



NORWICH BOARD OF EDUCATION
Norwich, Connecticut

REGULAR BOARD MEETING
A G E N D A
November 13, 2018

6:00 P.M.

Kelly STEAM Magnet Middle
School Community Room

MISSION STATEMENT

"The Norwich Public Schools will provide each student a rigorous, effective teaching and learning environment where equity is the norm, excellence is the goal, student health and safety is assured."

VISION STATEMENT

To enable each child to reach his/her full potential.

I. SALUTE TO THE FLAG

II. MINUTES

- Approval of the October 9, 2018 minutes.

III. REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON~Dr. Yvette Jacaruso

IV. PUBLIC COMMENT

V. REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT

- Enrollment (Attach. #1)

VI. DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVE

- Budget Update/Budget Expenditure Committee Report

ACTION ITEM

- Possible Action to accept the Stanton School roof project 104-117RR as complete

VII. REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

VIII. A. COMMITTEES

Policy Committee~Joyce Werden & Abby Dolliver & Thomas Baird

Policy Committee Meeting Minutes from 10/24/18-(Attach#2)

The following policies are presented to the Board for First Read (Attach #3)

- Policy #1000-Visitors and Observations in Schools
- Policy #1050-Non-Discrimination-Community/Board Operations
- Policy #4112-Non-Discrimination-Personnel

- Policy #4112.1-Plan for Minority Educator Recruitment
- Policy #4112.2-Employment Checks
- Policy #4112.4-Hiring of Certified Staff
- Policy #4112.5-Hiring of Non-Certified Staff
- Policy #4118.112(a)-Sex Discrimination & Sexual Harassment in the Workplace
- Policy #4116-Employees and Section 504
- Policy #4119-Reports of Suspected Abuse or Neglect of Children by School Employees
- Policy #4119.5-Suspected Abuse of Adults with Intellectual Disability
- Policy #5001-Child Sexual Abuse & Assault-Non-School Employees
- Policy #5121-Non-Discrimination-Students
- Policy #5145.5-Students-Sex Discrimination & Sexual Harassment

ACTION ITEM

- Possible Action to approve deletion of the following policies:
 - 3516.33(a)-Accident Prevention & Reporting First Aid
 - 4100(a)-Certified Personnel-General Policy
 - 4117.4(a)-Suspension
 - 4117.2-Resignation
 - 4118.3-Duties of Personnel
 - 4118.3(a)-Duties of Personnel-Teachers
 - 4120-Temporary Personnel
 - 4121-Substitute Teachers
 - 4126-Continuing Education for Certified Professional Employees
 - 4132-Publication or Creation of Materials
 - 4133-Travel-Reimbursement
 - 4137/4237-Non-school Employment
 - 4151/4251-Short-term Leaves
 - 4151.1/4251.1-Personal Illness & Injury Leave
 - 5000-Concept & Roles in Student Personnel
 - 5112(a)-Ages of Attendance
 - 5113-Attendance & Excuses-Written Excuses
 - 5124-Reporting to Parents/Guardians
 - 5126-Awards for Achievements
 - 5131.2-Classroom, Hall & Ground Conduct
 - 5131.5-Vandalism
 - 5132-Student Dress Code
 - 5134-Bring Your Own Device
 - 5139.9-Gang Activity or Association
 - 5131.911(a)-Hazing/Bullying
 - 6113-Released Time
 - 6114-Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness
 - 6114.6-Inclement Weather
 - 6121-Non-discrimination: Instructional Program

AGENDA

November 13, 2018

- 6164.12-Instruction on Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS)

Transportation Committee~James Maloney & Athena Nagel

Leadership Evaluation Committee~Joyce Werden

- Next Steps Based on Feedback from Board Self-Evaluation (Attach.#4)

School Facilities Committee~Yvette Jacaruso & Tricia Staley

B. LIAISONS

Integrated Day Charter School Liaison~Joyce Werden

Otis Library Liaison~Yvette Jacaruso

LEARN Liaison~Aaron Daniels

NFA LIASION~Aaron Daniels

IX. BOARD REPORTS

X. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Pursuant to CT General Statute 1-200, members of the Board of Education move to go into Executive Session to discuss pending/possible litigation. The Superintendent of Schools, Abby I. Dolliver and Jamie H. Bender, Director of Student Services maybe asked to participate for some or all of the Executive Session at the request of the Board of Education.

XI. ADJOURNMENT

NORWICH BOARD OF EDUCATION
Norwich, Connecticut

DRAFT MINUTES OF:
October 9, 2018
REGULAR BOARD MEETING – BOARD OF EDUCATION
KELLY MIDDLE SCHOOL COMMUNITY ROOM

PRESENT: Dr. Yvette Jacaruso, Joyce Werden, Heather Romanski, Aaron Daniels, Dennis Slopak, Robert Aldi, James Maloney, Mark Kulos, and Patricia Staley.

ABSENT: Aaron Daniels

STAFF: Abby I. Dolliver, Superintendent
Dr. Thomas J. Baird, Assistant Superintendent
Athena L. Nagel, Business Administrator
Jamie H. Bender, Director of Student Services & Special Education
Amber Rutigliano, Administrative Assistant to the Superintendent
Administrators, Principals and Teachers

MEDIA: None

Dr. Yvette Jacaruso called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and a quorum was declared.

Dr. Jacaruso asked Mark Kulos to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOTION: Made by Mark Kulos (seconded by Joyce Werden) to approve the amended minutes of the September 13, 2018 meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

REPORT OF THE CHAIRPERSON:

Dr. Jacaruso reported on her recent positive visits to Kelly STEAM and Teachers' Memorial Global Studies Magnet Middle Schools.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None

Norwich Public Schools Teacher of the Year Katie Ruffo gave her presentation from convocation to the Board.

REPORT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT:

Mrs. Dolliver reported on:

- Enrollment
- City of Norwich cultural diversity celebrations
- Red Ribbon celebrations
- Meeting with the Colchester Superintendent to discuss high school choice

- Central Office volunteered at the United Way Mobile Food Pantry
- NPSEF fundraiser: Christine Aguilera concert on October 6th
- NPSEF fundraiser: pasta dinner on October 15th
- Sheila Osko-retirement and suitable replacement search
- Mayor's October 4th Special Education roundtable discussion

Dennis Slopak asked for a point of personal privilege.

DISTRICT IMPROVEMENT INITIATIVES:

Scott Fain, principal of Wequonnoc Arts & Technology Magnet school gave a presentation on their School Improvement Plan that focuses on three areas: culture & climate, teaching & learning, and STEAM integration.

Dr. Thomas Baird updated the Board on the Elementary Smarter Balanced Assessment Data. This included ELA and math proficiency and growth numbers.

REPORT OF THE ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT

Dr. Baird reported on:

- Alliance tracker
- Chronic absenteeism
- Professional Development and Evaluation Committee meeting
- Magnet middle school site visits
- Title 1, 2, 3, 4, Bilingual and Immigrant grants
- Veterans School-SIG grant
- 21st Century Community Learning Centers grant
- McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance grant

MOTION: Made by Dennis Slopak (seconded by Joyce Werden) to approve the submission of the McKinney-Vento homeless grant. Motion passed unanimously.

COMMITTEES:

Policy Committee

Joyce Werden reported on the Policy Committee meeting that took place on September 26, 2018. There are many policies that are outdated, are not necessary or are addressed within another current policy.

The following policies were presented to the Board for First Read for possible deletion:

- 3516.33(a)-Accident Prevention & Reporting First Aid
- 4100(a)-Certified Personnel-General Policy
- 4117.4(a)-Suspension
- 4117.2-Resignation
- 4118.3-Duties of Personnel
- 4118.3(a)-Duties of Personnel-Teachers
- 4120-Temporary Personnel

- 4121-Substitute Teachers
- 4126-Continuing Education for Certified Professional Employees
- 4132-Publication or Creation of Materials
- 4133-Travel-Reimbursement
- 4137/4237-Non-school Employment
- 4151/4251-Short-term Leaves
- 4151.1/4251.1-Personal Illness & Injury Leave
- 5000-Concept & Roles in Student Personnel
- 5112(a)-Ages of Attendance
- 5113-Attendance & Excuses-Written Excuses
- 5124-Reporting to Parents/Guardians
- 5126-Awards for Achievements
- 5131.2-Classroom, Hall & Ground Conduct
- 5131.5-Vandalism
- 5132-Student Dress Code
- 5134-Bring Your Own Device
- 5139.9-Gang Activity or Association
- 5131.911(a)-Hazing/Bullying
- 6113-Released Time
- 6114-Emergencies and Disaster Preparedness
- 6114.6-Inclement Weather
- 6121-Non-discrimination: Instructional Program
- 6164.12-Instruction on Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome (AIDS)

MOTION: Made by Dennis Slopak (seconded by Mark Kulos) to accept the policies as a whole and present them for First Read. Motion passed unanimously.

Budget/Expenditure Committee

Athena Nagel reported that the next meeting is on October 29th at 6pm. She discussed the Impact Aid that NPS received for the displaced students from the hurricane in Puerto Rico and the restrictions put on the money. She updated the board on the contract reduction requests. At the present time, the savings to the General Fund is \$10,000. She updated the board on the City's conversion to the MUNIS system.

MOTION: Made by Joyce Werden (seconded by Robert Aldi) to approve Abby I. Dolliver and Athena L. Nagel as authorized signers for the Agreement for Child Nutrition Programs with the Norwich Public School District. Motion passed unanimously.

Transportation Committee

Athena Nagel reported that the bus company has received its first new bus to the fleet.

Leadership Evaluation Committee

Joyce Werden reported on the Board of Education Self-Evaluation Workshop facilitated by Attorney Anne Littlefield that was held prior to the Board meeting.

School Facilities Committee

Yvette Jacaruso reported that the survey questions have been revised. The next meeting is on November 7th at 6:00 pm in the Kelly Community Room.

LIAISONS:**Integrated Day Charter School Liaison**

Joyce Werden reported that the next board meeting is on October 10th and the upcoming board retreat is scheduled for October 21st.

BOARD REPORTS:

Tricia Staley reported that the parking lot at Bishop Early Learning Center in the morning has been less gridlocked.

Heather Romanski reported that her and her family attended the NPS Color Run as well as the NPSEF Christina Aguilera concert. The pasta dinner that Moriarty School hosted sold over 108 tickets.

MOTION: Made by Robert Aldi (seconded by Mark Kulos) to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Heather Romanski

Heather Romanski,
Secretary

[illegible]

NORWICH PUBLIC SCHOOLS ENROLLMENT 2018-2019

[illegible]

NORWICH PUBLIC SCHOOLS ENROLLMENT 2018-2019

	2005/2006	2006/2007	2007/2008	2008/2009	2009/2010	2010/2011	2011/2012	2012/2013	2013/2014	2014/2015	2015/2016	2016/2017	2017/2018	2018/2019
SEPTEMBER	3,976	3,944	3,829	3,910	3,878	3,758	3,878	3,808	3,735	3,668	3,601	3,543	3,495	3,511
OCTOBER	4,045	4,043	3,961	3,991	3,920	3,792	3,819	3,793	3,762	3,689	3,623	3,556	3,510	3,508
NOVEMBER	4,050	4,078	3,968	4,016	3,901	3,853	3,803	3,786	3,754	3,701	3,640	3,578	3,525	3,529
DECEMBER	4,081	4,068	4,002	4,007	3,903	3,856	3,832	3,790	3,737	3,729	3,630	3,575	3,513	
JANUARY	4,088	4,035	4,005	4,017	3,887	3,845	3,822	3,784	3,750	3,740	3,615	3,588	3,540	
FEBRUARY	4,111	4,081	3,988	4,034	3,883	3,839	3,848	3,792	3,730	3,725	3,617	3,615	3,561	
MARCH	4,106	4,060	4,004	4,041	3,886	3,766	3,862	3,827	3,739	3,729	3,630	3,604	3,573	
APRIL	4,112	4,059	4,001	4,041	3,883	3,807	3,874	3,770	3,755	3,720	3,628	3,627	3,583	
MAY	4,109	4,049	3,989	4,042	3,887	3,828	3,870	3,775	3,741	3,718	3,615	3,626	3,591	
JUNE	4,092	4,032	3,995	4,034	3,887	3,849	3,868	3,772	3,738	3,697	3,633	3,621	3,570	



NORWICH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
90 TOWN STREET, NORWICH, CT
CENTRAL OFFICE CONFERENCE ROOM
October 24, 2018
4:00 PM

POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES

The meeting was called to order by Committee Chair Joyce Werden at 4:00pm.

In Attendance: Abby Dolliver, Thomas Baird, Joyce Werden, Aaron Daniels, Karen Bakoulis, Tricia Staley, Lee Starr, Yvette Jacaruso, Lara Garber, Jamie Bender

1. Review of policy updates
2. The following policies were reviewed:
 - 1000-Community/Board Operation-Visitors to the School-present to the Board for First Read at the November 13th meeting (Updated policy 1000 will now replace former policies 1000, 1000(a) & 1250)
 - 1050-Community/Board Operation-Non-Discrimination-present to the Board for First Read at the November 13th meeting
 - 4112-Non-Discrimination-Personnel-present to the Board for First Read at the November 13th meeting (Updated policy 4112 will replace form policy 4111/4211)
 - 4112.1-Plan for Minority Educator Recruitment- present to the Board for First Read at the November 13th meeting
 - 4112.2-Employment Checks-present to the Board for First Read at the November 13th meeting (Updated policy 4112.2 will replace policies 4154/4254 & 4212.4)

- 4112.4-Hiring of Certified Staff-present to the Board for First Read at the November 13th meeting (Updated policy 4112.4 will replace policy 4112)
- 4112.5-Hiring of Non-Certified Staff-present to the Board for First Read at the November 13th meeting (Updated policy 4112.5 will replace policy 4212)
- 4118.112(a)-Sex Discrimination & Sexual Harassment in the Workplace-present to the Board for First Read at the November 13th meeting
- 4116-Employees & Section 504-present to the Board for First Read at the November 13th meeting
- 4119-Reports of Suspected Abuse or Neglect of Children by School Employees-present to the Board for First Read at the November 13th meeting
- 4119.5-Suspected Abuse of Adults with Intellectual Disability-present to the Board for First Read at the November 13th meeting
- 5001-Child Sexual Abuse and Assault-Non-School Employees-present to the Board for First Read at the November 13th meeting
- 5121-Students-Non-Discrimination-present to the Board for First Read at the November 13th meeting
- 5145.5-Students-Sex Discrimination & Sexual Harassment-present to the Board for First Read at the November 13th meeting
- Next Policy Committee Meeting: November 28, 2018 @ 4:00 pm-Central Office

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 pm.



Series 1000
Community/Board Operation

POLICY REGARDING VISITORS AND OBSERVATIONS IN SCHOOLS

The Norwich Board of Education (the "Board") encourages visits by citizens, taxpayers, and parents to all school buildings. In order to promote a safe and productive educational environment for all students and staff, the Board requires all visitors to receive prior approval from the school Principal or his/her designee before being permitted to visit any school building. The Board, through the administration, reserves the right to limit visits in accordance with administrative regulations.

The Board further desires to work collaboratively with parents with an educational nexus with the district, its educational programs or the student being observed, to observe their students in their current classrooms or observe proposed educational placements in the Board's schools. The Board, through the administration, reserves the right to limit observations of current and proposed educational placements in accordance with administrative regulations and the Board's Guidelines for Independent Educational Evaluations.

Upon arrival, all visitors and observers must comply with any and all applicable building security procedures, including but not limited to utilizing security buzzers for access, complying with requests for photo identification, reporting directly to and signing in and out at the visitors' reception area of the school office, prominently displaying visitors' badges or other identification required for visitors to the school buildings, limiting access to those areas of the buildings and grounds for which the visitors/observers have authorized access, and complying with directives of school officials at all times.

Legal References:

"Guidelines Regarding Independent Educational Evaluations at Public Expense and In-School Observations," Connecticut State Department of Education (Mar. 28, 2018).

ADOPTED: _____
REVISED: _____

8/12/18

**Series 1000
Community/Board Operation**

**ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS
REGARDING VISITORS AND OBSERVATIONS IN SCHOOLS**

1. Any person wishing to visit a school building, and/or observe any student program, must obtain prior approval from the building Principal or responsible administrator of the respective school building or program.
2. A visitor to any school building or program must be able to articulate a legitimate reason for his/her proposed visit and/or observation. Where the visitation involves direct contact with district students, or observation of an identified student or student program, the visitor must have a sufficient educational nexus with the district, its educational programs or the student to support such request.
3. All visits must be reasonable in length and conducted in a manner designed to minimize disruption to the district's educational programs.
4. When a parent/guardian makes a request to observe an identified student or student program, the request will be reviewed with the student's parent/guardian to determine the purpose of the observation, specific questions being addressed, the location(s) of the observation, and the date, time and length of the observation.
5. When determining whether to approve a request to visit and/or observe individual students or student programs, the building Principal or responsible administrator shall consider the following factors:
 - a. the frequency of visits;
 - b. the duration of the visit;
 - c. the number of visitors involved;
 - d. the effect of the visit on a particular class or activity;
 - e. the age of the students;
 - f. the nature of the class or program;

- g. the potential for disclosure of confidential personally identifiable student information;
 - h. whether the visitor/observer has a legitimate educational interest in visiting the school;
 - i. whether the visitor/observer has professional ethical obligations not to disclose any personally identifiable student information;
 - j. any safety risk to students and school staff; and
 - k. compliance with the Board's Guidelines for Independent Educational Evaluations, if applicable.
6. The building Principal or responsible administrator has the discretion to limit, or refuse, requests for visits and/or observations of student programs in light of the above criteria. When a requested observation is refused, the building Principal or responsible administrator will provide the parent/guardian with the reason for the decision and will work to develop alternative ways for the parent/guardian to obtain the information the parent/guardian seeks.
7. If a building Principal or responsible administrator approves a request to visit a school building and/or observe a student program, arrangements must be made in advance to ensure that the visit will not disrupt educational programs. The length and scope of any visit shall be determined by the building Principal or responsible administrator in accordance with these regulations and accompanying Board policy. The building Principal or responsible administrator shall determine a reasonable amount of time for observations of individual students or student programs.
8. Upon arrival, all visitors must comply with any and all applicable building security procedures, including but not limited to utilizing security buzzers for access, complying with requests for photo identification, reporting directly to and signing in and out at the visitors' reception area of the school office, prominently displaying visitors' badges or other identification required for visitors to the school buildings, limiting access to those areas of the buildings and grounds for which the visitors have authorized access, and complying with directives of school officials at all times.
9. The district has an obligation to maintain the confidentiality of personally identifiable student information. All visitors and observers must restrict their visits and observations to the purpose identified in the request to visit or observe and are strictly prohibited from observing or collecting information on other students within the school. If the visitor/observer views, accesses or otherwise obtains personally identifiable student information concerning another student, the visitor/observer must notify the building Principal or responsible administrator as soon as possible.

