

GILFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT

School Administrative Unit Seventy Three

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Gilford, NH 03249

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Kirk Beitler
Superintendent of Schools

Scott Isabelle
Assistant Superintendent for Business

July 28, 2017

Dear Gilford School District Parents and Guardians,

I hope everyone is enjoying their summer break and reading a good book for pleasure. I am writing to let you know about a new policy the Gilford School Board has recently approved. At the July 10th School Board meeting policy IJOC-volunteers was approved with changes. I have included policy IJOC and the New Hampshire Department of Education Technical Advisory related to background checks with this communication for your review.

The change in the policy that will require action this summer is that volunteers will be fingerprinted prior to volunteering in our schools. We would like to offer dates this summer for volunteers to come into the SAU office to be fingerprinted. We will also offer dates once school has started at the end of August based on the need.

The process will be for a volunteer to be fingerprinted and have a photo identification taken by the school district. The fingerprints will then be sent to Concord for a thorough background check by the State Police and the FBI. The district should receive results in 4-6 weeks. Once everything comes back with no disqualifying results, a volunteer photo identification will be distributed. The volunteer will need to bring the photo ID to the school every time they want to volunteer in a Gilford school.

We are not looking to make this a difficult transition and we are not trying to keep parents out of our schools, but we are looking to keep students safe in our schools. We will have a grace period this first year. We will use November 1, 2017 as a date for all volunteers to be approved.

The policy requires that volunteers be fingerprinted and sign an affidavit in the next three years and be fingerprinted again after the fourth year.

We have scheduled the dates of August 3, 14, and 23 from 9:00-1:00 for potential volunteers to come to the SAU office at 2 Belknap Mountain Road and be fingerprinted. We have also scheduled August 15 and 24 from 12:00-3:00 PM for potential volunteers to be fingerprinted at the SAU office. Please call the SAU office at 527-9215 to check on availability and to schedule an appointment if needed.

Please bring a current photo identification to the SAU office on the day of your fingerprinting.

We will also be available to fingerprint potential volunteers at the elementary open house the evening of August 29. We will offer other dates and times once school has started.

If there are any questions please do not hesitate to call me at 527-9215.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Kirk Beitler", with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Kirk Beitler
Superintendent of Schools