



OFFICE FOR CATHOLIC SCHOOLS  
DIOCESE OF GREENSBURG

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May 29, 2019

Memo to: Parents/Guardians of students in the Diocese of Greensburg

Re: Clearance Requirements Update

From: Dr. Maureen G. Marsteller, Superintendent of Catholic Schools

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope that this letter finds you enjoying the return to warmer weather and a bit more sunshine! Soon school will end, and students will get the chance to explore different opportunities as well as some fun in the sun. While enjoying the summer, I am asking that you take a moment to review the status of your clearances or apply for clearances if you are hoping to volunteer or spend some time in your child's school. The requirements for clearances have been updated to further ensure your child's safety.

We in the Diocese of Greensburg are committed to providing the safest possible environment for our students, and requiring clearances for volunteers and classroom visitors helps us achieve this goal. As you know, part of this total safe environment initiative involves the requirement that all volunteers, as well as school personnel, have the appropriate clearances. As part of the total package of clearance expectations, volunteers were allowed to submit a notarized affidavit in lieu of a full FBI clearance. **This requirement has changed. It is now diocesan policy that all volunteers have an FBI clearance that is processed through an approved agency.** Once you have the FBI clearance through an agency, you will be able to renew it after five years with an affidavit. If you need assistance in finding an approved agency, school personnel will be happy to assist you.

I know that this can place an additional burden on you as parents and guardians, but I hope that you understand that this is another way to ensure your child's safety. The FBI clearance covers arrests in every state, not just in Pennsylvania.

We are obligated as professionals working with students to use every tool possible to ensure the safety of our children. I appreciate your understanding and support of this new requirement.

For a complete listing of clearances needed to volunteer or to be in close contact with students in a school, please refer to the following website: <https://www.dioceseofgreensburg.org/youth-protection/Pages/childservices.aspx>.

Thank you in advance for your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Dr. Maureen G. Marsteller  
Superintendent of Catholic Schools