

## VIPs Start of School Reminder: Field Trip Chaperones & Volunteer Requirements

Welcome back to school! On behalf of the district, we are so grateful for your continued dedication and support. As we welcome the 2025 – 2026 school year, we have a few important updates and reminders for all elementary parents:

- **What is a Field Trip Chaperone?** A parent, guardian, or approved volunteer who helps teachers supervise and guide students during a school field trip. Their job is to keep students safe, follow school rules, and support the learning experience outside the classroom.
- **Interested in Becoming a Chaperone?** All parents who are interested in chaperoning during their students' field trip(s) will need to register online as a Volunteer in Public Schools (VIPS) and receive **approval** from their student's teacher and the VIPS system's criminal history background check. Your student's teacher will email you if you are designated as a class chaperone.
- **How to Register:** To register online, please visit [www.hayscisd.net/VIPS](http://www.hayscisd.net/VIPS) and select the option for "Create a volunteer account". **Parents who are already active/approved in the volunteer system will not need to re-register for the new school year.**
- **Volunteer Code of Conduct:** Please take a moment to review the 2025 – 2026 Volunteer Code of Conduct, also available on our website, [www.hayscisd.net/VIPS](http://www.hayscisd.net/VIPS). This serves as a reminder that volunteering in public schools is a privilege, and we are committed to maintaining a safe and respectful environment for all students.
- **Volunteer Badges:** Active volunteers may request a printed volunteer badge for the 25 – 26 school year from your student's campus volunteer coordinator. Parents who will chaperone ONE single field trip are encouraged to use the temporary adhesive badge issued at the campus front office.
- **How to request your badge:** Please visit our website at [www.hayscisd.net/VIPS](http://www.hayscisd.net/VIPS) to find the **Campus Volunteer Coordinator Directory**. Contact your campus coordinator by phone or email to schedule a date/time to pick up your new badge.

We look forward to another successful year together. Thank you for being an essential part of our school community!

