

Form K

Stockbridge-Munsee Community | Electa Quinney Head Start PARENT VOLUNTEERS

Parent volunteers are an important part of Stockbridge Munsee Community Head Start. Programming would not be possible without parent involvement. Volunteers provide valuable help and expertise to the Head Start program. A volunteer can be a parent or family member of an enrolled child, a community member, a college student or anyone interested in helping.

Studies have shown that children are more successful in school when their parents are involved. Therefore, families are encouraged to volunteer 10 hours per month. Volunteers may choose to give 15 minutes of their time while dropping their own child at school, a few hours of time during an afternoon session, or spend full days at school as part of the classroom team. Any relative 18 years or older can complete the family volunteer hours however; a child's enrollment is not conditional upon a family's participation in or completion of volunteer hours.

PLEASE HELP SUPPORT HEAD START BY SIGNING UP FOR ONE OF THE OPPORTUNITIES BELOW

- **Head Start Policy Council**

Each year Head Start must develop a Council to provide oversight to the program. The Council is made up of a Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, parent and community members. Members are nominated and voted onto Policy Council by Head Start Parents.

Policy Council meetings are held monthly for an hour. Policy Council members review monthly reports and get updates on how the program is doing overall. Policy Council members serve a one-year term. **Members are compensated for their time at meetings.**

Why Join Policy Council?

Policy Council offers parents the opportunities to do the following: network with other parents/staff, develop leadership skills, learn to be an advocate, and be the voice of Head Start parents & children.

- **I am interested in being on the ballot for nomination to Head Start Policy Committee**

- **I am not interested in being on the ballot for nomination to the Head Start Policy Committee**

I am interested in the following role:

- **Chair**

- **Vice-Chair**

- **Secretary**

- **Parent Member**

Nomination papers will be sent home to families early in the year so that the Policy Council can be voted on and begin the process of supporting Head Start.

- **Parent Committee**

Parent committees help support special activities and fun events at Head Start. Please sign up early to be involved in the following activities:

- **Fund Raising for Graduation** - **Planning Fun Activities/Events**

- **Being a Chaperone on Field Trips**

Other Volunteer Opportunities

Parents can volunteer, explore the exciting field of early childhood education, learn more about child development, and potential employment opportunities. Volunteers can assist with classroom activities, upkeep and renovation of centers, playground and other similar tasks. Volunteers will be required to read, sign and adhere to the Stockbridge Munsee Community Head Start "Code of Conduct". Volunteers will receive training from the classroom staff so that to ensure comfort with the

Form K

responsibilities of being a Head Start volunteer. All volunteers are supervised at all times. No volunteer is ever left alone with children.

Volunteers can come as often as they wish. Volunteering on a regular basis will require physical and TB test, for your safety and the safety of the children and staff. Head Start welcomes volunteers that can come for part of the day or stay for the whole day. No amount of time is too little!

Below are a few examples of volunteer opportunities at Head Start

Volunteer at School

- Read to the Children
- Share a Story/Song from Your Childhood
- Bring Photos, Pictures, Clothing, instrument to share culture with the children
- Plan and Carry Out an Art, Movement, Music or Other Activity
- Supervise the Playground

Volunteer from Home

- Cut Out Materials for Classroom Projects
- Refurbish/Repair Classroom Materials/Furniture
- Sew Doll Clothing
- Eat with the Children

SIGNATURE

Child's Full Name

Parent Signature:

Date:

Thank you for supporting Head Start!

Those who can do. Those who can do more...volunteer.

~ Author Unknown

Continuing Electa Quinney's Educational Vision for a Bright Future