Membership Policy

Document No.: POL-04-001 Effective: 05/2026

Purpose

This policy defines membership categories, rights, responsibilities, volunteer expectations, and standards for good standing.

Membership Categories

Household – Membership

Parents, guardians, and adults age 21 or older associated with a student currently enrolled in the River Ridge High School band program.

Definition of Household:

For purposes of membership and volunteer requirements, a household consists of all individuals living at the same residence and sharing living expenses, regardless of relationship, who are associated with a student enrolled in the band program.

Rights and Privileges:

- Attend Association meetings and events;
- Serve on committees;
- Have up to two (2) household representatives;
- Participate in discussion;
- Vote, subject to household representation and conflict-of-interest provisions;
- In the event that two board members are from the same household, the household shall be entitled to a single combined vote on all matters requiring board action.

Advisor Membership

North Thurston Public Schools employees, including band directors and advisors.

Rights and Privileges:

- Attend meetings and events;
- Serve on committees in advisory (non-voting) roles;
- Participate in discussion;
- Not vote or hold elected office.

Community Membership

Alumni, community supporters, extended families, and business representatives who are not household members with any currently enrolled band students.

Rights and Privileges:

- Attend meetings and events;
- Serve on committees in advisory (non-voting) roles;
- Participate in discussion;
- Not vote or hold elected office.

Membership Contribution Requirement

Contribution in Lieu of Monetary Dues

In lieu of monetary dues, the River Ridge Booster Association (RRBA) uses a volunteer-based contribution model to support band program operations and to allow families to earn support for their participating student(s), in alignment with the Association's **Student Account Program (SAP) policy.**

Each household member (age 21 or older) is expected to contribute **four (4) volunteer hours per quarter**, for a total of **sixteen (16) volunteer hours per school year**, to remain in good standing. Volunteer hours must be submitted using the RRBA-approved volunteer tracking form or system, and they are reviewed and maintained by the Membership Director (or a Board-designated officer).

Volunteer service must directly support:

- The band program and its students;
- Association-sponsored activities, fundraising, or events;
- Administrative, logistical, or operational needs that benefit band students collectively.

Families with Multiple Enrolled Students

Recognizing the increased level of support associated with multiple participating students, the volunteer encouragement is adjusted as follows:

- **One enrolled student:** 16 total hours per school year
    - **Two or more enrolled students:** 24 total hours per school year

No household shall be required to contribute more than **twenty-four (24) volunteer hours** in a single school year.

Approved Summer Service

Members may fulfill part or all of their annual volunteer requirement through **Board-approved summer service activities**, including but not limited to:

- Band camp support;
- Fireworks or seasonal fundraisers;
- Equipment, uniform, or logistical preparation;
- Other activities designated by the Board.

Summer service hours may be credited toward the applicable school-year requirement in accordance with SAP guidelines.

Hardship Waivers

Members experiencing personal difficulty may request a partial or full waiver.

- Requests must be submitted in writing.
- Requests will be reviewed confidentially.
- Waivers require approval by a majority vote of the Board.

Members in Good Standing

A member is considered in good standing when they:

- Support RRBA mission;
- Meet volunteer requirements, or approved waiver;

- Participate in approved activities benefiting band students;
- Comply with Association and district policies.
- Attend 5 out of 9 general membership meetings

Members in good standing retain voting rights, eligibility for leadership roles, and access to SAP-related benefits, subject to policy limits.

Members Not in Good Standing

A member may be designated not in good standing due to:

- Failure to meet volunteer requirements;
- Misconduct or policy violations;
- Violations of school district or Association policies.
- Not attending 5 out of 9 meetings

Loss of good standing may include, but not be limited to, loss of voting rights, leadership eligibility, and SAP participation.

Event-Specific Guest Helpers (Non-Members, Event-Specific)

Non-members (including visiting family members or guests) may assist with limited, non-supervisory tasks at a **single event**, subject to the following conditions:

- Must be **pre-approved** by the Band Director or RRBA designee
- Must remain **under the direct supervision** of an approved RRBA member or staff
- **May not** supervise students, transport students, or take custody of students
- **May not** handle money, access confidential information, or perform safety-sensitive duties
- Must follow all NTPS and RRBA conduct expectations while present
- Must sign an **Event-Specific Guest Helper Acknowledgment** prior to participation

Guest Helpers do **not** earn volunteer hours, are not considered RRBA members, and are not covered under RRBA volunteer privileges beyond the approved event and task.

Return of Property

All Association property must be returned within **five (5) business days of an event**.

Behavioral Review Meeting

Incident Reporting: Any incident involving misconduct, safety concerns, or violations of RRBA policies must be promptly reported in accordance with the Association's Chain of Command and Volunteer/Chaperone policies.

Board Review and Action: Upon receiving a report, the Board may conduct an internal review, document its findings, and take corrective action as deemed appropriate, up to and including suspension or removal of privileges.

Law Enforcement Involvement: Incidents involving alleged criminal conduct, threats to student or participant safety, or mandatory reporting requirements shall be referred to law enforcement and/or appropriate authorities. The Board shall not interfere with any external investigation.

Independent Authority: Board action may proceed independently of any law enforcement or external investigation and is not contingent upon the outcome of such proceedings.

Policy Review and Modification

The Board may propose changes to this policy.

The RRBA Membership Policy shall be reviewed at least **once every three (3) years**, or sooner as needed by the Board to ensure continued alignment with the Association's mission, operational needs, and North Thurston Public Schools (NTPS) requirements.

Proposed amendments to this policy may be initiated by the Board or a standing committee authorized by the Board.

All proposed changes must:

- Be presented in writing to the general membership at least **thirty (30) days** prior to a vote;
- Clearly identify the sections proposed for modification and the rationale for the change.

Adoption of amendments requires approval by a **super-majority vote** of the members present at a duly noticed general membership meeting, in accordance with the RRBA Bylaws.

Once adopted, revisions shall take effect on the date specified in the approved motion and shall be incorporated into all official Association documents, forms, and publications.

All proposed changes must be presented in writing to the general membership at least **30 days prior** to a vote and approved by a **super-majority** of members present.