



July 23, 2015

Dear Chesterbrook Academy Families,

This letter provides information related to Act 153, a new law that mandates clearances for school volunteers effective July 1, 2015. A volunteer is defined as an adult serving in an unpaid position in which they are individually responsible for the welfare of a child or have “direct contact with children.” This would include any adult accompanying the school on field trips or routinely volunteering at the school.

Under the provisions of the new law, parents and others who participate as volunteers are now required to have on file at the school the following clearances every 60 months:

1. Act 151 Pennsylvania Child Abuse Clearance
2. Act 34 Pennsylvania Criminal History Check
3. Act 114 FBI Criminal History Report*

*Volunteers who have lived in the state of Pennsylvania for the last 10 years or more may submit an affidavit to that effect in place of the FBI Criminal History Report (fingerprinting). That affidavit should be submitted with other clearances. It is attached for your use, as appropriate.

Information about obtaining the clearances is attached for your reference. Verification typically takes five business days; however, turn-around time may be longer during high volume periods. Once you obtain your clearances, you are asked to submit them to your school’s Principal where they will be maintained in your child’s file.

Please remember that Act 153 is a state law and we have no ability to change the mandates of that law. Despite any inconvenience this new law imposes, we remain grateful for your continued involvement in our schools. Please don’t hesitate to address any questions with your school administrator.

Sincerely,

Donna Bonfiglio-Miller
Executive Director