

Pittsfield School District

RECEIPT AND USE OF SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY INFORMATION

The Board recognizes that sex offenders pose a threat and danger to student safety. Therefore, it is the policy of the Board to obtain notification of registered sex offenders residing near school grounds or buildings, and to use such information as defined below to maximize student protection.

The Board directs the superintendent to work with the state and local police to obtain this information on an ongoing basis, to develop regulations for dissemination of this information, and to establish procedures in compliance with this policy.

Such procedures should define steps for the identification and remedy of potential student contact with registered sex offenders, including but not limited to the following types of situations: the sighting of a sex offender, volunteer or student-teacher background checks, district use of outside contractors, and dealing with employees, job applicants, parents/guardians, or students who are registered sex offenders.

Requests for Registry Information. The Board recognizes that, under RSA 651-B:7, it is the responsibility of local law enforcement to notify the community of potential public danger. Therefore, the school district will not disseminate sex offender registry information to parents/guardians.

Anyone requesting registry information from the school district will be referred to local law enforcement authorities or the State of New Hampshire's Registered Sex Offender Registry website: <http://www.egov.nh.gov/nsor>. Further, the website address will be published annually in the family handbooks of each school.

Use of Sex Offender Registry Information. Registry information will be used for the administration of law enforcement, screening current or prospective school district employees or volunteers, and for the protection of the district's students and employees.

After receiving notification that a registered sex offender is residing near school buildings or grounds, the superintendent will notify the offender in writing that he/she may not enter the school grounds or building without the written consent of the superintendent, except to attend public, open meetings under the Right to Know Law, RSA 91-A.

Sex offender registry information may be provided to employees who are likely to observe unauthorized persons on or near school property. When registry information is disseminated to staff, it will include a notice that such information should not be shared with others and may only be used for the purposes stated herein. Employees who share registry information with others without authorization may be disciplined.

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If a school employee has reason to believe that a registered sex offender is on school premises, the employee will immediately contact the dean of operations or local law enforcement.

Precautions to Protect Students. At the discretion of the superintendent, alternative arrangements may be made for bus and walking routes to and from school, recess and physical education periods, or any other activity in order to protect district students.

Education. The superintendent will ensure that the K-8 health curriculum addresses student awareness and protection from abuse, abduction, and exploitation, including child abuse as established in the definition of “abused child” under RSA 169-C:3, II.

The Board encourages the superintendent to work closely with local law enforcement officials to increase awareness among the entire community about the danger of sexual predators to children.

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