10. A refusal to comply with any of the Board's policy provisions and/or regulations concerning visitors shall constitute grounds for denial of the visitor's privileges, as determined appropriate by the building Principal or designee. Such refusal may also result in a referral to law enforcement personnel, as determined appropriate by the building Principal or designee.

Legal References:

"Guidelines Regarding Independent Educational Evaluations at Public Expense and In-School Observations," Connecticut State Department of Education (Mar. 28, 2018).

ADOPTED: _____

REVISED: _____

8/12/18

Community/Board Operation**Visitors to the Schools**

The Board of Education encourages visits by citizens, taxpayers, and parents to all school buildings. In order to promote a safe and productive educational environment for all students and staff, the Board of Education requires all visitors to receive prior approval from the school Principal or his/her designee before being permitted to visit any school building. The Board of Education, through the administration, reserves the right to limit visits in accordance with administrative regulations. Upon arrival, all visitors must report directly to and sign in and out at the visitors' reception area of the school office.

POLICY ADOPTED:
5/10/16

NORWICH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Norwich, CT

Community/Board Operation**Administrative Regulations Regarding Visitors to the Schools**

1. Any person wishing to visit a school building, and/or observe any student program, must obtain prior approval from the Principal or responsible administrator of the respective school building or program.
2. A visitor to any school building or program must be able to articulate a legitimate reason for his/her proposed visit and/or observation. Where the visitation involves direct contact with district students, or observation of an identified student or student program, the visitor must have a sufficient educational nexus with the district, its educational programs or the student to support such request.
3. All visits must be reasonable in length and conducted in a manner designed to Minimize disruption to the district's educational programs.
4. When determining whether to approve a request to visit and/or observe student programs, the building Principal or responsible administrator shall consider the following factors:
 - a. the frequency of visits;
 - b. the duration of the visit;
 - c. the number of visitors involved;
 - d. the effect of the visit on a particular class or activity;
 - e. the age of the students;
 - f. the nature of the class or program;
 - g. the potential for disclosure of confidential personally identifiable student information;
 - h. whether the visitor/observer has a legitimate educational interest in visiting the school;
 - i. whether the visitor/observer has professional ethical obligations not to disclose any personally identifiable student information; and

j. any safety risk to students and school staff.

5. The building Principal or responsible administrator has the discretion to limit, or refuse, requests for visits and/or observations of student programs in light of the above criteria.
6. If a building Principal or responsible administrator approves a request to visit a school building and/or observe a student program, arrangements must be made in advance to ensure that the visit will not disrupt educational programs. Upon arrival, all visitors must report directly to the visitors' reception area of the school office. All visitors must sign in and out of the building and shall be accompanied by appropriate school personnel while in school buildings. The length and scope of any visit shall be determined by the building Principal or responsible administrator in accordance with these regulations and accompanying Board policy.

REGULATION ADOPTED:
5/10/16

NORWICH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Norwich, CT

Community Relations

Visits to the Schools

The Board of Education and staff of the school district welcome and strongly encourage members of the community and other interested persons to visit the schools.

The Superintendent of schools is authorized to establish such regulations as will:

1. Encourage visitors to observe our schools.
2. Require all visitors to register in the office of the Principal upon their arrival at the school.
3. Ensure that such visits will enhance the effect of the educational program rather than hinder it.
4. Provide for appropriate hospitality for visitors.
5. Provide for proper order and prevent disruption to the educational process.

Board Member Visits

Board of Education members who visit schools of their own volition have no more authority than any other citizen. Board members have authority only in regularly called meetings of the Board, or when delegated specific tasks by Board action.

Policy
adopted: 12/18/84

NORWICH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Norwich, Connecticut

Policy
Revised: 2/27/2007

**Series 1000
Community/Board Operation
1050**

NON-DISCRIMINATION

It is the policy of the Board of Education that any form of discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, age, disability (including pregnancy), gender identity or expression, veteran status, or any other basis prohibited by state or federal law is prohibited, whether by students, Board employees or third parties subject to the control of the Board. The Board's prohibition of discrimination or harassment in its educational programs or activities expressly extends to academic, nonacademic and extracurricular activities, including athletics, as well as the district website. It is also the policy of the Board of Education to provide for the prompt and equitable resolution of complaints alleging any discrimination on the basis of protected characteristics such as race, color, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, disability (including pregnancy), gender identity or expression, or veteran status.

For the purposes of this policy, "gender identity or expression" means a person's gender-related identity, appearance or behavior, whether or not that gender-related identity, appearance or behavior is different from that traditionally associated with the person's physiology or assigned sex at birth, which gender-related identity can be shown by providing evidence including, but not limited to, medical history, care or treatment of the gender-related identity, consistent and uniform assertion of the gender-related identity or any other evidence that the gender-related identity is sincerely held, part of a person's core identity or not being asserted for an improper purpose.

For the purposes of this policy, "veteran" means any person honorably discharged from, or released under honorable conditions from active service in, the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Air Force and any reserve component thereof, including the Connecticut National Guard.

Any individual wishing to file a complaint regarding discrimination may obtain a copy of the Board's complaint procedures and complaint form which are included in the Board's Administrative Regulations Regarding Non-Discrimination. These regulations accompany Board Policy #1050 and are available online at the district website or upon request from the main office of any district school.

If a complaint involves allegations of discrimination or harassment based on reasons such as gender/sex or disability, such complaints will be handled in accordance with other appropriate policies (e.g., Policy #4118.112a, Sex Discrimination/Harassment in the Workplace ; Policy #5145.5, Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment

(Students); Policy #4119, Section 504/ADA (Personnel), and Policy #5145.6a, Section 504/ADA (Students)).

Individuals also may file a complaint with the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education (“OCR”):

Office for Civil Rights, Boston Office
U.S. Department of Education
8th Floor
5 Post Office Square
Boston, MA 02109-3921
(617) 289-0111
<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/howto.html>

Employees may also file a complaint regarding employment discrimination with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission:

Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Boston Area Office
John F. Kennedy Federal Building
475 Government Center
Boston, MA 02203
(800-669-4000)

Individuals may also file a complaint with the Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities:

Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities
450 Columbus Blvd.
Hartford, CT 06103-1835
(800-477-5737)

Anyone who has questions or concerns about this policy, or would like a copy of the Board’s complaint procedures or complaint forms related to claims of discrimination, may contact:

**Assistant Superintendent, 90 Town Street, Norwich, CT 06360
(860) 823-6284**

Anyone who has questions or concerns about the Board’s policies regarding discrimination on the basis of gender/sex may contact the Board’s Title IX Coordinator:

**Assistant Superintendent, 90 Town Street, Norwich, CT 06360
(860) 823-6284**

Anyone who has questions or concerns about the Board's policies regarding discrimination on the basis of disability may contact the Board's Section 504/ADA Coordinator:

**Director of Student Services and Special Education, 90 Town Street,
Norwich, CT 06360
(860) 823-6284**

Legal References:

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. § 2000d et seq.
Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. § 2000e et seq.
Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq.
Age Discrimination in Employment Act, 29 U.S.C. § 621
Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. § 12101
Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. § 794
Connecticut General Statutes § 10-153. Discrimination on basis of marital status
Connecticut General Statutes § 46a-58. Deprivation of Rights
Connecticut Fair Employment Practices Act, Connecticut General Statutes § 46a-60
Connecticut General Statutes § 46a-81a Discrimination on basis of sexual orientation: Definitions
Connecticut General Statutes § 46a-81c Sexual orientation discrimination: Employment.

ADOPTED: _____
REVISED: _____

7/27/18

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS REGARDING DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINTS (COMMUNITY MEMBERS)

It is the policy of the Norwich Board of Education that any form of discrimination or harassment on the basis of protected characteristics such as race, color, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, disability (including pregnancy), gender identity or expression, or veteran status is forbidden, whether by students, Board employees or third parties subject to the control of the Board. Students, Board employees and third parties are expected to adhere to a standard of conduct that is respectful of the rights of all members of the school community.

It is the express policy of the Board to provide for the prompt and equitable resolution of complaints alleging any discrimination on the basis of protected characteristics such as race, color, religion, age, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, national origin, ancestry, disability (including pregnancy), gender identity or expression, or veteran status.

If a complaint involves allegations of discrimination or harassment based on reasons such as gender/sex or disability, such complaints will be handled, as appropriate, in accordance with other Board policies (e.g., Policy #4118.112a, Sex Discrimination/Harassment in the Workplace; Policy #5145.5, Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment (Students); Policy #4119, Section 504/ADA (Personnel), and Policy #5145.6a, Section 504/ADA (Students)).

Preferably, complaints should be filed within thirty (30) calendar days of the alleged occurrence. Timely reporting of complaints facilitates the investigation and resolution of such complaints. The district will investigate such complaints promptly and equitably, and will take corrective action when allegations are verified.

The district will not tolerate any reprisals or retaliation that occur as a result of the good faith reporting of charges of harassment or discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, disability (including pregnancy), gender identity or expression, or veteran status. Any such reprisals or retaliation will result in disciplinary action against the retaliator, and other corrective actions as appropriate.

The school district will periodically provide staff development for district administrators and periodically distribute this Policy and implementing Administrative Regulations to staff and students in an effort to maintain an environment free of harassment and discrimination.

Complaint Procedure

As soon as an individual feels that he or she has been subjected to discrimination or

harassment on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, disability (including pregnancy), gender identity or expression, or veteran status he/she should make a written complaint to the Superintendent, or his/her designee. The individual and any respondent (if applicable) will be provided a copy of the Board's policy and regulation and made aware of his/her rights.

The complaint should state the:

- A. Name of the complainant,
- B. Date of the complaint,
- C. Date(s) of the alleged harassment/discrimination,
- D. Name(s) of the harasser(s) or discriminator(s),
- E. Location where such harassment/discrimination occurred,
- F. Names of any witness(es) to the harassment/discrimination,
- G. Detailed statement of the circumstances constituting the alleged harassment/discrimination; and
- H. Proposed remedy.

Any individual who makes an oral complaint of harassment or discrimination will be provided a copy of this regulation and will be requested to make a written complaint pursuant to the above procedure. If an individual is unable to make a written complaint, the staff member receiving the oral complaint will either reduce the complaint to writing or assist the individual with completing the written complaint form.

All complaints received by staff members are to be forwarded immediately to the Superintendent or his/her designee. Upon receipt of a complaint alleging harassment or discrimination under this complaint procedure, the Superintendent or his/her designee shall promptly investigate the complaint. During the course of the investigation, the investigator shall interview or consult with all individuals reasonably believed to have relevant information, including the complainant, the alleged harasser/discriminator ("respondent") and any witnesses to the conduct. Complaints will be investigated promptly within the timeframes identified below. Timeframes may be extended as needed given the complexity of the investigation, availability of individuals with relevant information and other extenuating circumstances. Confidentiality will be maintained by all persons involved in the investigation to the extent possible, as determined by the investigator.

Upon receipt of a written complaint of discrimination, the investigator should:

1. offer to meet with the complainant and respondent (if applicable) within ten (10) business days (provided that such timeframe may be reasonably extended based on the availability of necessary witnesses and/or participants during periods of time when school is not in session) to discuss the nature of the complaint, identify individuals the complainant believes has relevant information, and obtain any relevant documents the complainant may have;
2. provide the complainant and respondent (if applicable) with a copy of the Board's non-discrimination policy and accompanying regulations;
3. investigate the factual basis of the complaint, including, as applicable, conducting interviews with individuals deemed relevant to the complaint;
4. conduct an investigation that is adequate, reliable, and impartial. Investigate the factual basis for the complaint, including conducting interviews with individuals with information and review of documents relevant to the complaint;
5. maintain confidentiality to the extent practicable throughout the investigative process, in accordance with state and federal law;
6. communicate the outcome of the investigation in writing to the complainant and respondent (if any) (to the extent permitted by state and federal confidentiality requirements), within thirty (30) business days (provided that such timeframe may be extended by fifteen (15) business days during periods of time when school is in session or reasonably extended based on the availability of necessary witnesses and/or participants during periods of time when school is not in session) from the date the complaint was received by the Superintendent's office. The complainant and respondent (if any) shall be notified of any extension of the investigation timeline. The written notice shall include a finding whether the complaint was substantiated and if so, shall identify, to the extent possible, how the district will remedy the discrimination or harassment, adhering to the requirements of state and federal law;
7. if a complaint is made during summer recess, the complaint will be reviewed and addressed as quickly as possible given the availability of staff and/or other individuals who may have information relevant to the complaint. If fixed timeframes cannot be met, the complainant and respondent (if any) will receive notice and interim measures may be implemented as necessary (see subparagraph 6);
8. whenever allegations are verified, ensure that appropriate corrective action is taken (including, but not limited to, disciplinary action) aimed at preventing the recurrence of the harassment or discrimination. Corrective action should include steps to avoid continuing discrimination;

9. if either party to the complaint is not satisfied with the findings and conclusions of the investigation, the complainant may present the complaint and written outcome to the Superintendent within thirty (30) calendar days of receiving the findings. Upon review of a written request from the party requesting an appeal, the Superintendent shall review the investigative results of the investigator and determine if further action and/or investigation is warranted. Such action may include consultation with a designated investigator (if applicable), complainant, and respondent (if any) and meeting with appropriate individuals to attempt to resolve the complaint, or a decision affirming or overruling a designated investigator's conclusions or findings (if applicable). The Superintendent shall provide written notice to the complainant and respondent (if any) of the proposed actions within fifteen (15) business days (provided that such timeframe may be reasonably extended based on the availability of necessary witnesses and/or participants during periods of time when school is not in session) following the receipt of the written request for review.

A complainant alleging race, color, national origin, sex, disability or age discrimination may file a formal complaint with the Boston Office, Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, 8th Floor, 5 Post Office Square, Boston, MA 02109-3921 (TELEPHONE NUMBER: 617-289-0111).

A complainant may also file a complaint with the Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities, 450 Columbus Blvd., Hartford, CT 06103-1835 (TELEPHONE NUMBER: 800-477-5737).

An employee alleging discrimination related to their employment may also file a complaint with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Boston Area Office. John F. Kennedy Federal Building, 475 Government Center, Boston, MA 02203 (TELEPHONE NUMBER: 800-669-4000).

7/27/2018

DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINT FORM
(For complaints based on race, color, religion, age, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, national origin, ancestry, disability (including pregnancy), gender identity or expression, or veteran status)

Name of the complainant _____

Date of the complaint _____

Date of the alleged discrimination/harassment _____

Name or names of the discriminator(s) or harasser(s) _____

Location where such discrimination/harassment occurred _____

Name(s) of any witness(es) to the discrimination/harassment _____

Detailed statement of the circumstances constituting the alleged discrimination or harassment _____

Proposed remedy: _____

7/27/2018

**Series 4000
Personnel
4112**

NON-DISCRIMINATION

The Board of Education will not make employment decisions (including decisions related to hiring, assignment, compensation, promotion, demotion, disciplinary action and termination) on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, national origin, ancestry, disability (including pregnancy), genetic information, veteran status or gender identity or expression, except in the case of a bona fide occupational qualification.

It is the policy of the Board of Education that any form of discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, age, disability (including pregnancy), genetic information, veteran status or gender identity or expression, or any other basis prohibited by state or federal law is prohibited, whether by students, Board employees or third parties subject to the control of the Board. The Board's prohibition of discrimination or harassment in its educational programs or activities expressly extends to academic, nonacademic and extracurricular activities, including athletics. It is also the policy of the Board of Education to provide for the prompt and equitable resolution of complaints alleging any discrimination on the basis of protected characteristics such as race, color, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, disability (including pregnancy), veteran status or gender identity or expression.

For the purposes of this policy, "genetic information" means the information about genes, gene products, or inherited characteristics that may derive from an individual or a family member. "Genetic information" may also include an individual's family medical history, the results of an individual's or family member's genetic tests, the fact that an individual or an individual's family member sought or received genetic services, and genetic information of a fetus carried by an individual or an individual's family member or an embryo lawfully held by an individual or family member receiving assistive reproductive services.

For the purposes of this policy, "veteran" means any person honorably discharged from, or released under honorable conditions from active service in, the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Air Force and any reserve component thereof, including the Connecticut National Guard.

For the purposes of this policy, "gender identity or expression" means a person's gender-related identity, appearance or behavior, whether or not that gender-related identity, appearance or behavior is different from that traditionally associated with the person's physiology or assigned sex at birth, which gender-related identity can be shown

by providing evidence including, but not limited to, medical history, care or treatment of the gender-related identity, consistent and uniform assertion of the gender-related identity or any other evidence that the gender-related identity is sincerely held, part of a person's core identity or not being asserted for an improper purpose.

Any employee wishing to file a complaint regarding discrimination may obtain a copy of the Board's complaint procedures and complaint form which are included in the Board's Administrative Regulations Regarding Non-Discrimination/Personnel. These regulations accompany Board Policy #4112.2 and are available online at the district website or upon request from the main office of any district school.

If a complaint involves allegations of discrimination or harassment based on reasons such as gender/sex or disability, such complaints will be handled under other appropriate policies (e.g., Policy #4118.112(a), Sex Discrimination/Harassment in the Workplace; Policy #4119, Section 504/ADA).

Any employee also may file a complaint with the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education ("OCR"):

Office for Civil Rights, Boston Office
U.S. Department of Education
8th Floor
5 Post Office Square
Boston, MA 02109-3921
(617) 289-0111
<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/howto.html>

Employees may also file a complaint regarding employment discrimination with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission:

Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Boston Area Office
John F. Kennedy Federal Building
475 Government Center
Boston, MA 02203
(800-669-4000)

Employees may also file a complaint with the Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities:

Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities
450 Columbus Blvd.
Hartford, CT 06103-1835
(800-477-5737)

Anyone who has questions or concerns about this policy, or would like a copy of the Board's complaint procedures or complaint forms related to claims of discrimination, may contact:

**Assistant Superintendent, 90 Town Street, Norwich, CT 06360
(860) 823-6284**

Anyone who has questions or concerns about the Board's policies regarding discrimination on the basis of gender/sex may contact the Board's Title IX Coordinator:

**Assistant Superintendent, 90 Town Street, Norwich, CT 06360
(860) 823-6284**

Anyone who has questions or concerns about the Board's policies regarding discrimination on the basis of disability may contact the Board's Section 504/ADA Coordinator:

**Director of Student Services and Special Education, 90 Town Street,
Norwich, CT 06360
(860) 823-6284**

Legal References:

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. § 2000d et seq.
Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. § 2000e et seq.
Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. § 1681 et seq.
Age Discrimination in Employment Act, 29 U.S.C. § 621
Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. § 12101
Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. § 794
Title II of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act of 2008,
Pub.L.110-233, 42 U.S.C. § 2000ff; 29 CFR 1635.1 et seq.
Connecticut General Statutes § 10-153. Discrimination on basis of marital
status
Connecticut Fair Employment Practices Act, Connecticut General Statutes
§ 46a-60
Connecticut General Statutes § 46a-81a Discrimination on basis of sexual
orientation: Definitions
Connecticut General Statutes § 46a-81c Sexual orientation discrimination:
Employment.
Public Act 17-127, An Act Concerning Discriminatory Practices Against
Veterans, Leaves of Absence for National Guard Members, Application
for Certain Medicaid Programs, and Disclosure of Certain Records to
Federal Military Law Enforcement.

