

# VOLUSIA PARTNERS

## VOLUNTEER/PARTNERSHIP PROGRAMS VOLUSIA COUNTY SCHOOLS



### OBJECTIVE

The objective of the Volusia Partners program is to encourage involvement of businesses and civic organizations in our schools; thereby enhancing student learning, enriching curriculum, and promoting school improvement.

### DESCRIPTION

Recognizing that a strong public school system is essential to the prosperity of our community, Volusia Partners take an active role in our schools. Partnership activities may include, but are not limited to:

- sponsorship of school events, programs, or workshops.
- student recognition and incentive awards.
- financial contributions or donations of materials/equipment.
- employee release time to mentor, tutor, or read to students.
- volunteers for school events.
- adoption of a classroom, grade level, or school.
- career or topic speakers; Junior Achievement presenters.

### QUALIFICATIONS

Businesses or civic organizations of any size may serve as a Volusia Partner. Partnerships should be structured to meet the identified needs of the school. Schools often compile a "Wish List" for possible partnership activities. Businesses/organizations may also help School Advisory Councils achieve their identified objectives.

### TRAINING

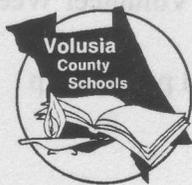
Orientation and training is especially important when a partner becomes a classroom volunteer. Teachers provide direct training to classroom helpers and the district provides training to volunteer mentors and primary reading tutors. Junior Achievement of Central Florida also provides training for their presenters.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Call your local school and ask to talk with the business partner coordinator OR call:

#### **Volunteer/Partnership Programs**

Volusia County Schools, 729 Loomis Ave., Daytona Beach, FL 32114  
(386) 255-6475, 734-7190, 427-5223, 860-3322, ext. 60159 or 60162



## WHAT PARTNERS CAN DO FOR SCHOOLS

- Provide release time for employees to tutor, mentor, or read to students.
- Encourage parental involvement for employees through worksite displays and/or publications.
- Provide incentives for students who have improved in attendance, academics, behavior, attitude, citizenship, etc.
- Provide "career shadowing or career mentoring" opportunities for students or teachers at the partner's site.
- Donate used equipment or surplus materials.
- Serve on the School Advisory Council.
- Serve as judges for various school events.
- Sponsor school beautification projects.
- Sponsor field trips.
- Offer field trips of your facility.
- Assist with school newsletter or other publication.
- Provide display space for student artwork.
- Serve as guest speakers on career awareness topics or special interests.
- Provide assembly program for students.
- Adopt a classroom, a grade level, or a school.
- Sponsor special programs or school clubs.
- Provide educational or curriculum support materials.
- Provide part-time employment.
- Provide seminars for students, parents, faculties, and/or administrators.
- Provide student internship opportunities.
- Provide tours and/or host meetings/special events.
- Assist with school fund-raising activities.
- Participate in school events.
- Provide recognition to teachers.
- Sponsor contests in art, writing, math, reading, etc.
- Offer free services that are unique to your business.
- Sponsor needy families at holidays.
- Provide scholarships.

## WHAT SCHOOLS CAN DO FOR PARTNERS

- Thank your partner often...notes from students are particularly effective.
- If your school has a monthly newsletter or calendar for parents, provide space for a partnership column.
- Provide space in the school to highlight partnership activities.
- Invite your partner to serve on advisory committees, task forces, etc.
- Put your partner on your mailing list. Communicate!
- Invite your partner to all volunteer recognition events.
- Recognize new partnerships on school marquee.
- Provide visibility by submitting partnership information to be used in press releases, human-interest articles, and school publicity.
- Give an update on partnership activities at PTA/PTSA meetings and introduce partner.
- Provide your partners with an inside look at school, tour the school, and explain the curriculum.
- Encourage student groups to perform for company functions.
- Initiate a student Partners Club or have the Student Council assist with recognizing partnership activities.
- Obtain birthdays of employees and have children send birthday cards (if appropriate).
- Invite your partner to shadow a teacher or administrator.
- If applicable, have students submit designs that will be chosen by the partner for holiday cards or publications.
- Invite your partner to participate in community projects with your school, i.e. baskets at Thanksgiving.
- Share school and student successes with partners, particularly where the partner has been involved.
- Ask business to participate in American Education Week activities.
- Thank your business during Florida School Volunteer Month (Feb.) and National Volunteer Week (late April).
- Design a logo for individual partnership activities/programs.

**Volusia Partners**  
supports the  
**Florida Association of Partners in Education**