

Dear Teachers, Staff, Parents and PTA Board;

Welcome back! I want to let you know of a few changes to our volunteer program for the coming school year. These changes are pretty simple and straightforward, but if you have questions about anything, please contact me and I will be happy to answer.

Understanding these changes are crucial for Teachers, PTA Board Members and Committee Heads, Staff and Parents.

Outline of changes:

- ∅ All volunteers need to be approved through the district (submitting to a background check).
- ∅ All events with volunteers will be coordinated on PTA website and through the volunteer coordinators.
- ∅ Volunteer sites like signupgenius.com and volunteerspot.com are prohibited.
- ∅ Introduction of the Volunteer Core.

All volunteers need to be approved through the district.

This has been true for past years, but this year, we are making our campus 100% compliant with this important policy set forth by LISD. All volunteers will need to be approved through LISD's application process. There is no room for exceptions.

Approval is fast and it's easy. If you have a parent unwilling, please refer them to Kristi or myself. I am happy to talk them through it. As a parent myself, I am thankful for this diligence.

All events with requests for volunteers will go through the PTA website and the volunteer coordinators.

All events, no matter how big or small, will have volunteers sign up on our PTA website (www.cypress.my-pat.org) which ensures only approved volunteers can sign up. SUBMIT A VOLUNTEER EVENT REQUEST FORM to set up your event.

I encourage each of you to get approved, ASAP. Even teachers and staff have to go through the volunteer application process. It's a different system than the LISD employee background check. Even though you are approved as an employee, you must be approved as a volunteer too. If you want to volunteer at anything this year (Winter Wonderland, Family Fit Night, etc...), you must be an approved volunteer.

No use of signupgenius.com to coordinate volunteers.

Sign up genius has been very helpful to most of us, at some point or another. I happen to love signupgenius.com. However, it poses a huge problem when coordinating volunteers. Last year proved to us, there is absolutely no way to use this platform safely. Therefore, its use is being discontinued district wide for the purpose of coordinating, recruiting or scheduling volunteers. All volunteer events will be coordinated on our PTA site: www.cypress.my-pta.org SUBMIT A VOLUNTEER EVENT REQUEST We look forward to working with you during another great year at Cypress!

Sincerely,

Sam Villarreal - Volunteer Coordinator
Brandee Bonner – Co- Volunteer Coordinator
cypresselementaryvc@gmail.com

