

FALMOUTH PUBLIC SCHOOLS



OFFICE
OF THE
SUPERINTENDENT

Summer 2011

Dear Parents/Guardians and Volunteers

In November 2002, the state legislature passed Chapter 385 of the Acts of 2002, which was enacted in February 2003. The law mandates that school districts obtain criminal offender record information (“CORI”) for all current and prospective employees, substitutes, volunteers, school transportation providers and others who may have “direct and unmonitored contact with children.” For example, parents who volunteer as field trip chaperones, library or office assistants, or lead nature walks will now have to submit to the “CORI” process before any involvement in the schools. All CORI information is confidential and privacy will be maintained. Only CORI authorized staff will have access to CORI information, which will be stored in a locked, secure site.

Under the original CORI (Criminal Offender Record Information) statute, Falmouth CORI’s all employees every three years but CORI’s all volunteers, substitutes and tutors every year. In addition, there have been recent amendments, which mandate us to request more information and to confirm identification with a government issued picture I.D. Because of these changes, we have determined that the most effective process will be to do a new CORI for all volunteers, substitutes and tutors beginning September 1, 2007.

Please keep the following points in mind:

- We will request new CORI forms be completed in the summer/fall for the period September 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012.
- We will only request one form be completed for all schools in the Falmouth Public Schools.
- Each individual who wishes to volunteer must submit a separate form.
- CORI forms must be submitted for volunteers even if they completed CORI checks in their previous school district.

If you have questions, concerns, or simply would like more information, we offer the following options to you:

- Go to the Department of Education website to view the legal advisory which has been shared with us <http://www.doe.mass.edu/lawsregs/advisory/CORI.html>. We will post a link to this site from our website and have hard copies available at school offices.
- Call your building principal, the VIPS coordinator at 508-548-1621 or Human Resources at 508-548-0151 x125.

Sincerely,

Marc P. Dupuis
Superintendent of Schools