

OLENTANGY LOCAL SCHOOL DISTRICT BACKGROUND CHECK FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q.: Does every parent on a field trip need a background check on file?

A. Parents who are on a field trip with their own child and are ONLY supervising their own child do not need a background check. In addition, no background check is needed if the teacher has control of the entire call at all times.

Q.: Why the need for background checks for field trips and not for volunteering at school?

A. On January 1, 2012, the Olentangy Local School District (OLSD) joined many other districts in requiring background checks. The district felt this was an urgent issue for field trip chaperones and instituted the policy swiftly. Beginning with the 2012-2013 school year, ALL volunteers who work in an OLSD building/setting will be required to have a background check. Background checks will be valid for five years.

Q. Is the background check valid for all OLSD buildings? What if my child transfers schools or enters middle school?

A. If we have a background check on file at one school it will transfer to any other school as long as it's within the five year time period. It is the parent's responsibility to provide a copy of the background check to the new school before he/she can volunteer in the building.

Q. Can I use my background check from my church, job, Girl Scouts, etc...?

A. Yes, as long as it includes a BCI and FBI check and it must have been done within one year prior to the current date.

Q. Does an OLSD teacher who is also a parent need another background check?

A. No, we have a copy on file in the OLSD human resources' office.

Q. Does this background check requirement include Pioneer Day?

A. Yes, any parent chaperoning or supervising children alone on Pioneer Day will need a background check done. If a teacher does not have control of the ENTIRE class at all times a background check is warranted.

Q. The background check is \$51, isn't this out of pocket expense going to hinder many people from volunteering at the school?

A. The cost is an issue, but the safety of the children is MOST important. The background check is good for five years, this equates to approximate \$10 a year.

Q. How long does it take to get your background check back?

A. Typically, one week. It may take longer if there is a hit on the background check or the check has been pulled to be audited by the FBI. In rare cases it should take no more than 30 days.

Q. What is going to prevent a parent from showing up at an event/location that is open to the public?

A. Parents will be able to attend any field trip without a background check, as long as they are not responsible for any child but their own.

Q. Do you need a background check to attend classroom parties?

A. Again, a parent does not need a background check if they are in the building for their own child only.