



Benjamin Franklin High School

Home of the Chargers

BFHS Families,

This year we are excited to announce an exciting addition to our school safety plan. For the 2023/2024 school year, our campus will expand the use of the Ident-A-Kid system introduced last year. Ident-A-Kid is a student safety program that allows parents peace of mind regarding the adults on campus. There are three major components to the program: student check-in/check-out, volunteer/visitor screening, and chaperone background checks. Last year, we implemented the student check-in/check-out procedures. This year, our plan is to add the remaining components of the system as described below:

Volunteer/Visitor Screening:

We encourage our parents to actively participate in their child(ren)'s education. From time to time, we also have individuals visit our campus to provide services, tour the campus, and more.

With our new program, parents and visitors to the campus will sign in electronically using a government-issued ID. The Ident-A-Kid program will quickly run their name against a national database of registered sex offenders. The program will also check the visitor's identity against a custom list of prohibited persons (e.g., someone who has a No-Contact order; anyone whom the building principal has named as not being allowed to come into a school, etc.) Individuals whose names are flagged via this screener will not be permitted on campus. In these cases, the principal will communicate with the volunteer or visitor. This screening is done at no cost to volunteers.

Chaperone Background Check:

In order to effectively supervise students on off-site trips, we rely on volunteer chaperones. For chaperones, who will spend longer amounts of time in close proximity to students, a more thorough background check will be completed, which can be done well in advance of student trips and other off-site activities that require parent chaperone assistance. For this more thorough background check, there is a fee of \$40.00 which will be paid by BFCS for individuals chosen as chaperones for off site trips. This is referred to as a *Level II* clearance which is valid for three years at all BFCS campuses.

For questions, including a full list of volunteer disqualifying factors, please contact our front office.

We appreciate the trust you have placed in BFHS by partnering with our school for the education of your children. We take this responsibility seriously and are committed to providing a safe environment for our families. We look forward to a wonderful school year.

Sincerely,

BFHS Administration



Ident-A-Kid Background Screening Volunteer Disqualifying Factors

The guidelines below have been established for all “parents” as defined as custodial and grandparents, who have requested to volunteer in the classroom or as field trip chaperones. The guidelines below will be used to determine what constitutes fail/does not meet criteria:

- Any crime involving children
- Manslaughter
- Endangerment
- Threatening or intimidating behavior
- Assault
- Unlawfully administering alcohol or drugs
- Discharging a firearm at a structure
- Drive-by shooting
- Indecent exposure
- Public sexual indecency
- Aggravated criminal damage
- Misconduct involving weapons or explosives
- Concealed weapon violation
- Possession, use, or sale of illegal drugs
- Child neglect misdemeanor offenses involving contributing to the delinquency of a minor
- Offenses involving domestic violence
- Arson
- Kidnapping
- Armed robbery
- Prostitution
- Felony charge
- Active probation
- Pending conviction
- Pending trial
- Active warrants

Notification to disqualified volunteer applicants – BFCS Administration will inform the volunteer via email correspondence when their screening does not meet requirements.