

## Safety and Security

In order to assure the safety and security of our students, all chaperones will be asked to sign a document indicating that they have not been convicted of any crime as defined by the *Criminal Code of Maryland* and may be subject to a background check..



*I hear and I forget,*

*I see and I remember,*

*I do and I understand.*

*Outdoor Environmental Education  
Programs*

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5110 Meadowside Lane  
Rockville, Maryland 20855

Phone: 301-924-3123

*Outdoor Environmental  
Education Programs*

## *Guide to Chaperoning in the Residential Outdoor Environmental Education Programs*



# *Chaperoning at Outdoor Environmental Education*



Chaperones are an integral part of the Montgomery County Public

Schools (MCPS) Outdoor Environmental Education Residential Program. Chaperones support the educational experience and strengthen the link between the school and the community. Chaperones provide many benefits for the program, for school staff, and for students. They often bring a wealth of experience and valuable background knowledge that increase student learning.

Chaperones are employed to assist in the instructional component of the program and help supervise the nonacademic activities., which may include table setting and food serving by the “kitchen patrol” students, supplemental recreational activities, and dorm life.

## **General Expectations**

The outdoor education experience is an extension of the school’s instructional program. It is often one of the most memorable experiences in a student’s educational career. As such, the first priority of the program is to ensure all students experience a safe, challenging, high quality educational experience. Chaperones, working with school and outdoor education staff, help to create that environment.

## **Role of Chaperones**

Chaperones are role models and should conduct themselves in a manner that is appropriate for a school setting.



Characteristics of good chaperones include the following:

- Display respect for all children and adults.
- Address behavior issues in a positive manner and share any concerns with MCPS staff immediately.
- Ensure a safe environment for students at all times.

Children look for clear directions and adult guidance. They respond to consistent and positive interactions with their teachers and their chaperones.



As with all MCPS facilities, alcohol, smoking, and illegal items or substances are not permitted or tolerated.

Individual schools have the option of choosing chaperones or student assistants to help with the residential program. This decision is based on a combination of factors, including program needs, number of volunteers needed, and availability of volunteers to spend evenings. If an adult is interested in chaperoning, a contact should be made with the teacher in charge at the participating school.

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