



903.5 **EMPLOYMENT AND VOLUNTEER BACKGROUND CHECKS**

I. **PURPOSE**

The purpose of this policy is to maintain a safe and healthful environment in the school district in order to promote the physical, social, and psychological well-being of its students and staff. To that end, the school district will seek a criminal history background check for applicants who receive an offer of employment with the school district and for volunteer extra-curricular athletic and academic coaches. The District will not require criminal background checks on district enrolled students who are employed or who volunteer for the within District. The school district may elect to do background checks on school or program volunteers and independent contractors. The District will not require criminal background checks on district enrolled students who volunteer for the District.

II. **GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY**

A. The school district shall require that applicants for school district positions who receive an offer of employment, or applicants who are offered the opportunity to provide athletic coaching services and/or other extracurricular academic coaching services to the school district, whether voluntary or compensated, submit to a criminal history background check. The offer of employment or the opportunity to provide services shall be conditioned upon a determination by the school district that an applicant's criminal history does not preclude the individual from employment with, or provision of services to, the school district. The school district may elect to do background checks on school or program volunteers, and independent contractors. volunteer applicants submit to a criminal history background check. The opportunity to volunteer shall be conditioned upon a determination by the school district that an applicant's criminal history does not preclude the individual from volunteering within the school district.

B. The school district specifically reserves any and all rights it may have to conduct background checks regarding current employees, applicants, or service providers without the consent of such individuals. The applicant consents to a background check when it is submitted. The decision to not submit a background check will disallow the applicant from volunteering.



C. Adherence to this policy by the school district shall in no way limit the school district's right to require additional information, or to use procedures currently in place or other procedures to gain additional background information concerning employees, applicants, school or program volunteers, service providers, and independent contractors, volunteers, and the background check result is not the sole determination in approval or not of a volunteer application.

~~III. CRIMINAL HISTORY CONSENT FORM~~

~~A form to obtain consent for a criminal history background check is included with this policy.~~

Legal References: Minn. Stat. § 13.04, Subd. 4 (Inaccurate or Incomplete Data)
Minn. Stat. § 13.87, Subd. 1 (Criminal History Data)
Minn. Stat. § 123B.03 (Background Checks)
Minn. Stat. §§ 299C.60-299C.64 (Minnesota Child Protection Background Check Act)
Minn. Stat. § 364.09(b) (Exception for School Districts)

POLICY ADOPTED: February 21, 2008

POLICY REVIEWED: March, 2012, November 18, 2021

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