ADOPTED: _____
REVISED: _____

10/2017

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS REGARDING DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINTS (PERSONNEL)

It is the policy of the Norwich Board of Education that any form of discrimination or harassment on the basis of protected characteristics such as race, color, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, disability (including pregnancy), genetic information, veteran status or gender identity or expression is forbidden, whether by students, Board employees or third parties subject to the control of the Board. Students, Board employees and third parties are expected to adhere to a standard of conduct that is respectful of the rights of all members of the school community.

It is the express policy of the Board to provide for the prompt and equitable resolution of complaints alleging any discrimination on the basis of protected characteristics such as race, color, religion, age, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, national origin, ancestry, disability (including pregnancy), genetic information, veteran status or gender identity or expression.

If a complaint involves allegations of discrimination or harassment based on reasons such as gender/sex or disability, such complaints will be handled, as appropriate, in accordance with other Board policies (e.g., Policy #4118.112a, Sex Discrimination/Harassment in the Workplace; Policy #5145.5; Policy #4119, Section 504/ADA (Personnel)).

Preferably, complaints should be filed within thirty (30) calendar days of the alleged occurrence. Timely reporting of complaints facilitates the investigation and resolution of such complaints. The district will investigate such complaints promptly and equitably, and will take corrective action when allegations are verified.

The district will not tolerate any reprisals or retaliation that occur as a result of the good faith reporting of charges of harassment or discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, disability (including pregnancy), genetic information, gender identity or expression, or veteran status. Any such reprisals or retaliation will result in disciplinary action against the retaliator, and other corrective actions as appropriate.

The school district will periodically provide staff development for district administrators and periodically distribute this Policy and implementing Administrative Regulations to staff and students in an effort to maintain an environment free of harassment and discrimination.

Complaint Procedure

As soon as an individual feels that he or she has been subjected to discrimination or

harassment on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, disability (including pregnancy), genetic information, gender identity or expression, or veteran status he/she should make a written complaint to the Superintendent, or his/her designee. The individual and any respondent (if applicable) will be provided a copy of the Board's policy and regulation and made aware of his/her rights.

The complaint should state the:

- A. Name of the complainant,
- B. Date of the complaint,
- C. Date(s) of the alleged harassment/discrimination,
- D. Name(s) of the harasser(s) or discriminator(s),
- E. Location where such harassment/discrimination occurred,
- F. Names of any witness(es) to the harassment/discrimination,
- G. Detailed statement of the circumstances constituting the alleged harassment/discrimination; and
- H. Proposed remedy.

Any individual who makes an oral complaint of harassment or discrimination will be provided a copy of this regulation and will be requested to make a written complaint pursuant to the above procedure. If an individual is unable to make a written complaint, the staff member receiving the oral complaint will either reduce the complaint to writing or assist the individual with completing the written complaint form.

All complaints received by staff members are to be forwarded immediately to the Superintendent or his/her designee. Upon receipt of a complaint alleging harassment or discrimination under this complaint procedure, the Superintendent or his/her designee shall promptly investigate the complaint. During the course of the investigation, the investigator shall interview or consult with all individuals reasonably believed to have relevant information, including the complainant, the alleged harasser/discriminator ("respondent") and any witnesses to the conduct. Complaints will be investigated promptly within the timeframes identified below. Timeframes may be extended as needed given the complexity of the investigation, availability of individuals with relevant information and other extenuating circumstances. Confidentiality will be maintained by all persons involved in the investigation to the extent possible, as determined by the investigator.

Upon receipt of a written complaint of discrimination, the investigator should:

1. offer to meet with the complainant and respondent (if applicable) within ten (10) business days (provided that such timeframe may be reasonably extended based on the availability of necessary witnesses and/or participants during periods of time when school is not in session) to discuss the nature of the complaint, identify individuals the complainant believes has relevant information, and obtain any relevant documents the complainant may have;
2. provide the complainant and respondent (if applicable) with a copy of the Board's non-discrimination policy and accompanying regulations;
3. investigate the factual basis of the complaint, including, as applicable, conducting interviews with individuals deemed relevant to the complaint;
4. conduct an investigation that is adequate, reliable, and impartial. Investigate the factual basis for the complaint, including conducting interviews with individuals with information and review of documents relevant to the complaint;
5. maintain confidentiality to the extent practicable throughout the investigative process, in accordance with state and federal law;
6. communicate the outcome of the investigation in writing to the complainant and respondent (if any) (to the extent permitted by state and federal confidentiality requirements), within thirty (30) business days (provided that such timeframe may be extended by fifteen (15) business days during periods of time when school is in session or reasonably extended based on the availability of necessary witnesses and/or participants during periods of time when school is not in session) from the date the complaint was received by the Superintendent's office. The complainant and respondent (if any) shall be notified of such extension. The written notice shall include a finding whether the complaint was substantiated and if so, shall identify, to the extent possible, how the district will remedy the discrimination or harassment, adhering to the requirements of state and federal law;
7. if a complaint is made during summer recess, the complaint will be reviewed and addressed as quickly as possible given the availability of staff and/or other individuals who may have information relevant to the complaint. If fixed timeframes cannot be met, the complainant and respondent (if any) will receive notice and interim measures may be implemented as necessary (see subparagraph 6);
8. whenever allegations are verified, ensure that appropriate corrective action is taken (including, but not limited to, disciplinary action) aimed at preventing the recurrence of the harassment or discrimination. Corrective action should include steps to avoid continuing discrimination;

9. if either party to the complaint is not satisfied with the findings and conclusions of the investigation, the complainant may present the complaint and written outcome to the Superintendent within thirty (30) calendar days of receiving the findings. Upon review of a written request from the party requesting an appeal, the Superintendent shall review the investigative results of the investigator and determine if further action and/or investigation is warranted. Such action may include consultation with a designated investigator (if applicable), complainant, and respondent (if any) and meeting with appropriate individuals to attempt to resolve the complaint, or a decision affirming or overruling a designated investigator's conclusions or findings (if applicable). The Superintendent shall provide written notice to the complainant and respondent (if any) of the proposed actions within fifteen (15) business days (provided that such timeframe may be reasonably extended based on the availability of necessary witnesses and/or participants during periods of time when school is not in session) following the receipt of the written request for review.

If a complaint involves allegations of discrimination or harassment based on reasons such as gender/sex or disability, such complaints will be handled under other appropriate policies (e.g., Policy #4118.112a, Sex Discrimination/Harassment in the Workplace; Policy #5145.5; Policy #4119, Section 504/ADA (Personnel)).

Any employee also may file a complaint with the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education ("OCR"):

Office for Civil Rights, Boston Office
U.S. Department of Education
8th Floor
5 Post Office Square
Boston, MA 02109- 3921
(617) 289-0111
<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/howto.html>

Employees may also file a complaint regarding employment discrimination with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission:

Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Boston Area Office
John F. Kennedy Federal Building
475 Government Center
Boston, MA 02203
(800-669-4000)

Employees may also file a complaint with the Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities:

Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities

450 Columbus Blvd.
Hartford, CT 06103-1835
(800-477-5737)

Anyone who has questions or concerns about these regulations may contact:

**Assistant Superintendent, 90 Town Street, Norwich, CT 06360
(860) 823-6284**

Anyone who has questions or concerns about the Board's policies regarding discrimination on the basis of gender/sex may contact the Board's Title IX Coordinator:

**Assistant Superintendent, 90 Town Street, Norwich, CT 06360
(860) 823-6284**

Anyone who has questions or concerns about the Board's policies regarding discrimination on the basis of disability may contact the Board's Section 504/ADA Coordinator:

**Director of Student Services and Special Education, 90 Town Street,
Norwich, CT 06360
(860) 823-6284**

10/2017



DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINT FORM

(For complaints based on race, color, religion, age, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, national origin, ancestry, disability (including pregnancy), genetic information, veteran status or gender identity or expression)

Name of the complainant _____

Date of the complaint _____

Date of the alleged discrimination/harassment _____

Name or names of the discriminator(s) or harasser(s) _____

Location where such discrimination/harassment occurred _____

Name(s) of any witness(es) to the discrimination/harassment _____

Detailed statement of the circumstances constituting the alleged discrimination or harassment _____

Proposed remedy _____

10/2017

Personnel – Certified/Non-Certified

Recruitment and Selection

It is the responsibility of the Superintendent of Schools and of persons delegated by the Superintendent to determine the personnel needs of the school system and to locate suitable candidates to recommend for employment to the Board of Education.

The Board of Education will not make employment decisions (including decisions related to hiring, assignment, compensation, promotion, demotion, disciplinary action and termination) on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, marital status, sexual orientation, national origin, ancestry, disability or genetic information, except in the case of a bona fide occupational qualification.

For the purposes of this policy, "genetic information" means the information about genes, gene products, or inherited characteristics that may derive from an individual or a family member.

Prior to initial employment, a physician shall certify to the Superintendent that said employee is in fit condition for service.

It shall be the duty of the Superintendent of Schools to see that persons nominated for employment shall meet all qualifications established by law and by the Board of Education for the type of position for which nomination is made.

Legal References:

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. § 2000d *et seq.*
Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. § 2000e *et seq.*
Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 USCS § 1681, *et seq.*
Age Discrimination in Employment Act, 29 U.S.C. § 621
Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. § 12101
Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. § 794
Connecticut Fair Employment Practices Act, Connecticut General Statutes § 46a-60
Connecticut General Statutes § 10-153. Discrimination on basis of marital status
Connecticut General Statutes § 46a-81a. Discrimination on basis of sexual orientation

Policy
Adopted: 12/18/84

NORWICH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Norwich, Connecticut

Policy
Revised: 6/19/2007

**Series 4000
Personnel
4112.1**

PLAN FOR MINORITY EDUCATOR RECRUITMENT

In accordance with Sections 10-4a(3) and Section 10-220(a) of the Connecticut General Statutes, the Board of Education has developed the following written plan for minority educator recruitment:

1. All recruiting sources will be informed in writing of the Board's non-discrimination policy.
2. The Board will develop contacts with local training and educational institutions, including those with high minority enrollments, to publicize job openings within the school district and to solicit referrals of qualified minority candidates.
3. The Board will develop contacts with local minority community organizations to publicize job openings within the school district and to solicit referrals of qualified minority candidates.
4. The Board will maintain, or expand, as appropriate, its help-wanted advertising to include print and/or broadcast media that is targeted to minorities.
5. The Board will participate in local job fairs, including those that are sponsored by the minority community organizations or otherwise targeted toward minorities.
6. The Board, or its designee, will maintain records documenting all actions taken pursuant to this plan, including correspondence with recruitment agencies and other referral sources, job fair brochures and advertising copy.
7. The Board will review on an annual basis the effectiveness of this plan in increasing minority applicant flow and attracting qualified candidates for employment.

Legal References:

Connecticut General Statutes §10-4a (3)
Connecticut General Statutes §10-220(a)
Public Act 18-34, An Act Concerning Minority Teacher Recruitment and Retention.

ADOPTED: _____
REVISED: _____

**Series 4000
Personnel
4112.2**

EMPLOYMENT CHECKS

As set forth below, each applicant for a position with the district shall be asked whether he/she has ever been convicted of a crime, whether there are any criminal charges pending against him/her and whether the applicant is included on the Abuse and Neglect Registry of the Connecticut Department of Children and Families (“DCF”) (the “Registry”). Applicants shall not be required to disclose any arrest, criminal charge or conviction that has been erased.

In addition, the district shall conduct an employment history check for each applicant for a position, as set forth below.

For the purposes of this policy:

“Sexual misconduct means” any verbal, nonverbal, written, or electronic communication, or any other act directed toward or with a student that is designed to establish a sexual relationship with the student, including a sexual invitation, dating or soliciting a date, engaging in sexual dialog, making sexually suggestive comments, self-disclosure or physical exposure of a sexual or erotic nature, and any other sexual, indecent, or erotic contact with a student.

“Abuse or neglect” means abuse or neglect as described in Conn. Gen. Stat. § 46b-120, and includes any violation of Conn. Gen. Stat. §§ 53a-70 (sexual assault in the first degree), 53a-70a (aggravated sexual assault in the first degree), 53a-71 (sexual assault in the second degree), 53a-72a (sexual assault in the third degree), 53a-72b (sexual assault in the third degree with a firearm), or 53a-73a (sexual assault in the fourth degree).

“Former employer” means any person, firm, business, educational institution, nonprofit agency, corporation, limited liability company, the state, any political subdivision of the state, any governmental agency, or any other entity that such applicant was employed by during any of the previous twenty years prior to applying for a position with a local or regional board of education.

I. Employment History Check Procedures

- A. The district shall not offer employment to an applicant for a position, including any position that is contracted for, if such applicant would have direct student contact, prior to the district:
 - 1. Requiring the applicant:

- a. to list the name, address, and telephone number of each current employer or former employer (please note the definition of “former employer” employer above, including the applicable twenty year reporting period) during any of the previous twenty years), if:
 - (i) such current or former employer is/was a local or regional board of education, council of a state or local charter school, interdistrict magnet school operator, or a supervisory agent of a nonpublic school, and/or
 - (ii) the applicant’s employment with such current or former employer caused the applicant to have contact with children.
- b. to submit a written authorization that
 - (i) consents to and authorizes disclosure by the employers listed under paragraph I.A.1.a of this policy of the information requested under paragraph I.A.2 of this policy and the release of related records by such employers,
 - (ii) consents to and authorizes disclosure by the Department of Education of the information requested under paragraph I.A.3 of this policy and the release of related records by the department, and
 - (iii) releases those employers and the Department of Education from liability that may arise from such disclosure or release of records pursuant to paragraphs I.A.2 or I.A.3 of this policy; and
- c. to submit a written statement of whether the applicant
 - (i) has been the subject of an abuse or neglect or sexual misconduct investigation by any employer, state agency or municipal police department, unless the investigation resulted in a finding that all allegations were unsubstantiated,
 - (ii) has ever been disciplined or asked to resign from employment or resigned from or otherwise separated from any employment while an allegation of abuse or neglect was pending or under investigation by DCF, or an allegation of sexual misconduct was pending or under investigation or due to an allegation substantiated pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 17a-101g or abuse or neglect, or of sexual misconduct or a conviction for abuse or neglect or sexual misconduct, or
 - (iii) has ever had a professional or occupational license or certificate suspended or revoked or has ever surrendered such a license or certificate while an allegation of abuse or neglect was pending or under investigation by DCF or an investigation of sexual misconduct was pending or under

investigation, or due to an allegation substantiated by DCF of abuse or neglect or of sexual misconduct or a conviction for abuse or neglect or sexual misconduct;

2. Conducting a review of the employment history of the applicant by contacting those employers listed by the applicant under paragraph I.A.1.a of this policy. Such review shall be conducted using a form developed by the Department of Education, which shall request the following:
 - a. the dates employment of the applicant, and
 - b. a statement as to whether the employer has knowledge that the applicant:
 - (i) was the subject of an allegation of abuse or neglect or sexual misconduct for which there is an investigation pending with any employer, state agency, or municipal police department or which has been substantiated;
 - (ii) was disciplined or asked to resign from employment or resigned from or otherwise separated from any employment while an allegation of abuse or neglect or sexual misconduct was pending or under investigation, or due to a substantiation of abuse or neglect or sexual misconduct; or
 - (iii) has ever had a professional or occupational license, certificate, authorization or permit suspended or revoked or has ever surrendered such a license, certificate, authorization or permit while an allegation of abuse or neglect or sexual misconduct was pending or under investigation, or due to a substantiation of abuse or neglect or sexual misconduct. Such review may be conducted telephonically or through written communication. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (f) of Conn. Gen. Stat. § 31-51i, not later than five (5) business days after the district receives a request for such information about an employee or former employee, the district shall respond with such information. The district may request more information concerning any response made by a current or former employer for information about an applicant, and, notwithstanding subsection (f), such employer shall respond not later than five (5) business days after receiving such request.
3. Requesting information from the Department of Education concerning:
 - a. the eligibility status for employment of any applicant for a position requiring a certificate, authorization or permit,
 - b. whether the Department of Education has knowledge that a finding has been substantiated by DCF pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 17a-101g of abuse or neglect or of sexual misconduct against the applicant and any information concerning such a finding, and

- c. whether the Department of Education has received notification that the applicant has been convicted of a crime or of criminal charges pending against the applicant and any information concerning such charges.
- B. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (f) of Conn. Gen. Stat. § 31-51i, if the district receives information that an applicant for a position with or an employee of the board has been disciplined for a finding of abuse or neglect or sexual misconduct, it shall notify the Department of Education of such information.
- C. The district shall not employ an applicant for a position involving direct student contact who does not comply with the provisions of paragraph I.A.1 of this policy.
- D. The district may employ or contract with an applicant on a temporary basis for a period not to exceed ninety (90) calendar days, pending the district's review of information received under this section, provided:
 - 1. The applicant complied with paragraph I.A.1 of this policy;
 - 2. The district has no knowledge of information pertaining to the applicant that would disqualify the applicant from employment with the district; and
 - 3. The applicant affirms that the applicant is not disqualified from employment with the district.
- E. The district shall not enter into a collective bargaining agreement, an employment contract, an agreement for resignation or termination, a severance agreement, or any other contract or agreement or take any action that:
 - 1. Has the effect of suppressing information relating to an investigation of a report of suspected abuse or neglect or sexual misconduct by a current or former employee;
 - 2. Affects the ability of the district to report suspected abuse or neglect or sexual misconduct to appropriate authorities; or
 - 3. Requires the district to expunge information about an allegation or a finding of suspected abuse or neglect or sexual misconduct from any documents maintained by the district, unless, after investigation, such allegation is dismissed or found to be false.
- F. The district shall not offer employment to a person as a substitute teacher, unless such person and the district comply with the provisions of paragraph I.A.1 of this policy. The district shall determine which such persons are employable as substitute teachers and maintain a list of such persons. The district shall not hire any person as a substitute teacher who is not on such list. Such person shall remain on such list as long as such person is continuously employed by the district as a substitute teacher as described in paragraph III.B.2 of this policy, provided the

district does not have any knowledge of a reason that such person should be removed from such list.

