

WESTGATE VOLUNTEERING GUIDELINES

Volunteers are an integral part of Westgate. Westgate's volunteers generously dedicate their time and energy to make a real difference for our students. They are truly appreciated and valued by both the school and the PTA.

To help ensure a successful volunteering experience at Westgate, please adhere to the following new guidelines:

VOLUNTEERING TAKING PLACE WITH STUDENTS

Expectation: Babies, pre-school children, or middle school-aged children should not accompany parent volunteers during “in class” activities.

Reason: The primary responsibilities of a parent volunteer is to assist teachers/staff with students and other “in class” activities.

Examples:

1. Restless babies or active toddlers require a volunteer's attention. The volunteer then has to chose between ignoring their child (which is distracting to the classroom and not safe for the child), or attending to their child's needs by stepping away (which is not safe and defeats the purpose of the volunteering visit).
2. Even if a child sits quietly off to the side, it's a distraction to the children in the room as they are interested in the child itself, what the child is doing, etc.

Applies to: “In class” activities refer to the following activities: Classroom parties, Mystery Reader, Art Appreciation lessons, library volunteer, art class volunteer, field trips, and any of the various classroom helpers (Centers, Fluency, Reading, Science, Tech Time, etc).

VOLUNTEERING TAKING PLACE WITHOUT STUDENTS

Expectation: Babies, pre-school children, or middle school-aged children are allowed.

Reason: Students are not the primary purpose for the volunteer activity. Students are not present during the volunteer activity.

Applies to: Copy helper, after school party setup, or other reasons to come into the school for PTA or school related volunteering tasks that don't involve interacting with students directly.