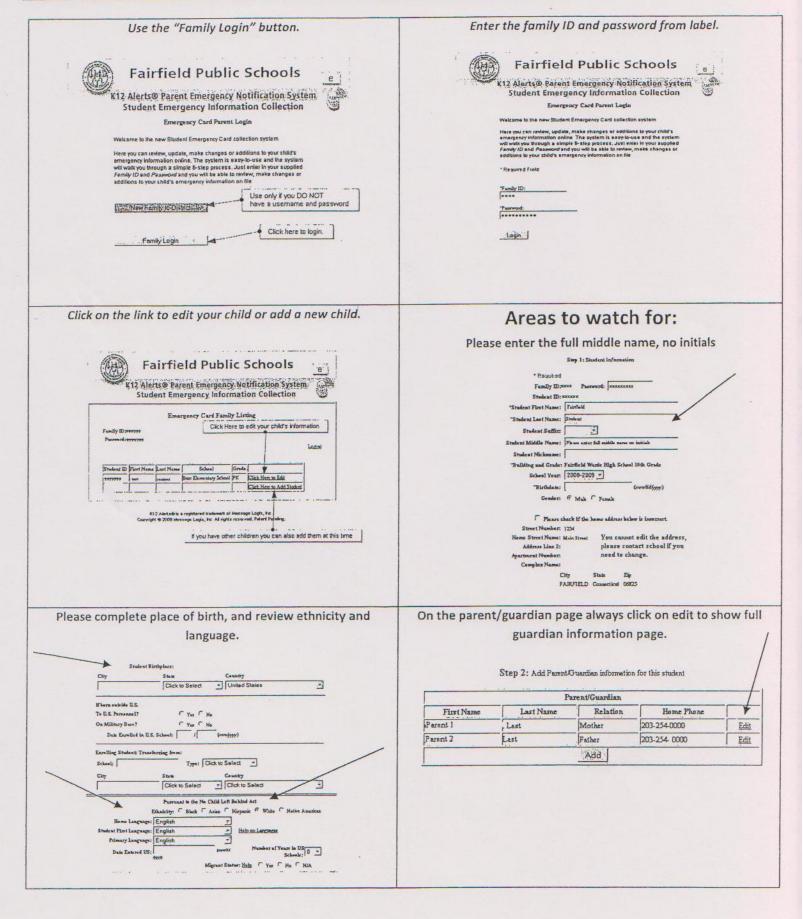
All volunteers must have a Volunteer/Resource Person Registration form on file in the school office. <u>The Volunteer/Resource Person Registration form must be completed at least 3 days prior to volunteering—you cannot complete a form on the day you plan to volunteer.</u> The Volunteer/Resource Person Registration form is not required for parent/teacher conferences, assemblies/special events, class presentations or any other parent/staff meetings. The <u>Volunteer</u> Registration Form is in Appendix B on page 14 in this document.

Appendix

Accessing the Fairfield Public Schools Online Student Information Website

In your web browser (Safari, Internet Explorer, Firefox and Opera) go to:

https://www.k12alerts.com/emergencycards/login/fairfield/



Fairfield, Connecticut

Volunteer/Resource Person Registration Form and Waiver of Liability

Only one form needs to be completed by a Volunteer/Resource Person each school year. Please print clearly in ink: Registration Form Name: Last First Middle Telephone Address: Street City Zip Code E-mail address: Driver's License: Emergency adult contact: Phone Are you now or have you ever been a school volunteer/resource person? At which school? Year? The name of any child or ward attending this school: **Criminal Conviction Information** Are you a sex offender? Have you ever been convicted of a felony? If you answered YES, list all offenses Offense(s): Date(s): Place(s): If requested, are you willing to consent to a criminal background investigation? Important Volunteer/Resource Person Policies and Guidelines 1. All Volunteers/Resource Persons must complete a new Volunteer/Resource Person application each year. 2. All Volunteers/Resource Persons must sign in at the school office before proceeding to their Volunteer/Resource Person assignment. 3. Volunteers/Resource Persons may not dispense either prescription or over the counter medications to students. 4. Volunteers/Resource Persons must respect a student's right to confidentiality including the following areas: standardized test scores, family background information, reports of serious behavior patterns and written teacher observations. Signature of Volunteer/Resource Person: Printed Name of Volunteer/Resource Person For School Use Only "Sex offender list" checked by on Is a criminal background check necessary (the individual will be working over a long period of time in direct contact with students where no staff member is continuously present or in other situations where a check would be prudent)? Yes If "yes," and provided the individual authorized the check, the date on which the check was requested? the date on which it was received and reviewed. Approved Not Approved

Signature

Reviewed by:

Date