- G. In the case of an applicant who is a contractor, the contractor shall require any employee with such contractor who would be in a position involving direct student contact to supply to such contractor all the information required of an applicant under paragraphs I.A.1.a and I.A.1.c of this policy and a written authorization under paragraph I.A.1.b of this policy. Such contractor shall contact any current or former employer (please note the definition of “former employer” employer above, including the applicable twenty year reporting period) of such employee that was a local or regional board of education, council of a state or local charter school, interdistrict magnet school operator, or a supervisory agent of a nonpublic school, or if the employee’s employment with such current or former employer caused the employee to have contact with children, and request, either telephonically or through written communication, any information concerning whether there was a finding of abuse or neglect or sexual misconduct against such employee. Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (f) of Conn. Gen. Stat. § 31-51i, such employer shall report to the contractor any such finding, either telephonically or through written communication. If the contractor receives any information indicating such a finding or otherwise receives any information indicating such a finding or otherwise has knowledge of such a finding, the contractor shall, notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (f) of Conn. Gen. Stat. § 31-51i, immediately forward such information to the district, either telephonically or through written communication. If the district receives such information, it shall determine whether such employee may work in a position involving direct student contact at any school in the district. No determination by the district that any such employee shall not work under any such contract in any such position shall constitute a breach of such contract.
- H. Any applicant who knowingly provides false information or knowingly fails to disclose information required in subdivision (1) of subsection (A) of this section shall be subject to discipline by the district that may include
1. denial of employment, or
 2. termination of the contract of a certified employee, in accordance with the provisions of Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-151.
- I. If the district provides information in accordance with paragraph I.A.2 or I.G of this policy, the district shall be immune from criminal and civil liability, provided the district did not knowingly supply false information.
- J. Notwithstanding the provisions of Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-151c and subsection (f) of Conn. Gen. Stat. § 31-51i, the district shall provide, upon request by another local or regional board of education, governing council of a state or local charter school, interdistrict magnet school operator, or supervisory agent of a nonpublic school for the purposes of an inquiry pursuant to paragraphs I.A.2 or I.G of this policy or to the Commissioner of Education pursuant to paragraph I.B of this policy any information that the district has concerning a finding of abuse or neglect or sexual misconduct by a subject of any such inquiry.

- K. Prior to offering employment to an applicant, the district shall make a documented good faith effort to contact each current and any former employer (please note the definition of “former employer” employer above, including the applicable twenty year reporting period) of the applicant that was a local or regional board of education, governing council of a state or local charter school, interdistrict magnet school operator, or supervisory agent of a nonpublic school, or if the applicant’s employment with such current or former employer caused the applicant to have contact with children in order to obtain information and recommendations that may be relevant to the applicant’s fitness for employment. Such effort, however, shall not be construed to require more than three telephonic requests made on three separate days.
- L. The district shall not offer employment to any applicant who had any previous employment contract terminated by a local or regional board of education, council of a state or local charter school, interdistrict magnet school operator, or a supervisory agent of a nonpublic school, or who resigned from such employment, if the person has been convicted of a violation of Conn. Gen. Stat. § 17a-101a, when an allegation of abuse or neglect or sexual assault has been substantiated.

II. DCF Registry Checks

Prior to hiring any person for a position with the district, the district shall require such applicant to submit to a records check of information maintained on the Registry concerning the applicant.

The district shall request information from the Registry or its out of state equivalent promptly, and in any case no later than thirty (30) calendar days from the date of employment. Registry checks will be processed according to the following procedure:

- A. No later than ten (10) calendar days after the Superintendent or his/her designee has notified a job applicant of a decision to offer employment to the applicant, or as soon thereafter as practicable, the Superintendent or designee will either obtain the information from the Registry or, if the applicant’s consent is required to access the information, will supply the applicant with the release form utilized by DCF, or its out of state equivalent when available, for obtaining information from the Registry.
- B. If consent is required to access the Registry, no later than ten (10) calendar days after the Superintendent or his/her designee has provided the successful job applicant with the form, the applicant must submit the signed form to DCF or its out of state equivalent, with a copy to the Superintendent or his/her designee. Failure of the applicant to submit the signed form to DCF or its out of state equivalent within such ten-day period, without good cause, will be grounds for the withdrawal of the offer of employment.
- C. Upon receipt of Registry or out-of-state registry information indicating previously undisclosed information concerning abuse or neglect investigations concerning the successful job applicant/employee, the Superintendent or his/her designee will notify the affected applicant/employee in writing of the results of the Registry check and will provide an opportunity for the affected applicant/employee to respond to the results of the Registry check.

- D. If notification is received by the Superintendent or designee that the applicant is listed as a perpetrator of abuse or neglect on the Registry, the Superintendent or designee shall provide the applicant with an opportunity to be heard regarding the results of the Registry check. If warranted by the results of the Registry check and any additional information provided by the applicant, the Superintendent or designee shall revoke the offer of employment and/or terminate the applicant's employment if he or she has already commenced working for the district.

III. Criminal Records Check Procedure

- A. Each person hired by the district shall be required to submit to state and national criminal record checks within thirty (30) calendar days from the date of employment. Each person otherwise placed within a school under any public assistance employment program, employed by a provider of supplemental services pursuant to federal law or in a nonpaid, noncertified position completing preparation requirements for the issuance of an educator certificate, who performs a service involving direct student contact shall also be required to submit to state and national criminal record checks within thirty (30) calendar days from the date such worker begins to perform such service. Record checks will be processed according to the following procedure:
1. No later than five (5) calendar days after the Superintendent or his/her designee has notified a job applicant of a decision to hire the applicant, or as soon thereafter as practicable, the Superintendent or his/her designee will provide the applicant with a packet containing all documents and materials necessary for the applicant to be fingerprinted by the Norwich Police Department. This packet shall also contain all documents and materials necessary for the police department to submit the completed fingerprints to the State Police Bureau of Identification for the processing of state and national criminal record checks. The Superintendent or his/her designee will also provide each applicant with the following notifications before the applicant obtains his/her fingerprints: (1) Agency Privacy Requirements for Noncriminal Justice Applicants; (2) Noncriminal Justice Applicant's Privacy Rights; (3) and the Federal Bureau of Investigation, United States Department of Justice Privacy Act Statement.
 2. No later than ten (10) calendar days after the Superintendent or his/her designee has provided the successful job applicant with the fingerprinting packet, the applicant must arrange to be fingerprinted by the Norwich Police Department. Failure of the applicant to have his/her fingerprints taken within such ten-day period, without good cause, will be grounds for the withdrawal of the offer of employment.
 3. Any person for whom criminal records checks are required to be performed pursuant to this policy must pay all fees and costs associated with the fingerprinting process and/or the submission or processing of the requests for criminal record checks.
 4. Upon receipt of a criminal record check indicating a previously undisclosed conviction, the Superintendent or his/her designee will notify the affected applicant/employee in writing of the results of the record check and will provide an opportunity for the affected applicant/employee to respond to the results of the criminal record check. The affected applicant/employee may notify the Superintendent or his/her designee in writing within

five (5) calendar days that the affected/employee will challenge his/her criminal history record check. Upon written notification to the Superintendent or his/her designee of such a challenge, the affected applicant/employee shall have ten (10) calendar days to provide the Superintendent or his/her designee with necessary documentation regarding the affected applicant/employee's record challenge. The Superintendent or his/her designee may grant an extension to the preceding ten-day period during which the affected applicant/employee may provide such documentation for good cause shown.

5. Decisions regarding the effect of a conviction upon an applicant/employee, whether disclosed or undisclosed by the applicant/employee, will be made on a case-by-case basis. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the falsification or omission of any information on a job application or in a job interview, including but not limited to information concerning criminal convictions or pending criminal charges, shall be grounds for disqualification from consideration for employment or discharge from employment.
6. Notwithstanding anything in paragraph III.A.5 of this Policy, above, no decision to deny employment or withdraw an offer of employment on the basis of an applicant/employee's criminal history record shall be made without affording the applicant/employee the opportunities set forth in paragraph III.A.4 of this Policy, above.

B. Criminal Records Check for Substitute Teachers:

A substitute teacher who is hired by the district must submit to state and national criminal history record checks according to the procedures outlined above, subject to the following:

1. If the state and national criminal history record checks for a substitute teacher have been completed within one year prior to the date the district hired the substitute teacher, and if the substitute teacher arranged for such prior criminal history record checks to be forwarded to the Superintendent, then the substitute teacher will not be required to submit to another criminal history record check at the time of such hire.
2. If a substitute teacher submitted to state and national criminal history record checks upon being hired by the district, then the substitute teacher will not be required to submit to another criminal history record check so long as the substitute teacher is continuously employed by the district, that is, employed for at least one day of each school year, by the district, provided a substitute teacher is subjected to such checks at least once every five years.

IV. Sex Offender Registry Checks

School district personnel shall cross-reference the Connecticut Department of Public Safety's sexual offender registry prior to hiring any new employee. Registration as a sexual offender constitutes grounds for denial of employment opportunities.

V. Credit Checks

The district may also ask a prospective employee for a credit report for employment for certain district positions, where the district's receipt of a credit report is substantially related to the employee's potential job. Substantially related is defined to mean "the information contained in the credit report is related to the position for which the employee or prospective employee who is the subject of the report is being evaluated." Prior to asking for a credit report, the district will determine whether the position falls within one of the categories as described in this paragraph. The position must: (1) be a managerial position which involves setting the direction or control of the district; (2) involve access to employees' personal or financial information; (3) involve a fiduciary responsibility to the district, including, but not limited to, the authority to issue payments, collect debts, transfer money or enter into contracts; (4) provide an expense account or district debit or credit card; or (5) involve access to the district's nonfinancial assets valued at two thousand five dollars or more.

When a credit report will be requested as part of the employment process, the district will provide written notification to prospective employee regarding the use of credit checks. That notification must be provided in a document separate from the employment application. The notification must state that the district may use the information in the consumer credit report to make decisions related to the individual's employment.

The district will obtain consent before performing the credit or other background checks. If the district intends to take an action adverse to a potential employee based on the results of a credit report, the district must provide the prospective employee with a copy of the report on which the district relied in making the adverse decision, as well as a copy of "A Summary of Your Rights Under the Fair Credit Reporting Act," which should be provided by the company that provides the results of the credit check. The district will notify the prospective employee either orally, in writing or via electronic means that the adverse action was taken based on the information in the consumer report. That notice must include the name, address and phone number of the consumer reporting company that supplied the credit report; a statement that the company that supplied the report did not make the decision to take the unfavorable action and cannot provide specific reasons for the district's actions; and a notice of the person's right to dispute the accuracy or completeness of any information the consumer reporting company furnished, and to get an additional free report from the company if the person asks for it within sixty (60) calendar days.

VI. Notice of Conviction

If, at any time, the district receives notice of a conviction of a crime by (1) a person holding a certificate, authorization or permit issued by the State Board of Education, or (2) a person employed by a provider of supplemental services, the district shall send such notice to the State Board of Education.

VII. School Nurses

School nurses or nurse practitioners appointed by, or under contract with, the district shall also be required to submit to a criminal history records check in accordance with the procedures outlined above.

VIII. Personal Online Accounts

For purposes of these Administrative Regulations, "personal online account" means any online account that is used by an employee or applicant exclusively for personal purposes and unrelated to any business purpose of the district, including, but not limited to, electronic mail, social media and retail-based

Internet web sites. "Personal online account" does not include any account created, maintained, used or accessed by an employee or applicant for a business purpose of the district.

A. During the course of an employment check, the district may not:

1. request or require that an applicant provide the district with a user name and password, password or any other authentication means for accessing a personal online account;
2. request or require that an applicant authenticate or access a personal online account in the presence of the district; or
3. require that an applicant invite a supervisor employed by the district or accept an invitation from a supervisor employed by the district to join a group affiliated with any personal online account of the applicant.

B. The district may request or require that an applicant provide the district with a user name and password, password or any other authentication means for accessing:

1. any account or service provided by district or by virtue of the applicant's employment relationship with the district or that the applicant uses for the district's business purposes, or
2. any electronic communications device supplied or paid for, in whole or in part, by the district.

C. In accordance with applicable law, the district maintains the right to require an applicant to allow the district to access his or her personal online account, without disclosing the user name and password, password or other authentication means for accessing such personal online account, for the purpose of:

1. conducting an investigation for the purpose of ensuring compliance with applicable state or federal laws, regulatory requirements or prohibitions against work-related employee misconduct based on the receipt of specific information about activity on an applicant's personal online account; or
2. conducting an investigation based on the receipt of specific information about an applicant's unauthorized transfer of the district's proprietary information, confidential information or financial data to or from a personal online account operated by an applicant or other source.

IX. Policy Inapplicable to Certain Individuals

This policy shall also not apply to:

- A. A student employed by the district who attends a district school.

B. A person employed by the district as a teacher for a noncredit adult class or adult education activity, as defined in Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-67, who is not required to hold a teaching certificate pursuant to Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-145b for his or her position.

X. Falsification of Records.

Notwithstanding any other provisions of this policy, the falsification or omission of any information on a job application or in a job interview, including but not limited to information concerning abuse or neglect investigations or pending criminal applications, shall be grounds for disqualification from consideration for employment or discharge from employment.

Legal References: Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-212

Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-221d

Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-222c

Conn. Gen. Stat. § 31-40x

Conn. Gen. Stat. § 31-51i

Conn. Gen. Stat. § 31-51tt

Public Act 18-51, "An Act Implementing the Recommendations of the Department of Education."

Elementary and Secondary Education Act, reauthorized as the Every Student Succeeds Act, Pub. L. 114-95, codified at 20 U.S.C. § 1001 *et seq.*

Fair Credit Reporting Act, 15 U.S.C. § 1681 *et seq.*

ADOPTED: _____

REVISED: _____

7/31/2018

Agency Privacy Requirements for Noncriminal Justice Applicants

Authorized governmental and non-governmental agencies/officials that conduct a national fingerprint-based criminal history record check on an applicant for a noncriminal justice purpose (such as a job or license, immigration or naturalization matter, security clearance, or adoption) are obligated to ensure the applicant is provided certain notice and other information and that the results of the check are handled in a manner that protects the applicant's privacy.

- Officials must provide to the applicant written notice¹ that his/her fingerprints will be used to check the criminal history records of the FBI.
- Officials using the FBI criminal history record (if one exists) to make a determination of the applicant's suitability for the job, license, or other benefit must provide the applicant the opportunity to complete or challenge the accuracy of the information in the record.
- Officials must advise the applicant that procedures for obtaining a change, correction, or updating of an FBI criminal history record are set forth at Title 28, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Section 16.34.
- Officials should not deny the job, license, or other benefit based on information in the criminal history record until the applicant has been afforded a reasonable time to correct or complete the record or has declined to do so.
- Officials must use the criminal history record solely for the purpose requested and cannot disseminate the record outside the receiving department, related agency, or other authorized entity.²

The FBI has no objection to officials providing a copy of the applicant's FBI criminal history record to the applicant for review and possible challenge when the record was obtained based on positive fingerprint identification. If agency policy permits, this courtesy will save the applicant the time and additional FBI fee to obtain his/her record directly from the FBI by following the procedures found at 28 CFR 16.30 through 16.34. It will also allow the officials to make a more timely determination of the applicant's suitability.

Each agency should establish and document the process/procedures it utilizes for how/when it gives the applicant notice, what constitutes "a reasonable time" for the applicant to correct or complete the record, and any applicant appeal process that is afforded the applicant. Such documentation will assist State and/or FBI auditors during periodic compliance reviews on use of criminal history records for noncriminal justice purposes.

If you need additional information or assistance, contact:

Connecticut Records: Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection State Police Bureau of Identification (SPBI) 1111 Country Club Road Middletown, CT 06457 860-685-8480	Out-of-State Records: Agency of Record OR FBI CJIS Division-Summary Request 1000 Custer Hollow Road Clarksburg, West Virginia 26306
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¹ Written notification includes electronic notification, but excludes oral notification.

² See 5 U.S.C. 552a(b); 28 U.S.C. 534(b); 42 U.S.C. 14616, Article IV(c); 28 CFR 20.21(c), 20.33(d), 50.12(b) and 906.2(d).

Noncriminal Justice Applicant's Privacy Rights

As an applicant who is the subject of a national fingerprint-based criminal history record check for a noncriminal justice purpose (such as an application for a job or license, an immigration or naturalization matter, security clearance, or adoption), you have certain rights which are discussed below.

- You must be provided written notification³ by _____ that your fingerprints will be used to check the criminal history records of the FBI.
- If you have a criminal history record, the officials making a determination of your suitability for the job, license, or other benefit must provide you the opportunity to complete or challenge the accuracy of the information in the record.
- The officials must advise you that the procedures for obtaining a change, correction, or updating of your criminal history record are set forth at Title 28, Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Section 16.34.
- If you have a criminal history record, you should be afforded a reasonable amount of time to correct or complete the record (or decline to do so) before the officials deny you the job, license, or other benefit based on information in the criminal history record.⁴
- You have the right to expect that officials receiving the results of the criminal history record check will use it only for authorized purposes and will not retain or disseminate it in violation of federal statute, regulation or executive order, or rule, procedure or standard established by the National Crime Prevention and Privacy Compact Council.⁵
- If agency policy permits, the officials may provide you with a copy of your FBI criminal history record for review and possible challenge. If agency policy does not permit it to provide you a copy of the record, you may obtain a copy of the record by submitting fingerprints and a fee to the FBI. Information regarding this process may be obtained at <http://www.fbi.gov/about-us/cjis/background-checks>.
- If you decide to challenge the accuracy or completeness of your FBI criminal history record, you should send your challenge to the agency that contributed the questioned information to the FBI. Alternatively, you may send your challenge directly to the FBI at the same address as provided above. The FBI will then forward your challenge to the agency that contributed the questioned information and request the agency to verify or correct the challenged entry. Upon receipt of an official communication from that agency, the FBI will make any necessary changes/corrections to your record in accordance with the information supplied by that agency. (See 28 CFR 16.30 through 16.34.)
- If you need additional information or assistance, please contact:

Connecticut Records:	Out-of-State Records:
Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection	Agency of Record
State Police Bureau of Identification (SPBI)	OR
1111 Country Club Road	FBI CJIS Division-Summary Request
Middletown, CT 06457	1000 Custer Hollow Road
860-685-8480	Clarksburg, West Virginia 26306

³ Written notification includes electronic notification, but excludes oral notification.

⁴ See 28 CFR 50.12(b).

⁵ See 5 U.S.C. 552a(b); 28 U.S.C. 534(b); 42 U.S.C. 14616, Article IV(c); 28 CFR 20.21(c), 20.33(d) and 906.2(d).

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Privacy Act Statement

Authority: The FBI's acquisition, preservation, and exchange of fingerprints and associated information is generally authorized under 28 U.S.C. 534. Depending on the nature of your application, supplemental authorities include Federal statutes, State statutes pursuant to Pub. L. 92-544, Presidential Executive Orders, and federal. Providing your fingerprints and associated information is voluntary; however, failure to do so may affect completion or approval of your application.

Social Security Account Number (SSAN). Your SSAN is needed to keep records accurate because other people may have the same name and birth date. Pursuant to the Federal Privacy Act of 1974 (5 USC 552a), the requesting agency is responsible for informing you whether disclosure is mandatory or voluntary, by what statutory or other authority your SSAN is solicited, and what uses will be made of it. Executive Order 9397 also asks Federal agencies to use this number to help identify individuals in agency records.

Principal Purpose: Certain determinations, such as employment, licensing, and security clearances, may be predicated on fingerprint-based background checks. Your fingerprints and associated information/biometrics may be provided to the employing, investigating, or otherwise responsible agency, and/or the FBI for the purpose of comparing your fingerprints to other fingerprints in the FBI's Next Generation Identification (NGI) system or its successor systems (including civil, criminal, and latent fingerprint repositories) or other available records of the employing, investigating, or otherwise responsible agency. The FBI may retain your fingerprints and associated information/biometrics in NGI after the completion of this application and, while retained, your fingerprints may continue to be compared against other fingerprints submitted to or retained by NGI.

