Thomas County Schools

Welcome, Bridge Builders!



Thank you for giving your time, talents, and heart to our students.

Parent Volunteer Training 2026–2027 • Building Bridges, One Family at a Time

Whether you give one hour or help often, your time and skills matter!



Why Your Help Matters

Every connection makes a difference.

Volunteers help students feel supported and connected. When families stay involved, students can have better attendance, stronger grades, improved behavior, and more confidence.

Before You Begin

A few simple steps keep everyone safe

Complete a new volunteer form each school year. The school may ask for a background check, which may have a cost.



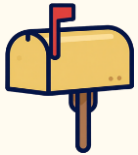
Complete Your Form

Return your yearly volunteer form and complete any required background check.



Plan Your Visit

Arrange your visit or assignment ahead of time—no surprise visits.



Check In Every Time

Sign in at the front office, wear your badge, and sign out as you leave.

Be Someone We Can Count On



Communication matters—please let us know when plans change.

Reliable volunteers help the whole school day run smoothly

If your plans change, call the school as soon as possible. Ask the teacher or Parent Involvement Coordinator anytime you need help or are unsure what to do.

- Arrive on time and follow your schedule
- Dress for the activity and school setting
- Follow school rules

Protect Privacy & Keep Good Boundaries



What happens at school stays private. Protect every student and family.

- Keep student and family information private
- Do not post or share student pictures
- Keep personal phones and devices put away
- No medicine, no asking/loaning money, or personal beliefs



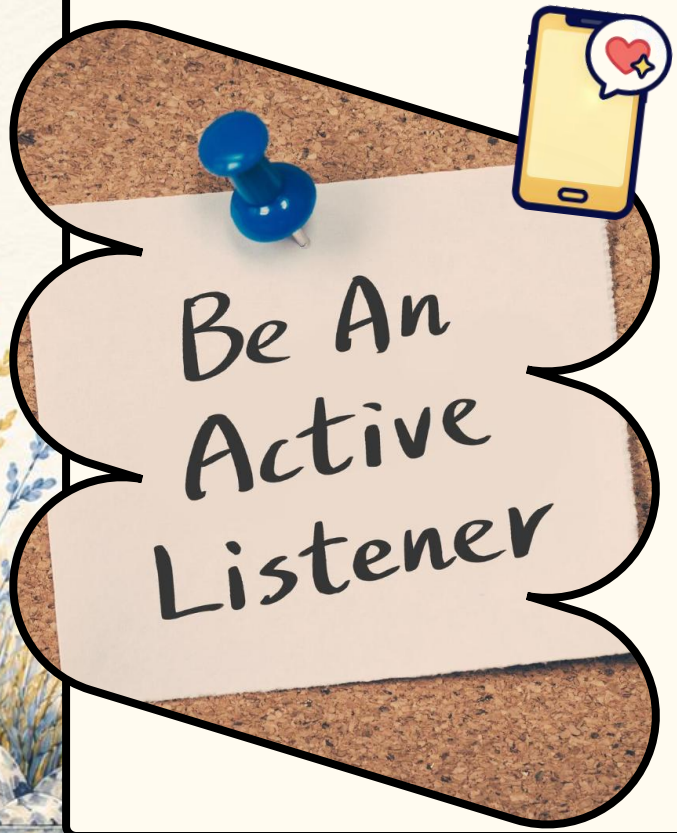
Support Students Safely

Lead with patience, respect, and fairness

Respect differences in culture, ability, background, and family life. Encourage students without embarrassing them or choosing favorites.

- Let teachers handle discipline
- Never touch a child in anger
- Never use hurtful language
- Ask staff for help right away

Stay in approved, visible areas. School staff are always responsible for students.



If a Child Shares Something Unsafe

Stay calm. Listen. Report it right away.
Mandated Reporter

1. Do not investigate or ask many questions.
2. Write the child's exact words if possible.
3. Tell a school counselor or administrator immediately.
4. Do not leave before telling someone.

Reports must be made as soon as possible and no later than 24 hours.

If You Serve as a Mentor

Be a caring friend—not a parent, therapist, babysitter, or disciplinarian.



Be Steady

Be a patient, dependable, trustworthy friend.



Listen First

Listen without judging, preaching, or trying to fix everything.

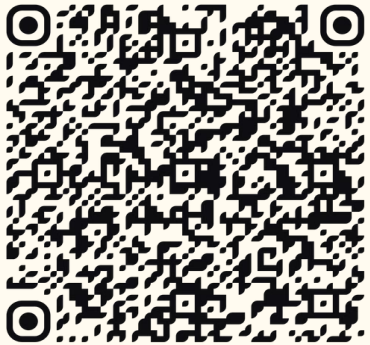


Keep It Safe

No physical discipline, abusive language, unsupervised areas, or overnight visits.

Ways You Can Help

Every gift of time helps us build a stronger bridge!



- Organize materials and help with special projects
- Support family events, reading, tutoring, or activity days
- Chaperone when approved and assigned
- Share your talents and community connections
- Encourage learning and good attendance at home

Ready to be a Bridge Builder?



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