



## Urbana School District 116

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## News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### **Volunteers in Urbana School District #116 Undergo Strict Background Checks**

All Urbana School District volunteers must submit to and pass a criminal background check before being allowed to interact with Urbana School District #116 students.

District 116 is requiring background checks for all volunteers who are in the classroom more than three times and who are working with students other than their own child. "We are monitoring and clearing all adults and college students who are with our student population to reduce the risk of having people who don't belong in our schools," says Gayle Jeffries, Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources.

Superintendent Preston Williams says, "We apologize to our volunteers for the inconvenience, but the safety of our children is paramount, and this background check is necessary to safeguard District 116 students."

All volunteers must submit to a criminal background check and be finger printed. Those fingerprints are then sent to the Illinois State Police and the FBI. Those fingerprints are used to check to see if the person has any legal infractions. All potential volunteers must pass the criminal background check before working with Urbana School District students.

To speak with Gayle Jeffries or Preston Williams about the volunteer screening policy, please contact them at 384-3600.

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