Routine Uses: During the processing of this application and for as long thereafter as your fingerprints and associated information/biometrics are retained in NGI, your information may be disclosed pursuant to your consent, and may be disclosed without your consent as permitted by the Privacy Act of 1974 and all applicable Routine Uses as may be published at any time in the Federal Register, including the Routine Uses for the NGI system and the FBI's Blanket Routine Uses. Routine uses include, but are not limited to, disclosures to: employing, governmental or authorized non-governmental agencies responsible for employment, contracting licensing, security clearances, and other suitability determinations; local, state, tribal, or federal law enforcement agencies; criminal justice agencies; and agencies responsible for national security or public safety.

Additional Information: The requesting agency and/or the agency conducting the application-investigation will provide you additional information pertinent to the specific circumstances of this application, which may include identification of other authorities, purposes, uses, and consequences of not providing requested information. In addition, any such agency in the Federal Executive Branch has also published notice in the Federal Register describing any systems(s) of records in which that agency may also maintain your records, including the authorities, purposes, and routine uses for the system(s).

Personnel – Certified/Non-Certified

Fingerprinting, Criminal History Records and Employment Reference Checks

Each applicant for a position with the district shall be asked whether he/she has ever been convicted of a crime and whether there are any criminal charges pending against him/her at the time of application. Employees shall not be required to disclose any arrest, criminal charge or conviction that has been erased.

Prior to hiring any person, the district shall make a documented good faith effort to contact previous employers of the person in order to obtain information and recommendations that may be relevant to the person's fitness for employment.

A. Criminal Records Check Procedure

Each person hired by the district shall be required to submit to state and national criminal record checks within thirty (30) days from the date of employment. Each worker placed within a school under a public assistance employment program, or employed by a provider of supplemental services pursuant to the No Child Left Behind Act, who performs a service involving direct student contact shall also be required to submit to state and national criminal record checks within thirty (30) days from the date such worker begins to perform such service. Record checks will be processed according to the following procedure:*

1) No later than ten (10) calendar days after the Superintendent or his/her designee has notified a job applicant of a decision to hire the applicant, or as soon thereafter as practicable, the Superintendent will supply the applicant with a packet containing all documents and materials necessary for the applicant to be fingerprinted by the _____ **[insert name of applicable law enforcement agency]**. This packet shall also contain all documents and materials necessary for the police department to submit the completed fingerprints to the State Police Bureau of Identification for the processing of state and national criminal record checks.

2) No later than ten (10) calendar days after the Superintendent has provided the successful job applicant with the fingerprinting packet, the applicant must arrange to be fingerprinted by the _____ **[insert name of applicable law enforcement agency]**. Failure of the applicant to have his/her fingerprints taken within such ten-day period, without good cause, will be grounds for the withdrawal of the offer of employment.

3) Any person for whom criminal records checks are required to be performed pursuant to this policy must pay all fees and costs associated with the fingerprinting process and/or the submission or processing of the requests for criminal record checks.

4) Upon receipt of a criminal record check indicating a previously undisclosed conviction, the Superintendent or his/her designee will notify the affected applicant/employee in writing of the results of the record check and will provide an opportunity for the affected applicant/employee to respond to the results of the criminal record check.

5) Decisions regarding the effect of a conviction upon an applicant/employee, whether disclosed or undisclosed by the applicant/employee, will be made on a case-by-case basis. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the falsification or omission of any information on a job application or in a job interview, including but not limited to information concerning criminal convictions or pending criminal charges, shall be grounds for disqualification from consideration for employment or discharge from employment.

B. Notice of Conviction

If, at any time, the Board of Education receives notice of a conviction of a crime by 1) a person holding a certificate, authorization or permit issued by the State Board of Education, or 2) a person employed by a provider of supplemental services, the Board shall send such notice to the State Board of Education.

C. School Nurses

School nurses or nurse practitioners appointed by, or under contract with, the Board of Education shall also be required to submit to a criminal history records check in accordance with the procedures outlined above.

D. Substitute Teachers

A substitute teacher who is hired by the district must submit to state and national criminal history record checks according to the procedures outlined above, subject to the following:

1) If the state and national criminal history record checks for a substitute teacher have been completed within one year prior to the date the district hired the substitute teacher, and if the substitute teacher arranged for such prior criminal history record checks to be forwarded to the Superintendent, then the substitute teacher will not be required to submit to another criminal history record check at the time of such hire.

2) If a substitute teacher submitted to state and national criminal history record checks upon being hired by the district, then the substitute teacher will not be required to submit to another criminal history record check so long as the substitute teacher is continuously employed by the district, that is, employed for at least one day of each school year, by the district.

E. Policy Inapplicable to Operators of School Transportation Vehicles and Students
Employed by the School District

1) This policy shall not apply to an operator of a school transportation vehicle who is already required to submit to a criminal history records check pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes § 14-44 (d).

2) This policy shall also not apply to a student employed by the local or regional school district in which the student attends school.

Legal References: Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-221d. Criminal history records checks of school personnel. Fingerprinting. Termination or dismissal.

Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-212. School nurses and nurse practitioners (as amended by Public Act 04-181).

No Child Left Behind Act of 2001, Public Law 107-110

Regulation
approved: 12/20/94
Policy
Revised: 6/19/07

NORWICH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Norwich, Connecticut

Personnel - Non-Certified

Health Examination

Chest X-ray or Intradermal Test

All employees upon initial employment shall present evidence of having submitted to examination (chest x-ray, skin test, or other tests designated as acceptable by the health department) to determine that they are free of active tuberculosis prior to commencing service and every four (4) years thereafter or more often if directed by the Board of Education upon recommendation of the local health officer.

The Superintendent may require a medical examination of any non-certified employee whenever the Superintendent has grounds to believe that the performance of the employee is adversely affected by illness of any kind.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes
 10-207 Duties of medical advisers

Regulation
approved: 12/18/84

NORWICH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Norwich, Connecticut

Policy
Revised: 6/19/07

**Series 4000
Personnel
4112.4**

HIRING OF CERTIFIED STAFF

It is the policy of the Board of Education to appoint the most qualified applicants to positions of employment within the Public Schools, subject to the provisions of any applicable collective bargaining agreement. The Superintendent of Schools shall be responsible for appointments to all positions requiring a certificate issued by the State Board of Education including all certified administrators. The Superintendent of Schools shall include three to four members of the Board of Education, appointed by the Board of Education Chairperson, to serve on the hiring committee for Building Principals and for members of the Superintendent's Cabinet (Assistant Superintendent; Director of Student Services and Special Education; and the Business Manager). The Superintendent of Schools will provide a personnel report at each regular Board of Education meeting for informational purposes only.

Legal Reference:

Connecticut General Statutes §10-151

ADOPTED: _____

REVISED: _____

Personnel - CertifiedAppointment and Conditions of Employment

Employment of all certified school personnel shall be by vote of the Board upon nomination of the Superintendent of Schools, except that between the regular June and September meetings of the Board, the Superintendent is empowered to issue contracts of employment coming within the table of organization; such contracts to be reported at the regular September meeting of the Board.

Not later than the regular meeting in March, the Superintendent shall present to members of the Board of Education his/her recommendations, concerning the nonrenewal of any contracts of employment of non-tenured teachers for the ensuing year. Action by the Board on these recommendations shall not be later than March 30 so that the teacher may be notified prior to April 1 as required by statute.

The Superintendent shall notify, in writing, all principals and teachers of their appointments or salary agreements. These employees shall be allowed two weeks in which to accept an appointment. If not accepted within two weeks from date of notification the appointment shall be considered declined unless specific arrangements are made to the contrary.

It is the policy of the Board of Education to appoint the most qualified applicants to positions of employment within the Norwich Public Schools.

Legal Reference:

Connecticut General Statutes 10-151 - Employment of teachers. Notice and hearing on termination of or failure to renew contract.

Policy adopted: 12/18/84
Policy amended: 2/09/88
Policy Revised: 6/19/07

NORWICH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Norwich, Connecticut

**Series 4000
Personnel
4112.5**

HIRING OF NON-CERTIFIED STAFF

It is the policy of the Board of Education to appoint the most qualified applicants to positions of employment within the Public Schools, subject to the provisions of any applicable collective bargaining agreement. The Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee shall be responsible for appointments to all positions of employment within the Public Schools which do not require a certificate issued by the State Board of Education.

Legal Reference:

Connecticut General Statutes § 10-220

ADOPTED: _____
REVISED: _____

Last reviewed 7/18/16

Personnel - Non-CertifiedAppointment and Conditions of Employment

The Superintendent shall have the authority to employ non-certified personnel. The Superintendent, within the limits of the budget, shall be responsible for selection, appointments, transfers or dismissals. Such actions shall be reported to the Board of Education.

It is the policy of the Board of Education to appoint the most qualified applicants to positions of employment within the Norwich Public Schools, subject to the provisions of any applicable collective bargaining agreement.

Legal Reference:

Connecticut General Statutes §10-220

Policy
adopted: 12/18/84

NORWICH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Norwich, Connecticut

Policy
Revised: 6/19/07

**Series 4000
Personnel
4118.112(a)**

POLICY REGARDING SEX DISCRIMINATION AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN THE WORKPLACE (PERSONNEL)

It is the policy of the board of education to maintain a working environment free from harassment, insults or intimidation on the basis of an employee's sex and free from discrimination based on sex. Verbal or physical conduct by a supervisor or co-worker relating to an employee's sex which has the effect of creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive work environment, unreasonably interfering with the employee's work performance, or adversely affecting the employee's employment opportunities is prohibited.

Discrimination

Sex discrimination is defined as when an employer refuses to hire, disciplines or discharges any individual, or otherwise discriminates against an individual with respect to his or her compensation, terms, conditions, or privileges of employment on the basis of the individual's sex. Sex discrimination is also defined as when a person, because of his or her sex, is denied participation in, or the benefits of, a program that receives federal financial assistance.

Harassment

Sexual harassment is a form of sex discrimination. While it is difficult to define sexual harassment precisely, it does include any unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when:

1. Submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment;
2. Submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for employment decisions affecting such individual; or
3. Such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive work environment.

Although not an exhaustive list, the following are examples of the type of conduct prohibited by the policy against sexual harassment:

1. Unwelcome sexual advances from a co-worker or supervisor, such as unwanted hugs, touches, or kisses;
2. Unwelcome attention of a sexual nature, such as degrading, suggestive or lewd remarks or noises;
3. Dirty jokes, derogatory or pornographic posters, cartoons or drawings;
4. The threat or suggestion that continued employment advancement, assignment or earnings depend on whether or not the employee will submit to or tolerate harassment;
5. Circulating, showing, or exchanging emails, text messages, digital images or websites of a sexual nature;
6. Using computer systems, including email, instant messaging, text messaging, blogging or the use of social networking websites, or other forms of electronic communications, to engage in any conduct prohibited by this policy.

Any infraction of this policy by supervisors or co-workers should be reported immediately to the Title IX Coordinator, the Superintendent, or his/her designee in accordance with the district's sex discrimination and sexual harassment grievance procedure. Retaliation against any employee for complaining about sex discrimination or sexual harassment is prohibited under this policy and illegal under state and federal law. Violations of this policy will not be permitted and may result in discipline up to and including discharge from employment. Individuals who engage in acts of sex discrimination or sexual harassment may also be subject to civil and criminal penalties.

Legal References:

United States Constitution, Amendment XIV
Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title VII, 42 U.S.C. § 2000e-2(a).
Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Policy Guidance on
Current Issues of Sexual Harassment (N-915.050), March 19,
1990.
Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. § 1681,
et seq.
Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 34 CFR § 106, et
seq.
Meritor Savings Bank, FSB v. Vinson, 477 U.S. 57 (1986)

Constitution of the State of Connecticut, Article I, Section 20
Connecticut General Statutes § 46a-60 Discriminatory employment
practices prohibited.
Conn. Agencies Regs. §§ 46a-54-200 through § 46a-54-207

**Series 4000
Personnel**

**COMPLAINT FORM REGARDING SEX DISCRIMINATION
AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT (PERSONNEL)**

Name of the complainant _____

Date of the complaint _____

Date of the alleged discrimination/harassment _____

Name or names of the discriminator(s) or harasser(s) _____

Location where such discrimination/harassment occurred _____

Name(s) of any witness(es) to the discrimination/harassment _____

Detailed statement of the circumstances constituting the alleged discrimination or
harassment _____

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS REGARDING SEX DISCRIMINATION AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT IN THE WORKPLACE (PERSONNEL)

Norwich Board of Education Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedure

Complaint Procedure

It is the express policy of the Board of Education to encourage victims of sexual discrimination or sexual harassment to promptly report such claims. Timely reporting of complaints facilitates the investigation and resolution of such complaints. Any employee who feels that he/she has been sexually harassed or otherwise discriminated against on the basis of sex should submit any such complaint to the Title IX Coordinator. If the Title IX Coordinator is the subject of the complaint, the complaint should be submitted to the Superintendent, who shall investigate or appoint a designee to do so.

Complaints will be investigated promptly and corrective action will be taken when allegations are verified. Confidentiality will be maintained by all persons involved in the investigation to the extent possible and reprisals or retaliation that occur as a result of the good faith reporting of charges of sex discrimination or sexual harassment will result in disciplinary action against the retaliator.

The school district will provide staff development for new district administrators and will publish its policy and grievance procedures to staff and employees in an effort to maintain an environment free of sex discrimination and sexual harassment.

Any employee who believes that he or she has been discriminated against or sexually harassed in the workplace in violation of this policy may also file a complaint with the Office of the Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities, 450 Columbus Blvd Hartford CT 06103, 860-541-3400 or the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Boston Area Office, John F. Kennedy Federal Building, 475 Government Center, Boston, MA 02203 (TELEPHONE NUMBER 800-669-4000). Connecticut law requires that a formal written complaint be filed with the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities within 180 days of the date when the alleged discrimination/harassment occurred. Remedies for sex discrimination and sexual harassment include cease and desist orders, back pay, compensatory damages, hiring, promotion or reinstatement.

Title IX Coordinator

The Title IX Coordinator for the Norwich Board of Education is the Assistant Superintendent, whose office is located at 90 Town Street and whose telephone number is 860-823-6284.

8/1/16

**SEXUAL HARASSMENT IS ILLEGAL
AND IS PROHIBITED
BY
THE CONNECTICUT DISCRIMINATORY EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES ACT
(Section 46a-60 of the Connecticut General Statutes)
AND
TITLE VII OF THE CIVIL RIGHTS ACT OF 1964
(42 United States Code Section 2000e et seq.)**

SEXUAL HARASSMENT MEANS ANY UNWELCOME SEXUAL ADVANCES OR REQUESTS FOR SEXUAL FAVORS OR ANY CONDUCT OF A SEXUAL NATURE WHEN:

1. SUBMISSION TO SUCH CONDUCT IS MADE EITHER EXPLICITLY OR IMPLICITLY A TERM OR CONDITION OF AN INDIVIDUAL'S EMPLOYMENT;
2. SUBMISSION TO OR REJECTION OF SUCH CONDUCT BY AN INDIVIDUAL IS USED AS THE BASIS FOR EMPLOYMENT DECISIONS AFFECTING SUCH INDIVIDUAL; OR
3. SUCH CONDUCT HAS THE PURPOSE OR EFFECT OF SUBSTANTIALLY INTERFERING WITH AN INDIVIDUAL'S WORK PERFORMANCE OR CREATING AN INTIMIDATING, HOSTILE, OR OFFENSIVE WORKING ENVIRONMENT.

Examples of SEXUAL HARASSMENT include:

UNWELCOME SEXUAL ADVANCES
SUGGESTIVE OR LEWD REMARKS
UNWANTED HUGS, TOUCHES, KISSES
REQUESTS FOR SEXUAL FAVORS
DEROGATORY OR PORNOGRAPHIC POSTERS, CARTOONS, OR DRAWINGS.

Remedies for sexual harassment may include:

CEASE AND DESIST ORDERS
BACK PAY
COMPENSATORY DAMAGES
HIRING, PROMOTION, OR REINSTATEMENT

RETALIATION AGAINST ANY EMPLOYEE FOR COMPLAINING ABOUT SEXUAL HARASSMENT IS PROHIBITED UNDER THIS POLICY AND ILLEGAL.

VIOLATION OF THIS POLICY IS GROUNDS FOR DISCIPLINE, INCLUDING DISCHARGE.

INDIVIDUALS WHO ENGAGE IN ACTS OF SEXUAL HARASSMENT MAY ALSO BE SUBJECT TO
CIVIL AND CRIMINAL PENALTIES.

AN INFRACTION OF THIS POLICY BY SUPERVISORS OR CO-WORKERS SHOULD BE REPORTED
IMMEDIATELY TO THE TITLE IX COORDINATOR WHO IS THE ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OR
SUPERINTENDENT IF THE TITLE IX COORDINATOR IS THE SUBJECT OF THE COMPLAINT.
CONFIDENTIALITY WILL BE MAINTAINED TO THE EXTENT POSSIBLE.

ANY EMPLOYEE WHO BELIEVES THAT HE OR SHE HAS BEEN HARASSED OR DISCRIMINATED
AGAINST IN THE WORKPLACE IN VIOLATION OF THIS POLICY MAY ALSO CONTACT:

THE CONNECTICUT COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND OPPORTUNITIES
EASTERN REGION OFFICE
100 BROADWAY
NORWICH, CT 06360
860-886-5703

AND/ OR:

THE EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION
BOSTON AREA OFFICE
JOHN F. KENNEDY FEDERAL BUILDING
475 GOVERNMENT CENTER
BOSTON, MA 02203
PHONE (800) 669-4000

CONNECTICUT LAW REQUIRES THAT A FORMAL WRITTEN COMPLAINT BE FILED WITH THE
COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS AND OPPORTUNITIES WITHIN ONE HUNDRED AND EIGHTY
(180) DAYS OF THE DATE WHEN THE ALLEGED HARASSMENT/ DISCRIMINATION OCCURRED.

8/1/16

Personnel--Certified/Non-CertifiedSex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment

It is the policy of the Board of Education to maintain a working environment free from harassment, insults or intimidation on the basis of an employee's sex and free from discrimination based on sex. Verbal or physical conduct by a supervisor or co-worker relating to an employee's sex which has the effect of creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive work environment, unreasonably interfering with the employee's work performance, or adversely affecting the employee's employment opportunities is prohibited.

Discrimination

Sex discrimination is defined as when an employer refuses to hire, disciplines or discharges any individual, or otherwise discriminates against an individual with respect to his or her compensation, terms, conditions, or privileges of employment on the basis of the individual's sex. Sex discrimination is also defined as when a person, because of his or her sex, is denied participation in, or the benefits of, a program that receives federal financial assistance.

Harassment

Sexual harassment is a form of sex discrimination. While it is difficult to define sexual harassment precisely, it does include any unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when:

1. Submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment;
2. Submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used as the basis for employment decisions affecting such individual; or
3. Such conduct has the purpose or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive work environment.

