

# PSRP & SCHOOL HEALTHCARE PROVIDERS

2013 Resolutions

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## **THE ROLE OF VOLUNTEERS IN OUR PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO SUPPORT AND SUPPLEMENT THE WORK OF PARAPROFESSIONALS AND SCHOOL SUPPORT STAFF**

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5 WHEREAS the use of volunteers in our public school system a longstanding and  
6 important tradition, and

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8 WHEREAS the Ohio Federation of Teachers (OFT) has a long and proud history of  
9 encouraging community members and parent volunteers in our public school, and

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11 WHEREAS volunteers in our public schools can serve as role models to our students  
12 and demonstrate the importance of giving back to the community, and

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14 WHEREAS the OFT believes that the proper use of school volunteers enhances and  
15 supports the work of Paraprofessionals and School Support Staff in providing our  
16 students with a high-quality education, and

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18 WHEREAS volunteer work in our public schools should only be relied upon to support  
19 and supplement the work of paraprofessionals and school support staff, and

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21 WHEREAS school systems should not rely on volunteers to provide the critical  
22 educational services and supports provided by paraprofessionals and school staff, and

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24 WHEREAS an important factor underlying student success is access to consistent,  
25 high-quality instructional support delivered by trained paraprofessionals and school  
26 staff, and

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28 WHEREAS the economic pressures facing our public schools cannot be used as an  
29 excuse to replace dedicated paraprofessionals and school support staff with untrained  
30 and unqualified volunteers and philanthropists, and

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32 WHEREAS well-meaning programs and organizations that recruit and provide

33 volunteers to our public schools may be unaware of efforts by school systems to replace  
34 paraprofessionals and school support staff as a cost-saving measure, therefore

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36 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Ohio Federation of Teachers will oppose efforts to replace  
37 regularly employed paraprofessionals and school support staff with volunteers, and

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39 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the OFT will oppose efforts to use volunteers to lower school  
40 district's staffing costs, and

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42 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the OFT will monitor trends on the misuse of volunteers in public  
43 schools and will inform and educate its affiliates of such practices, and

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45 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the OFT will promote cooperation between teachers,  
46 paraprofessionals and school support staff on developing plans on how to incorporate  
47 school volunteers in a constructive and helpful way, and

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49 **BE IT RESOLVED** that the OFT will work with programs and organizations on strategies  
50 that integrate volunteers into public schools as a means of enhancing the education of  
51 students and not as low-or- no cost replacement for paraprofessionals and school  
52 support staff, and

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54 **BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED** that the OFT will work with affiliates to identify and  
55 disseminate best practices on the use of volunteers in our public schools and will share  
56 this information with affiliates, school districts, philanthropic organizations and others  
57 who promote and support the use of volunteers in our public schools.

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60 **THE ROLE OF THE PSRPS IN THE COMMON CORE**  
61 **STATE STANDARDS PROCESS**

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63 **WHEREAS** the Ohio Federation of Teachers (OFT) continues to support higher  
64 common standards and expectations for all students as part of a comprehensive  
65 standards-based system, and

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67 **WHEREAS** although most states have adopted the Common Core State Standards  
68 (CCSS), there is wide variation in the implementation of the standards at the state and  
69 local level, and

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71 **WHEREAS** a change in the highly focused and deeper nature of the CCSS will  
72 necessitate changes in instruction so that teachers and students engage in deeper  
73 content and devote more time to subject mastery, resulting in more effective teaching  
74 and learning, and

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76 **WHEREAS** beginning in 2014, technology will be the major component in common  
77 core-based assessment, and some teaching of students, which will be done by current

78 and developing technological expertise for teachers and Paraprofessionals and School-  
79 Related Personnel (PSRP's), and

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81 WHEREAS PSRP's provide services and support to students, teachers, and schools to  
82 help achieve their academic goals, particularly paraprofessionals whose primary role in  
83 the classroom is to support student learning and to assist the teacher in carrying out  
84 their instructional plans, which are now governed by the CCSS, and

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86 WHEREAS the CCSS necessitate in-service training and professional development for  
87 teachers; likewise, the CCSS necessitate the same for PSRP's, so that they are able to  
88 responsibly provide assistance to students and teacher in the implementation and  
89 carrying out of the CCSS, therefore

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91 BE IT RESOLVED that the Ohio Federation of Teachers will assist local affiliates in  
92 advocating for the necessary training and professional development needed by  
93 Paraprofessionals and School Related Personnel (PSRP's) to prepare and enable them  
94 to responsibly fulfill their roles and responsibilities pertaining to the Common Core State  
95 Standards (CCSS), and

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97 BE IT RESOLVED that the OFT will support local affiliates in their efforts to recognize  
98 and include PSRP's as stakeholders and partners in the CCSS process, and

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100 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the OFT will provide support to local affiliates to help  
01 in their efforts to make PSRP's full partners in the CCSS process.