Although not an exhaustive list, the following are examples of the type of conduct prohibited by the policy against sexual harassment:

1. Unwelcome sexual advances from a co-worker or supervisor, such as unwanted hugs, touches, or kisses;
2. Unwelcome attention of a sexual nature, such as degrading, suggestive or lewd remarks or noises;
3. Dirty jokes, derogatory or pornographic posters, cartoons or drawings; and

4. The threat or suggestion that continued employment advancement, assignment or earnings depend on whether or not the employee will submit to or tolerate harassment.

Any infraction of this policy by supervisors or co-workers should be reported immediately to the Assistant Superintendent of Schools in accordance with the district's sex discrimination and sexual harassment complaint procedure. Retaliation against any employee for complaining about sex discrimination or sexual harassment is prohibited under this policy and illegal under state and federal law. Violations of this policy will not be permitted and may result in discipline up to and including discharge from employment. Individuals who engage in acts of sex discrimination or sexual harassment may also be subject to civil and criminal penalties.

Complaint Procedure

It is the express policy of the Board of Education to encourage victims of sexual discrimination or sexual harassment to promptly report such claims. Timely reporting of complaints facilitates the investigation and resolution of such complaints. Any employee who feels that he/she has been sexually harassed or otherwise discriminated against on the basis of sex should submit any such complaint to the Assistant Superintendent of Schools, who serves as the district's Title IX Coordinator. If the Assistant Superintendent of Schools is the subject of the complaint, the complaint should be submitted to the Superintendent, who shall investigate or appoint a designee to do so.

Following any informal discussion of the allegations, and in order for the matter to proceed further, all complaints will be submitted in writing on the form "Sexual Harassment Complaint Report."

Complaints will be investigated promptly. Confidentiality will be maintained by all persons involved in the investigation to the extent possible and reprisals or retaliation that occur as a result of the good faith reporting of charges of sex discrimination or sexual harassment will result in disciplinary action against the retaliator.

Upon conclusion of the investigation at this level, the Superintendent of Schools shall render his/her finding in a timely manner with disposition made in one of the following categories:

- | | | |
|----|--------------|---|
| A. | Unfounded: | Complaint or incident is false and not factual. |
| B. | Exonerated: | Complaint or incident did occur, but action of member(s) involved were prompt and lawful. |
| C. | Unsustained: | Insufficient evidence to either prove or disprove the complaint or incident. |
| D. | Sustained: | The complaint or incident is supported by sufficient evidence. |

If a complaint of sexual harassment is sustained, the Superintendent of Schools will take appropriate action in accordance with established policy. Confirmed cases of harassment will be

corrected and appropriate discipline, up to and including discharge, will be directed at offending parties.

A complaint may be withdrawn by the complainant at any level.

The school district will provide staff development for new district administrators and will publish its policy and grievance procedures to staff and employees in an effort to maintain an environment free of sex discrimination and sexual harassment.

Any employee who believes that he or she has been discriminated against or sexually harassed in the workplace in violation of this policy may also file a complaint with the Eastern Region Office of the Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities, 100 Broadway, Norwich, CT 06360, PHONE: (860) 886-5703, FAX: (860) 886-2550, TDD: (860) 886-5707 and/or the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Boston Area Office, 475 Government Center, Boston, MA 02203 (800-669-4000). Connecticut law requires that a formal written complaint be filed with the Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities within 180 days of the date when the alleged discrimination/harassment occurred. Remedies for sex discrimination and sexual harassment include cease and desist orders, back pay, compensatory damages, hiring, promotion or reinstatement.

Title IX Coordinator

The Title IX Coordinator for the Norwich Board of Education is the Assistant Superintendent, whose office is located at 90 Town Street, Norwich, CT 06360 and whose telephone number is 860-823-6284.

Legal References: United States Constitution, Amendment XIV
 Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title VII, 42 U.S.C. §2000-e2(a).
 Equal Employment Opportunity Commission Policy Guidance on Current Issues
 of Sexual Harassment, (N-915.050, March 19, 1990).
 Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. § 1681, *et seq.*
 Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 34 CFR § 106, *et seq.*
 Meritor Savings Bank, FSB v. Vinson, 477 U.S. 57 (1986)
 Constitution of the State of Connecticut, Article I, Section 20
 Connecticut General Statutes § 46a-60 Discriminatory employment practices
 prohibited.
 Conn. Agencies Regs. §§ 46a-54-200 through § 46a-54-207

Policy approved: 1/26/93
Policy Revised: 6/19/07
Policy Revised: 11/15/16

NORWICH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Norwich, Connecticut

**NORWICH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NORWICH, CONNECTICUT 06360**

**SEXUAL HARASSMENT
COMPLAINT REPORT AND
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT**

Check one:

Student _____

Personnel _____

COMPLETE THE APPROPRIATE BOX AND THE BOTTOM OF THIS PAGE

Name of complainant (student): _____

Student's parents/guardian: _____

Home Address: _____ Telephone: _____

School: _____

Name of complainant: _____ Telephone (work): _____

Home address: _____ Telephone (home): _____

Department/Position of Employment: _____

Supervisor: _____

Date of incident: _____ Time of incident: _____ Date reported: _____

Location of incident: _____

Complaint filed against (name/position): _____

Details (description) of complaint:

SEXUAL HARASSMENT COMPLAINT AND INVESTIGATIVE REPORT
PAGE 2

(Details [continued])

Witnesses:

Name/Position	Address	Telephone
Name/Position	Address	Telephone
Name/Position	Address	Telephone

Signatures (acknowledgments):

Complainant: _____ Date: _____

Administration: _____ Date: _____
(Person assisting with report)

Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____
(For Students only)

Superintendent of Schools: _____ Date: _____

SEXUAL HARASSMENT COMPLAINT AND INVESTIGATIVE REPORT
PAGE 3

Name of Complainant: _____ Date Decision Rendered: _____

Decision Rendered: ☐ **Unfounded** ☐ **Exonerated** ☐ **Unsustained** ☐ **Sustained**

Recommended action/action taken:

Signatures (Acknowledgments):

Complainant: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____
(For Students only)

Subject of Investigation: _____ Date: _____

School Administrator: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____

Superintendent of Schools: _____ Date: _____

Series 4000
Personnel 4116

**POLICY REGARDING EMPLOYEES AND
SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973 AND
TITLE II OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990**

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 ("Section 504") prohibits discrimination against individuals with a disability in any program receiving Federal financial assistance. Similarly, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("Title II" or "ADA") prohibits discrimination against individuals with a disability by state and local governments. To be protected under Section 504 and the ADA ("collectively, "Section 504/ADA"), an individual must (1) have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities; (2) have a record of such an impairment; or (3) be regarded as having such an impairment.

In order to fulfill its obligation under Section 504/ADA, the Norwich Public Schools recognize a responsibility to avoid discrimination in policies and practices regarding its personnel, students, parents/guardians and members of the public who participate in school sponsored programs. In this regard, the Norwich Public Schools prohibit discrimination against any person with a disability in any of the services, programs or activities of the school system.

Employees who are interested in requesting or discussing reasonable accommodations for a disability should contact:

**Director of Student Services and Special Education, 90 Town Street, Norwich, CT 06360
(860) 823-6284**

Any employee may file an internal grievance/complaint regarding discrimination on the basis of disability by or within the district by utilizing the grievance/complaint procedures outlined in the Board's Administrative Regulations Regarding Employees and Section 504 of Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Title II of Americans with Disabilities Act, and/or may file a complaint with the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education ("OCR"):

Office for Civil Rights, Boston Office
U.S. Department of Education
8th Floor
5 Post Office Square
Boston, MA 02109- 3921
(617) 289-0111

Employees may also file a complaint regarding employment discrimination on the basis of disability with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Boston Area Office, John F. Kennedy Federal Building, 475 Government Center, Boston, MA 02203 (TELEPHONE NUMBER 800-669-4000).

Employees may also file a complaint with the Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities, 25 Sigourney Street, Hartford, CT 06106 (TELEPHONE NUMBER 800-477-5737).

Anyone who wishes to file a grievance/complaint with the district, or who has questions or concerns about this policy, should contact the Director of Student Services and Special Education, the Section 504/ADA Coordinator for the Norwich Public Schools, at phone number 860-823-6284.

Legal References:

29 U.S.C. §§ 705, 794
34 C.F.R. Part 104
42 U.S.C. § 12101 et seq.
28 C.F.R. Part 35

ADOPTED: _____
REVISED: _____

**ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS REGARDING EMPLOYEES
AND SECTION 504 OF THE REHABILITATION ACT OF 1973
AND TITLE II OF THE AMERICANS WITH DISABILITIES ACT OF 1990**

Norwich Board of Education Section 504/ADA Grievance/Complaint
Procedures Regarding Discrimination Against Employees

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 ("Section 504") and Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 ("Title II" or "ADA") (collectively, "Section 504/ADA") prohibit discrimination on the basis of disability. For the purposes of Section 504/ADA, the term "disability" with respect to an individual means: (a) a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities of such individual; (b) a record of such an impairment; or (c) being regarded as having such an impairment.

I. Definitions

Major life activities: include, but are not limited to, caring for oneself, performing manual tasks, seeing, hearing, eating, sleeping, walking, standing, sitting, reaching, lifting, bending, speaking, breathing, learning, reading, concentrating, thinking, communicating, interacting with others, and working. A major life activity also includes the operation of a major bodily function, such as the functions of the immune system, special sense organs and skin, normal cell growth, and digestive, genitourinary, bowel, bladder, neurological, brain, respiratory, circulatory, cardiovascular, endocrine, hemic, lymphatic, musculoskeletal, and reproductive systems. The operation of a major bodily function includes the operation of an individual organ within a body system.

Mitigating Measures: include, but are not limited to, (a) medication, medical supplies, equipment, appliances, low-vision devices (defined as devices that magnify, enhance, or otherwise augment a visual image, but not including ordinary eyeglasses or contact lenses), prosthetics including limbs and devices, hearing aid(s) and cochlear implant(s) or other implantable hearing devices, mobility devices, oxygen therapy equipment and supplies; (b) use of assistive technology; (c) reasonable modifications or auxiliary aids or services; (d) learned behavioral or adaptive neurological modifications; or (e) psychotherapy, behavioral therapy, or physical therapy.

Physical or Mental Impairment: (a) any physiological disorder or condition, cosmetic disfigurement, or anatomical loss affecting one or more of the following body systems, such as: neurological, musculoskeletal, special sense organs, respiratory (including speech organs), cardiovascular, reproductive, digestive, genitourinary, immune, circulatory, hemic, lymphatic, skin, and endocrine or (b) any mental or psychological disorder, such as intellectual disability, organic brain syndrome, emotional or mental illness, and specific learning disability. Physical or mental impairment includes, but is not limited to, contagious and noncontagious diseases and conditions such as the following: orthopedic, visual, speech, and hearing impairments, and cerebral palsy, epilepsy, muscular dystrophy, multiple sclerosis, cancer, heart disease, diabetes, intellectual disability, emotional illness, dyslexia and other specific learning disabilities, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, Human Immunodeficiency Virus infection (whether symptomatic or asymptomatic), tuberculosis, drug addiction, and alcoholism.

II. Procedures for Grievances/Complaints Alleging Discrimination on the Basis of Disability

- A. Any eligible person, including any student, parent/guardian, staff member or other employee who feels that he/she has been discriminated against on the basis of disability may submit a written complaint to the district's designated Section 504/ADA Coordinator within thirty (30) school days of the alleged occurrence. Timely reporting of complaints facilitates the prompt investigation and resolution of such complaints. If the complaint is made verbally, the individual taking the complaint will reduce it to writing. Individuals wishing to make a complaint about discrimination against students on the basis of disability should be referred to the district's Section 504/ADA policies and regulations regarding students.
- B. Retaliation against any individual who complains pursuant to the Board's policy and regulations listed herein is strictly prohibited. The district will not tolerate any reprisals or retaliation that occur as a result of the good faith reporting or complaint of disability-based discrimination or as a result of an individual's participation or cooperating in the investigation of a complaint. The district will take necessary actions to prevent retaliation as a result of filing a complaint or the participation in an investigation of a complaint.
- C. If the Section 504/ADA Coordinator is the subject of the complaint, the complaint should be submitted directly to the Superintendent who may conduct the investigation or appoint a designee to conduct the investigation in accordance with these procedures.
- D. Complaints will be investigated promptly within timeframes identified below. Timeframes may be extended as needed given the complexity of the investigation, availability of individuals with relevant information and other extenuating circumstances. Confidentiality will be maintained by all persons involved in the investigation to the extent possible.
- F. The complaint should contain the following information:
 - 1. The name of the complainant;
 - 2. The date of the complaint;
 - 3. The date(s) of the alleged discrimination;
 - 4. The names of any witnesses or individuals relevant the complaint;
 - 5. A detailed statement describing the circumstances in which the alleged discrimination occurred; and
 - 6. The remedy requested.

However, all complaints will be investigated to the extent possible, even if such information is not included in the complaint. In such circumstances, additional information may be requested by the investigator as part of the investigation process.

- G. Upon receipt of the complaint, the individual investigating the complaint shall:
 - 1. Provide a copy of the written complaint to the Superintendent of Schools;
 - 2. Meet with the complainant within ten (10) school days to discuss the nature of the complaint, identify individuals the complainant believes have relevant information, and obtain any relevant documents the complainant may have;

3. Provide the complainant with a copy of the applicable Board Section 504/ADA Policy and these administrative regulations;
 4. Conduct an investigation that is adequate, reliable, and impartial. Investigate the factual basis for the complaint, including conducting interviews with individuals with information and review of documents relevant to the complaint;
 5. Maintain confidentiality to the extent practicable throughout the investigative process in accordance with state and federal law;
 6. Communicate the outcome of the investigation in writing to the complainant, and to any individual properly identified as a party to the complaint (to the extent permitted by state and federal confidentiality requirements), within fifteen (15) school days from the date the complaint was received by the Section 504/ADA Coordinator or Superintendent. The investigator may extend this deadline for no more than fifteen (15) additional school days if needed to complete the investigation. The complainant shall be notified of such extension. The written notice shall include a finding whether the complaint was substantiated and if so, shall identify how the district will remedy any identified violations of Section 504/ADA;
 7. If a complaint is made during summer recess, the complaint will be reviewed and addressed as quickly as possible given the availability of staff and/or other individuals who may have information relevant to the complaint. If fixed timeframes cannot be met, complainant will receive notice and interim measures may be implemented as necessary (see sub-paragraph 6);
 8. Ensure that appropriate corrective action is taken whenever allegations are verified. When allegations are verified, ensure that measures to remedy the effects of the discrimination are appropriately considered, and offered, when appropriate. Corrective action should include steps to avoid continuing discrimination.
 9. In the event the investigator concludes that there is no violation of Section 504/ADA, the district may attempt to resolve the complainant's ongoing concerns, if possible.
- H. If the complainant is not satisfied with the findings and conclusions of the investigation, the complainant may present the complaint and written outcome to the Superintendent for review and reconsideration within thirty (30) calendar days of receiving the findings. This process provides an opportunity for the complainant to bring information to the Superintendent's attention that would change the outcome of the investigation. In submitting the complaint and written outcome for review, the complainant must explain why he/she believes the factual information was incomplete, the analysis of the facts was incorrect, and/or the appropriate legal standard was not applied, *and* how this information would change the investigator's determination in the case. Failure to provide all such information may result in the denial of the review.

Upon review of a written request from the complainant, the Superintendent shall review the investigative results of the investigator and determine if further action and/or

investigation is warranted. Such action may include consultation with the investigator and complainant, a meeting with appropriate individuals to attempt to resolve the complaint or a decision affirming or overruling the investigator's conclusions or findings. The Superintendent shall provide written notice to the complainant of his/her decision within ten (10) school days following the receipt of the written request for review.

III. The Section 504/ADA Coordinator for this district is:

**Director of Student Services and Special Education, 90 Town Street, Norwich, CT 06360
(860) 823-6284**

IV. Complaints to Federal or State Agencies

At any time, the complainant has the right to file a formal complaint with the U.S. Department of Education, Office for Civil Rights, 8th Floor, 5 Post Office Square, Suite 900, Boston, MA 02109-0111 (TELEPHONE NUMBER (617) 289-0111); <http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/howto.html>. Employees may also file a complaint regarding employment discrimination on the basis of disability with the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, Boston Area Office, John F. Kennedy Federal Building, 475 Government Center, Boston, MA 02203 (TELEPHONE NUMBER 800-669-4000) or the Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities, 25 Sigourney Street, Hartford, CT 06106 (TELEPHONE NUMBER 800-477-5737).

**SECTION 504/ADA DISCRIMINATION
GRIEVANCE/COMPLAINT FORM FOR NON-STUENTS**

(This form is intended to be used if an individual has grievance/complaint under Section 504/ADA alleging discrimination on the basis of a disability).

1. Name of Complainant: _____ Date: _____

2. Contact Information for Complainant:

(Address)

(Home Tel. #)

(Cell # or Work #)

3. Name of Covered Individual: _____

4. Address of Covered Individual (if different from above):

5. Relationship to School (e.g., position, visitor, parent) (if applicable):

6. Please describe the nature of your complaint:

7. Proposed resolution or corrective action you wish to see taken with regard to the stated issues:

9/8/16

Series 4000
Personnel
4119

**REPORTS OF SUSPECTED ABUSE OR NEGLECT OF CHILDREN OR
SEXUAL ASSAULT OF STUDENTS BY SCHOOL EMPLOYEES**

Conn. Gen. Stat. Section 17a-101 *et seq.* requires school employees who have reasonable cause to suspect or believe (1) that any child under eighteen has been abused or neglected, has had a nonaccidental physical injury, or injury which is at variance with the history given of such injury, or has been placed at imminent risk of serious harm, or (2) that any person who is being educated by the technical high school system or a local or regional board of education, other than as part of an adult education program, is a victim of sexual assault, and the perpetrator is a school employee, to report such suspicions to the appropriate authority. In furtherance of this statute and its purpose, it is the policy of the Norwich Board of Education ("Board") to require ALL EMPLOYEES of the Board of Education to report suspected abuse and/or neglect, nonaccidental physical injury, imminent risk of serious harm, or sexual assault of a student by a school employee, in accordance with the procedures set forth below.

1. Scope of Policy

This policy applies not only to school employees who are required by law to report suspected child abuse and/or neglect, nonaccidental physical injury, imminent risk of serious harm, or sexual assault of a student by a school employee, but to ALL EMPLOYEES of the Board of Education.

2. Definitions

For the purposes of this policy:

"Abused" means that a child (a) has had physical injury or injuries inflicted upon him or her other than by accidental means, or (b) has injuries which are at variance with the history given of them, or (c) is in a condition which is the result of maltreatment, such as, but not limited to, malnutrition, sexual molestation or exploitation, deprivation of necessities, emotional maltreatment or cruel punishment.

"Neglected" means that a child (a) has been abandoned, or (b) is being denied proper care and attention, physically, educationally, emotionally or morally, or (c) is being permitted to live under conditions, circumstances or associations injurious to his well-being, or (d) has been abused.

"School employee" means (a) a teacher, substitute teacher, school administrator, school superintendent, guidance counselor, psychologist, social worker, nurse, physician, school paraprofessional or coach employed by the Board or who is working in a Board elementary, middle or high school; or (b) any other person who, in the performance of his or her duties, has regular contact with students and who provides services to or on behalf of students enrolled in the Norwich Public Schools ("District"), pursuant to a contract with the Board.

"Sexual assault" means, for the purposes of the mandatory reporting laws and this policy, a violation of Sections 53a-70, 53a-70a, 53a-71, 53a-72a, 53a-72b or 53a-73a of the Connecticut General Statutes. Please see Appendix A of this policy for the relevant statutory definitions of sexual assault laws and related terms covered by the mandatory reporting laws and this policy.

"Statutory mandated reporter" means an individual required by Conn. Gen. Stat. Section 17a-101 et seq. to report suspected abuse and/or neglect of children or the sexual assault of a student by a school employee. The term "statutory mandated reporter" includes all school employees, as defined above, any person who is a licensed behavior analyst, and any person who holds or is issued a coaching permit by the State Board of Education, is a coach of intramural or interscholastic athletics, and is eighteen years of age or older.

3. What Must Be Reported

- a) A report must be made when any employee of the Board of Education in the ordinary course of such person's employment or profession has reasonable cause to suspect or believe that any child under the age of eighteen years:
 - i) has been abused or neglected;
 - ii) has had nonaccidental physical injury, or injury which is at variance with the history given for such injury, inflicted upon him/her;
 - iii) is placed at imminent risk of serious harm; or
- b) A report must be made when any employee of the Board of Education in the ordinary course of such person's employment or profession has reasonable cause to suspect or believe that any person, regardless of age, who is being educated by the technical high school system or a local or regional board of education, other than as part of an adult education program, is a victim of the following sexual assault crimes, and the perpetrator is a school employee:
 - i) sexual assault in first degree;

- ii) aggravated sexual assault in the first degree;
- iii) sexual assault in the second degree;
- iv) sexual assault in the third degree;
- v) sexual assault in the third degree with a firearm; or
- vi) sexual assault in the fourth degree.

Please see Appendix A of this policy for the relevant statutory definitions of sexual assault laws and related terms covered by the mandatory reporting laws and this policy.

- c) The suspicion or belief of a Board employee may be based on factors including, but not limited to, observations, allegations, facts or statements by a child or victim, as described above, or a third party. Such suspicion or belief does not require certainty or probable cause.

4. Reporting Procedures for Statutory Mandated Reporters

The following procedures apply only to statutory mandated reporters, as defined above.

When an employee of the Board of Education who is a statutory mandated reporter and who, in the ordinary course of the person's employment, has reasonable cause to suspect or believe that a child has been abused or neglected or placed at imminent risk of serious harm, or is a victim of sexual assault by a school employee, as described in Paragraph 3, above, the following steps shall be taken.

- (1) The employee shall make an oral or electronic report as soon as practicable, but not later than twelve (12) hours after having reasonable cause to suspect or believe that a child has been abused or neglected or placed at imminent risk of serious harm, or is a victim of sexual assault by a school employee.
 - (a) An oral report shall be made by telephone or in person to the Commissioner of Children and Families or the local law enforcement agency. The Department of Children and Families has established a 24 hour Child Abuse and Neglect Careline at 1-800-842-2288 for the purpose of making such oral reports.

- (b) An electronic report shall be made in the manner prescribed by the Commissioner of Children and Families. An employee making an electronic report shall respond to further inquiries from the Commissioner of Children and Families or designee made within twenty-four (24) hours. Such employee shall inform the Superintendent or his/her designee as soon as possible as to the nature of the further communication with the Commissioner or designee.
- (2) The employee shall also make an oral report as soon as practicable to the Building Principal or his/her designee, and/or the Superintendent or his/her designee. If the Building Principal is the alleged perpetrator of the abuse/neglect or sexual assault of a student, then the employee shall notify the Superintendent or his/her designee directly.
- (3) In cases involving suspected or believed abuse, neglect, or sexual assault of a student by a school employee, the Superintendent or his/her designee shall immediately notify the child's parent or guardian that such a report has been made.
- (4) Not later than forty-eight (48) hours after making an oral report, the employee shall submit a written or electronic report to the Commissioner of Children and Families or the Commissioner's designee containing all of the required information. The written or electronic report should be submitted in the manner prescribed by the Commission of Children and Families. When such report is submitted electronically, the employee shall respond to further inquiries from the Commissioner of Children and Families or designee made within twenty-four (24) hours. Such employee shall inform the Superintendent or his/her designee as soon as possible as to the nature of the further communication with the Commissioner or designee.
- (5) The employee shall immediately submit a copy of the written or electronic report to the Building Principal or his/her designee and to the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee.
- (6) If the report concerns suspected abuse, neglect, or sexual assault of a student by a school employee holding a certificate, authorization or permit issued by the State Department of Education, the Commissioner of Children and Families (or his/her designee) shall submit a copy of the written or electronic report to the Commissioner of Education (or his/her designee).

5. Reporting Procedures for Employees Other Than Statutory Mandated Reporters

The following procedures apply only to employees who are not statutory mandated reporters, as defined above.

- a) When an employee who is not a statutory mandated reporter and who, in the ordinary course of the person's employment or profession, has reasonable cause to suspect or believe that a child has been abused or neglected or placed at imminent risk of serious harm, or is a victim of sexual assault by a school employee, as described in Paragraph 3, above, the following steps shall be taken.
 - (1) The employee shall make an oral report as soon as practicable, but not later than twelve (12) hours after the employee has reasonable cause to suspect or believe that a child has been abused or neglected, placed at imminent risk of serious harm or is a victim of sexual assault by a school employee. Such oral report shall be made by telephone or in person to the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee, to be followed by an immediate written report to the Superintendent or his/her designee.
 - (2) If the Superintendent or his/her designee determines that there is reasonable cause to suspect or believe that a child has been abused or neglected or placed at imminent risk of serious harm or is a victim of sexual assault by school employee, he/she shall cause reports to be made in accordance with the procedures set forth for statutory mandated reporters.
- b) Nothing in this policy shall be construed to preclude an employee reporting suspected child abuse, neglect or sexual assault by a school employee from reporting the same directly to the Commissioner of Children and Families.

6. Contents of Reports

Any report made pursuant to this policy shall contain the following information, if known:

- a) The names and addresses of the child* and his/her parents or other person responsible for his/her care;
- b) the age of the child;
- c) the gender of the child;
- d) the nature and extent of the child's injury or injuries, maltreatment or neglect;

- e) the approximate date and time the injury or injuries, maltreatment or neglect occurred;
- f) information concerning any previous injury or injuries to, or maltreatment or neglect of the child or his/her siblings;
- g) the circumstances in which the injury or injuries, maltreatment or neglect came to be known to the reporter;
- h) the name of the person or persons suspected to be responsible for causing such injury or injuries, maltreatment or neglect;
- i) the reasons such person or persons are suspected of causing such injury or injuries, maltreatment or neglect;
- j) any information concerning any prior cases in which such person or persons have been suspected of causing an injury, maltreatment or neglect of a child; and
- k) whatever action, if any, was taken to treat, provide shelter or otherwise assist the child.

*For purposes of this Paragraph, the term "child" includes any victim of sexual assault by a school employee, as described in Paragraph 3, above.

7. Investigation of the Report

- a) The Superintendent or his/her designee shall thoroughly investigate reports of suspected abuse, neglect or sexual assault if/when such report involves an employee of the Board of Education or other individual under the control of the Board, provided such investigation does not impede an investigation by the Department of Children and Families ("DCF"). In all other cases, DCF shall be responsible for conducting the investigation with the cooperation and collaboration of the Board, as appropriate.
- b) Recognizing that DCF is the lead agency for the investigation of child abuse and neglect reports and reports of a student's sexual assault by school employees, the Superintendent's investigation shall permit and give priority to any investigation conducted by the Commissioner of Children and Families or the appropriate local law enforcement agency. The Superintendent shall conduct the District's investigation and take any disciplinary action, consistent with state law, upon notice from the Commissioner of Children and Families or the appropriate local law enforcement agency that the District's investigation will not interfere with

the investigation of the Commissioner of Children and Families or the local law enforcement agency.

- c) The Superintendent shall coordinate investigatory activities in order to minimize the number of interviews of any child or student victim of sexual assault and share information with other persons authorized to conduct an investigation of child abuse or neglect, as appropriate.
- d) Any person reporting child abuse or neglect or the sexual assault of a student by a school employee, or having any information relevant to alleged abuse or neglect or of the sexual assault of a student by a school employee, shall provide the Superintendent with all information related to the investigation that is in the possession or control of such person, except as expressly prohibited by state or federal law.
- e) When the school district is conducting an investigation involving suspected abuse or neglect or sexual assault of a student by an employee of the Board or other individual under the control of the Board, the Superintendent's investigation shall include an opportunity for the individual suspected of abuse, neglect or sexual assault to be heard with respect to the allegations contained within the report. During the course of such investigation, the Superintendent may suspend a Board employee with pay or may place the employee on administrative leave with pay, pending the outcome of the investigation. If the individual is one who provides services to or on behalf of students enrolled in the District, pursuant to a contract with the Board of Education, the Superintendent may suspend the provision of such services, and direct the individual to refrain from any contact with students enrolled in the District, pending the outcome of the investigation.

8. Evidence of Abuse, Neglect or Sexual Assault by a School Employee

- a) If, upon completion of the investigation by the Commissioner of Children and Families ("Commissioner"), the Superintendent has received a report from the Commissioner that he or she has reasonable cause to believe that (1) a child has been abused or neglected by a school employee, as defined above, and the Commissioner has recommended that such employee be placed on the Department of Children and Families child abuse and neglect registry, or (2) a student is a victim of sexual assault by a school employee, the Superintendent shall request (and the law provides) that DCF notify the Superintendent not later than five (5) working days after such finding, and provide the Superintendent with records, whether or not created by DCF, concerning such investigation. The Superintendent shall suspend such school employee. Such suspension shall be with pay and shall not result in the diminution or termination of benefits to such employee.

- b) Not later than seventy-two (72) hours after such suspension, the Superintendent shall notify the Board of Education and the Commissioner of Education, or the Commissioner of Education's representative, of the reasons for and the conditions of the suspension. The Superintendent shall disclose such records to the Commissioner of Education and the Board of Education or its attorney for purposes of review of employment status or the status of such employee's certificate, permit or authorization, if any.
- c) The suspension of a school employee employed in a position requiring a certificate shall remain in effect until the Superintendent and/or Board of Education acts pursuant to the provisions of Conn. Gen. Stat. §10-151. If the contract of employment of such certified school employee is terminated, or such certified school employee resigns such employment, the Superintendent shall notify the Commissioner of Education, or the Commissioner of Education's representative, within seventy-two (72) hours after such termination or resignation.
- d) The suspension of a school employee employed in a position requiring an authorization or permit shall remain in effect until the Superintendent and/or Board of Education acts pursuant to any applicable termination provisions. If the contract of employment of a school employee holding an authorization or permit from the State Department of Education is terminated, or such school employee resigns such employment, the Superintendent shall notify the Commissioner of Education, or the Commissioner of Education's representative, within seventy-two hours after such termination or resignation.
- e) Regardless of the outcome of any investigation by the Commissioner of Children and Families and/or the police, the Superintendent and/or the Board, as appropriate, may take disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment, in accordance with the provisions of any applicable statute, if the Superintendent's investigation produces evidence that a child has been abused or neglected by a school employee or that a student has been a victim of sexual assault by a school employee.
- f) The District shall not employ a person whose employment contract is terminated or who resigned from employment following a suspension pursuant to Paragraph 8(a) of this policy and Conn. Gen. Stat. § 17a-101i, if such person is convicted of a crime involving an act of child abuse or neglect or an act of sexual assault of a student, as described in Paragraph 3 of this policy.

9. Evidence of Abuse, Neglect or Sexual Assault by An Independent Contractor of the Board of Education

If the investigation by the Superintendent and/or the Commissioner of Children and Families produces evidence that a child has been abused or neglected, or a student has been sexually assaulted, by any individual who provides services to or on behalf of students enrolled in the District, pursuant to a contract with the Board, the Superintendent shall permanently suspend the provision of such services, and direct the individual to refrain from any contact with students enrolled in the District.

10. Delegation of Authority by Superintendent

The Superintendent may appoint a designee for the purposes of receiving and making reports, notifying and receiving notification, or investigating reports pursuant to this policy.

11. Confidential Rapid Response Team

The Superintendent shall establish a confidential rapid response team to coordinate with DCF to (1) ensure prompt reporting of suspected abuse or neglect or sexual assault of a student by a school employee, as described in Paragraph 3, above, and (2) provide immediate access to information and individuals relevant to the department's investigation. The confidential rapid response team shall consist of a teacher and the Superintendent, a local police officer and any other person the Board of Education, acting through its Superintendent, deems appropriate.

12. Disciplinary Action for Failure to Follow Policy

Except as provided in Section 14 below, any employee who fails to comply with the requirements of this policy shall be subject to discipline, up to and including termination of employment.

13. The District shall not hire any person whose employment contract was previously terminated by a board of education or who resigned from such employment, if such person has been convicted of a violation of Section 17a-101a of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, relating to mandatory reporting, when an allegation of abuse or neglect or sexual assault has been substantiated.

14. Non-Discrimination Policy/Prohibition Against Retaliation

The Board of Education expressly prohibits retaliation against individuals reporting child abuse or neglect or the sexual assault of a student by a school employee and shall not discharge or in any manner discriminate or retaliate against any employee who, in good faith makes a report pursuant to this policy, or testifies or is about to testify in any proceeding involving abuse or neglect or sexual assault by a school employee. The Board of Education also prohibits any employee from hindering or preventing or attempting to hinder or prevent any

employee from making a report pursuant to this policy or state law concerning suspected child abuse or neglect or the sexual assault of a student by a school employee or testifying in any proceeding involving child abuse or neglect or the sexual assault of a student by a school employee.

15. Distribution of Policy and Posting of Careline Information

This policy shall be distributed annually to all school employees employed by the Board. The Board shall document that all such school employees have received this written policy and completed the training and refresher training programs required by in Section 16, below. The Board shall post the Internet web site address and telephone number for the Department of Children and Families' Child Abuse and Neglect Careline in a conspicuous location frequented by students in each school under the jurisdiction of the Board.

16. Training

- a) All new school employees, as defined above, shall be required to complete an educational training program for the accurate and prompt identification and reporting of child abuse and neglect. Such training program shall be developed and approved by the Commissioner of Children and Families.
- b) All school employees, as defined above, shall take a refresher training course developed and approved by the Commissioner of Children and Families at least once every three years.
- c) The principal for each school shall annually certify to the Superintendent that each school employee, as defined above, working at such school, is in compliance with the training provisions in this policy and as required by state law. The Superintendent shall certify such compliance to the State Board of Education.

17. Records

- a) The Board shall maintain in a central location all records of allegations, investigations, and reports that a child has been abused or neglected by a school employee employed by the Board or that a student has been a victim of sexual assault by a school employee employed by the Board, as defined above, and conducted in accordance with this policy. Such records shall include any reports made to the Department of Children and Families. The State Department of Education shall have access to such records upon request.
- b) Notwithstanding the provisions of Conn. Gen. Stat. §10-151c, the Board shall provide the Commissioner of Children and Families, upon request and for the purposes of an investigation by the Commissioner of Children and Families of suspected child abuse or neglect by a teacher employed by

the Board, any records maintained or kept on file by the Board. Such records shall include, but not be limited to, supervisory records, reports of competence, personal character and efficiency maintained in such teacher's personnel file with reference to evaluation of performance as a professional employee of the Board, and records of the personal misconduct of such teacher. For purposes of this section, "teacher" includes each certified professional employee below the rank of superintendent employed by the Board in a position requiring a certificate issued by the State Board of Education.

18. Child Sexual Abuse and/or Sexual Assault Response Policy and Reporting Procedure

The Board has adopted a uniform child sexual abuse and/or sexual assault response policy and reporting procedure in connection with the implementation of its sexual assault and abuse prevention and awareness program, as outlined in Board Policy 5001, **Child Sexual Abuse and/or Sexual Assault Response Policy and Reporting Procedure**. Upon receipt of any report of child sexual abuse and/or sexual assault from any source, a school employee shall report such suspicion to the Safe School Climate Coordinator in addition to complying with his/her obligations under this Policy and the law regarding mandatory reporting of abuse, neglect and sexual assault.

Legal References:

Connecticut General Statutes:

Section 10-151

Section 17a-101 et seq.

Section 17a-101q, Statewide Sexual Abuse and Assault Awareness and Prevention Program

Section 17a-103

Section 46b-120

Section 53a-65

Public Act 18-17, "An Act Requiring Behavior Analysts to be Mandated Reporters of Suspect Child Abuse and Neglect"

Public Act 18-67, "An Act Concerning Minor Revisions to the Statutes of the Department of Children and Families and Establishing a Pilot Program to Permit Electronic Reporting by Mandated Reporters"

Public Act 18-57, "An Act Concerning Immunity from Civil or Criminal Liability for Persons Providing Medical Assistance or Intervention in a Child Abuse or Neglect Case"

ADOPTED: _____

REVISED: _____

10/5/2018

Appendix A

RELEVANT EXCERPTS OF STATUTORY DEFINITIONS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT AND RELATED TERMS COVERED BY MANDATORY REPORTING LAWS AND THIS POLICY

An employee of the Board of Education must make a report in accordance with this policy when the employee of the Board of Education in the ordinary course of such person's employment or profession has reasonable cause to suspect or believe that any person, regardless of age, who is being educated by the technical high school system or a local or regional board of education, other than as part of an adult education program, is a victim of the following sexual assault crimes, and the perpetrator is a school employee. The following are relevant excerpts of the sexual assault laws and related terms covered by mandatory reporting laws and this policy.

"Intimate Parts" (Conn. Gen. Stat. § 53a-65)

"Intimate parts" means the genital area or any substance emitted therefrom, groin, anus or any substance emitted therefrom, inner thighs, buttocks or breasts.

"Sexual Intercourse" (Conn. Gen. Stat. § 53a-65)

"Sexual intercourse" means vaginal intercourse, anal intercourse, fellatio or cunnilingus between persons regardless of sex. Its meaning is limited to persons not married to each other. Penetration, however slight, is sufficient to complete vaginal intercourse, anal intercourse or fellatio and does not require emission of semen. Penetration may be committed by an object manipulated by the actor into the genital or anal opening of the victim's body.

"Sexual Contact" (Conn. Gen. Stat. § 53a-65)

"Sexual contact" means any contact with the intimate parts of a person not married to the actor for the purpose of sexual gratification of the actor or for the purpose of degrading or humiliating such person or any contact of the intimate parts of the actor with a person not married to the actor for the purpose of sexual gratification of the actor or for the purpose of degrading or humiliating such person.

Sexual Assault in First Degree (Conn. Gen. Stat. § 53a-70)

A person is guilty of sexual assault in the first degree when such person (1) compels another person to engage in sexual intercourse by the use of force against such other person or a third person, or by the threat of use of force against such other person or against a third person which reasonably causes such person to fear physical injury to such person or a third person, or (2) engages in sexual intercourse with another person and such other person is under thirteen years of age and the actor is more than two years older than such person, or (3) commits sexual assault in the second degree as provided in

section 53a-71 and in the commission of such offense is aided by two or more other persons actually present, or (4) engages in sexual intercourse with another person and such other person is mentally incapacitated to the extent that such other person is unable to consent to such sexual intercourse.

Aggravated Sexual Assault in the First Degree (Conn. Gen. Stat. § 53a-70a)

A person is guilty of aggravated sexual assault in the first degree when such person commits sexual assault in the first degree as provided in section 53a-70 and in the commission of such offense (1) such person uses or is armed with and threatens the use of or displays or represents by such person's words or conduct that such person possesses a deadly weapon, (2) with intent to disfigure the victim seriously and permanently, or to destroy, amputate or disable permanently a member or organ of the victim's body, such person causes such injury to such victim, (3) under circumstances evincing an extreme indifference to human life such person recklessly engages in conduct which creates a risk of death to the victim, and thereby causes serious physical injury to such victim, or (4) such person is aided by two or more other persons actually present. No person shall be convicted of sexual assault in the first degree and aggravated sexual assault in the first degree upon the same transaction but such person may be charged and prosecuted for both such offenses upon the same information.

Sexual Assault in the Second Degree (Conn. Gen. Stat. § 53a-71)

A person is guilty of sexual assault in the second degree when such person engages in sexual intercourse with another person and: (1) Such other person is thirteen years of age or older but under sixteen years of age and the actor is more than three years older than such other person; or (2) such other person is impaired because of mental disability or disease to the extent that such other person is unable to consent to such sexual intercourse; or (3) such other person is physically helpless; or (4) such other person is less than eighteen years old and the actor is such person's guardian or otherwise responsible for the general supervision of such person's welfare; or (5) such other person is in custody of law or detained in a hospital or other institution and the actor has supervisory or disciplinary authority over such other person; or (6) the actor is a psychotherapist and such other person is (A) a patient of the actor and the sexual intercourse occurs during the psychotherapy session, (B) a patient or former patient of the actor and such patient or former patient is emotionally dependent upon the actor, or (C) a patient or former patient of the actor and the sexual intercourse occurs by means of therapeutic deception; or (7) the actor accomplishes the sexual intercourse by means of false representation that the sexual intercourse is for a bona fide medical purpose by a health care professional; or (8) the actor is a school employee and such other person is a student enrolled in a school in which the actor works or a school under the jurisdiction of the local or regional board of education which employs the actor; or (9) the actor is a coach in an athletic activity or a person who provides intensive, ongoing instruction and such other person is a recipient of coaching or instruction from the actor and (A) is a secondary school student and receives such coaching or instruction in a secondary school setting, or (B) is under eighteen years of age; or (10) the actor is twenty years of age or

older and stands in a position of power, authority or supervision over such other person by virtue of the actor's professional, legal, occupational or volunteer status and such other person's participation in a program or activity, and such other person is under eighteen years of age; or (11) such other person is placed or receiving services under the direction of the Commissioner of Developmental Services in any public or private facility or program and the actor has supervisory or disciplinary authority over such other person.

Sexual Assault in the Third Degree (Conn. Gen. Stat. § 53a-72a)

A person is guilty of sexual assault in the third degree when such person (1) compels another person to submit to sexual contact (A) by the use of force against such other person or a third person, or (B) by the threat of use of force against such other person or against a third person, which reasonably causes such other person to fear physical injury to himself or herself or a third person, or (2) engages in sexual intercourse with another person whom the actor knows to be related to him or her within any of the degrees of kindred specified in section 46b-21.

Sexual Assault in the Third Degree with a Firearm (Conn. Gen. Stat. § 53a-72b)

A person is guilty of sexual assault in the third degree with a firearm when such person commits sexual assault in the third degree as provided in section 53a-72a, and in the commission of such offense, such person uses or is armed with and threatens the use of or displays or represents by such person's words or conduct that such person possesses a pistol, revolver, machine gun, rifle, shotgun or other firearm. No person shall be convicted of sexual assault in the third degree and sexual assault in the third degree with a firearm upon the same transaction but such person may be charged and prosecuted for both such offenses upon the same information.

Sexual Assault in the Fourth Degree (Conn. Gen. Stat. § 53a-73a)

A person is guilty of sexual assault in the fourth degree when: (1) Such person subjects another person to sexual contact who is (A) under thirteen years of age and the actor is more than two years older than such other person, or (B) thirteen years of age or older but under fifteen years of age and the actor is more than three years older than such other person, or (C) mentally incapacitated or impaired because of mental disability or disease to the extent that such other person is unable to consent to such sexual contact, or (D) physically helpless, or (E) less than eighteen years old and the actor is such other person's guardian or otherwise responsible for the general supervision of such other person's welfare, or (F) in custody of law or detained in a hospital or other institution and the actor has supervisory or disciplinary authority over such other person; or (2) such person subjects another person to sexual contact without such other person's consent; or (3) such person engages in sexual contact with an animal or dead body; or (4) such person is a psychotherapist and subjects another person to sexual contact who is (A) a patient of the actor and the sexual contact occurs during the psychotherapy session, or (B) a patient or former patient of the actor and such patient or former patient is emotionally dependent upon the actor, or (C) a patient or former patient of the actor and the sexual contact occurs by means of therapeutic deception; or (5) such person subjects another person to

sexual contact and accomplishes the sexual contact by means of false representation that the sexual contact is for a bona fide medical purpose by a health care professional; or (6) such person is a school employee and subjects another person to sexual contact who is a student enrolled in a school in which the actor works or a school under the jurisdiction of the local or regional board of education which employs the actor; or (7) such person is a coach in an athletic activity or a person who provides intensive, ongoing instruction and subjects another person to sexual contact who is a recipient of coaching or instruction from the actor and (A) is a secondary school student and receives such coaching or instruction in a secondary school setting, or (B) is under eighteen years of age; or (8) such person subjects another person to sexual contact and (A) the actor is twenty years of age or older and stands in a position of power, authority or supervision over such other person by virtue of the actor's professional, legal, occupational or volunteer status and such other person's participation in a program or activity, and (B) such other person is under eighteen years of age; or (9) such person subjects another person to sexual contact who is placed or receiving services under the direction of the Commissioner of Developmental Services in any public or private facility or program and the actor has supervisory or disciplinary authority over such other person.

APPENDIX B

Operational Definitions of Child Abuse and Neglect

The purpose of this policy is to provide consistency for staff in defining and identifying operational definitions, evidence of abuse and/or neglect and examples of adverse impact indicators.

The following operational definitions are working definitions and examples of child abuse and neglect as used by the Connecticut Department of Children and Families.

For the purposes of these operational definitions,

- a person responsible for a child's health, welfare or care means:
 - the child's parent, guardian, foster parent, an employee of a public or private residential home, agency or institution or other person legally responsible under State law for the child's welfare in a residential setting; or any staff person providing out-of-home care, including center-based child day care, family day care, or group day care.
- a person given access to a child is a person who is permitted to have personal interaction with a child by the person responsible for the child's health, welfare or care or by a person entrusted with the care of a child for the purpose of education, child care, counseling, spiritual guidance, coaching, training, instruction, tutoring or mentoring.
- **Note:** Only a "child" as defined above may be classified as a victim of child abuse and/or neglect; only a "person responsible", "person given access", or "person entrusted" as defined above may be classified as a perpetrator of child abuse and/or neglect.
 - While only a child under eighteen may be a victim of child abuse or neglect, a report under mandatory reporting laws and this policy is required if an employee of the Board of Education in the ordinary course of such person's employment or profession has reasonable cause to suspect or believe that any person, regardless of age, who is being educated by the technical high school system or a local or regional board of education, other than as part of an adult education program, is a victim of sexual assault, as set forth in this policy, and the perpetrator is a school employee.

Physical Abuse

A child may be found to have been physically abused who:

has been inflicted with physical injury or injuries other than by accidental means,

is in a condition which is the result of maltreatment such as, but not limited to, malnutrition, sexual molestation, deprivation of necessities, emotional maltreatment or cruel punishment, and/or

has injuries at variance with the history given of them.

Evidence of physical abuse includes:

bruises, scratches, lacerations
burns, and/or scalds
reddening or blistering of the tissue through application of heat by fire, chemical substances, cigarettes, matches, electricity, scalding water, friction, etc.
injuries to bone, muscle, cartilage, ligaments:
fractures, dislocations, sprains, strains, displacements, hematomas, etc.
head injuries
internal injuries
death
misuse of medical treatments or therapies
malnutrition related to acts of commission or omission by an established caregiver resulting in a child's malnourished state that can be supported by professional medical opinion
deprivation of necessities acts of commission or omission by an established caregiver resulting in physical harm to child
cruel punishment.

Sexual Abuse/Exploitation Sexual Abuse/Exploitation

Sexual Abuse/Exploitation is any incident involving a child's non-accidental exposure to sexual behavior.

Evidence of sexual abuse includes, but is not limited to the following:

rape
penetration: digital, penile, or foreign objects
oral / genital contact
indecent exposure for the purpose of sexual gratification of the offender, or for purposes of shaming, humiliating, shocking or exerting control over the victim
incest
fondling, including kissing, for the purpose of sexual gratification of the offender, or for purposes of shaming, humiliating, shocking or exerting control over the victim
sexual exploitation, including possession, manufacture, or distribution of child pornography. online enticement of a child for sexual acts, child prostitution, child-sex tourism, unsolicited obscene material sent to a child, or misleading domain name likely to attract a child to an inappropriate website

coercing or forcing a child to participate in, or be negligently exposed to,
pornography and/or sexual behavior
disease or condition that arises from sexual transmission
other verbal, written or physical behavior not overtly sexual but likely designed to
“groom” a child for future sexual abuse.

Legal References: Federal Law 18 U.S.C. 2215 Sexual Exploitation of Children.

Emotional Maltreatment-Abuse

Emotional Maltreatment-Abuse is:

act(s), statement(s), or threat(s), which

has had, or is likely to have an adverse impact on the child; and/or

interferes with a child’s positive emotional development.

Evidence of emotional maltreatment-abuse includes, but is not limited to, the following:

rejecting;
degrading;
isolating and/or victimizing a child by means of cruel, unusual, or excessive methods
of discipline; and/or
exposing the child to brutal or intimidating acts or statements.

Indicators of Adverse Impact of emotional maltreatment-abuse may include, but are not limited to, the following:

depression;
withdrawal;
low self-esteem;
anxiety;
fear;
aggression/ passivity;
emotional instability;
sleep disturbances;
somatic complaints with no medical basis;
inappropriate behavior for age or development;
suicidal ideations or attempts;
extreme dependence;
academic regression;
and/or trust issues.

Physical Neglect

A child may be found neglected who:

has been abandoned;
is being denied proper care and attention physically, educationally, emotionally, or morally;
is being permitted to live under conditions, circumstances or associations injurious to his well-being; and/or
has been abused.

Evidence of physical neglect includes, but is not limited to:

inadequate food;
malnutrition;
inadequate clothing;
inadequate housing or shelter;
erratic, deviant, or impaired behavior by the person responsible for the child's health, welfare or care; by a person given access to the child; or by a person entrusted with the child's care which adversely impacts the child;
permitting the child to live under conditions, circumstances or associations injurious to his well-being including, but not limited to, the following:
 substance abuse by caregiver, which adversely impacts the child physically
 substance abuse by the mother of a newborn child and the newborn has a positive urine or meconium toxicology for drugs
 psychiatric problem of the caregiver which adversely impacts the child physically
 exposure to family violence which adversely impacts the child physically
 exposure to violent events, situations, or persons that would be reasonably judged to compromise a child's physical safety
 non-accidental, negligent exposure to drug trafficking and/or individuals engaged in the active abuse of illegal substances
 voluntarily and knowingly entrusting the care of a child to individuals who may be disqualified to provide safe care, e.g. persons who are subject to active protective or restraining orders; persons with past history of violent/drug/sex crimes; persons appearing on the Central Registry
 non-accidental or negligent exposure to pornography or sexual acts
 inability to consistently provide the minimum of child-caring tasks
 inability to provide or maintain a safe living environment
action/inaction resulting in death
abandonment
action/inaction resulting in the child's failure to thrive
transience
inadequate supervision:
 creating or allowing a circumstance in which a child is alone for an excessive period of time given the child's age and cognitive abilities

holding the child responsible for the care of siblings or others beyond the child's ability
failure to provide reasonable and proper supervision of a child given the child's age and cognitive abilities.

Note: Inadequate food, clothing, or shelter or transience finding must be related to caregiver acts of omission or commission and not simply a function of poverty alone.

Medical Neglect

Medical Neglect is the unreasonable delay, refusal or failure on the part of the person responsible for the child's health, welfare or care or the person entrusted with the child's care to seek, obtain, and/or maintain those services for necessary medical, dental or mental health care when such person knows, or should reasonably be expected to know, that such actions may have an adverse impact on the child.

Evidence of medical neglect includes, but is not limited to:

- frequently missed appointments, therapies or other necessary medical and/or mental health treatments;
- withholding or failing to obtain or maintain medically necessary treatment from a child with life-threatening, acute or chronic medical or mental health conditions;
- and/or
- withholding medically indicated treatment from disabled infants with life threatening conditions.

Note: Failure to provide the child with immunizations or routine well child care in and of itself does not constitute medical neglect.

Educational Neglect

Except as noted below, **Educational Neglect** occurs when, by action or inaction, the parent or person having control of a child five (5) years of age and older and under eighteen (18) years of age who is not a high school graduate

- fails to register the child in school
- fails to allow the child to attend school or receive home instruction in accordance with CONN. GEN. STAT. §10-184
- failure to take appropriate steps to ensure regular attendance at school if the child is registered.

Exceptions (in accordance with Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-184):

A parent or person having control of a child may exercise the option of not sending the child to school at age five (5) or age six (6) years by personally appearing at the school district office and signing an option form. In these cases, educational neglect

occurs if the parent or person having control of the child has registered the child at age five (5) or age (6) years and then does not allow the child to attend school or receive home instruction.

Note: Failure to sign a registration option form for such a child is not in and of itself educational neglect.

A parent or person having control of a child seventeen (17) years of age may consent to such child's withdrawal from school. Such parent or person shall personally appear at the school district office and sign a withdrawal form.

Emotional Neglect

Emotional Neglect is the denial of proper care and attention, or failure to respond, to a child's affective needs by the person responsible for the child's health, welfare or care; by the person given access to the child; or by the person entrusted with the child's care which has an adverse impact on the child or seriously interferes with a child's positive emotional development.

Evidence of emotional neglect includes, but is not limited to, the following:

- inappropriate expectations of the child given the child's developmental level;
- failure to provide the child with appropriate support, attention and affection;
- permitting the child to live under conditions, circumstances or associations; injurious to his well-being including, but not limited to, the following:
 - substance abuse by caregiver, which adversely impacts the child emotionally;
 - psychiatric problem of the caregiver, which adversely impacts the child emotionally;
 - and
 - exposure to family violence which adversely impacts the child emotionally.

Indicators may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- depression;
- withdrawal;
- low self-esteem;
- anxiety;
- fear;
- aggression/ passivity;
- emotional instability;
- sleep disturbances;
- somatic complaints with no medical basis;
- inappropriate behavior for age or development;
- suicidal ideations or attempts;
- extreme dependence;
- academic regression;
- trust issues.

Moral Neglect

Moral Neglect: Exposing, allowing, or encouraging the child to engage in illegal or reprehensible activities by the person responsible for the child's health, welfare or care or person given access or person entrusted with the child's care.

Evidence of Moral Neglect includes but is not limited to:

stealing;

using drugs and/or alcohol;

and involving a child in the commission of a crime, directly or by caregiver indifference.

Appendix C

INDICATORS OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

Indicators of Physical Abuse HISTORICAL

Delay in seeking appropriate care after injury.

No witnesses.

Inconsistent or changing descriptions of accident by child and/or parent.

Child's developmental level inconsistent with history.

History of prior "accidents".

Absence of parental concern.

Child is handicapped (physically, mentally, developmentally) or otherwise perceived as "different" by parent.

Unexplained school absenteeism.

History of precipitating crisis

PHYSICAL

Soft tissue injuries on face, lips, mouth, back, buttocks, thighs or large areas of the torso;

Clusters of skin lesions; regular patterns consistent with an implement;

Shape of lesions inconsistent with accidental bruise;

Bruises/welts in various stages of healing;

Burn pattern consistent with an implement on soles, palms, back, buttocks and genitalia; symmetrical and/or sharply demarcated edges;

Fractures/dislocations inconsistent with history;

Laceration of mouth, lips, gums or eyes;

Bald patches on scalp;

Abdominal swelling or vomiting;

Adult-size human bite mark(s);

Fading cutaneous lesions noted after weekends or absences;

Rope marks.

BEHAVIORAL

Wary of physical contact with adults;

Affection inappropriate for age

Extremes in behavior, aggressiveness/withdrawal;

Expresses fear of parents;

Reports injury by parent;

Reluctance to go home;

Feels responsible (punishment "deserved");

Poor self-esteem;

Clothing covers arms and legs even in hot weather.

Indicators of Sexual Abuse HISTORICAL

Vague somatic complaint;

Excessive school absences;

Inadequate supervision at home;

History of urinary tract infection or vaginitis;

Complaint of pain; genital, anal or lower back/abdominal;

Complaint of genital itching;

Any disclosure of sexual activity, even if contradictory.

PHYSICAL

Discomfort in walking, sitting;

Evidence of trauma or lesions in and around mouth;

Vaginal discharge/vaginitis;

Vaginal or rectal bleeding;

Bruises, swelling or lacerations around genitalia, inner thighs;

Dysuria;

Vulvitis;

Any other signs or symptoms of sexually transmitted disease;

Pregnancy.

BEHAVIORAL

Low self-esteem;

Change in eating pattern;

Unusual new fears;

Regressive behaviors;

Personality changes (hostile/aggressive or extreme compliance);

Depression;

Decline in school achievement;

Social withdrawal; poor peer relationship;

Indicates sophisticated or unusual sexual knowledge for age;

Seductive behavior, promiscuity or prostitution;

Substance abuse;

Suicide ideation or attempt;

Runaway.

Indicators of Emotional Abuse
HISTORICAL

Parent ignores/isolates/belittles/rejects/scapegoats child

Parent's expectations inappropriate to child's development

Prior episode(s) of physical abuse

Parent perceives child as "different"

PHYSICAL

(Frequently none);

Failure to thrive;

Speech disorder;

Lag in physical development;

Signs/symptoms of physical abuse.

BEHAVIORAL

Poor self-esteem

Regressive behavior (sucking, rocking, enuresis)

Sleep disorders

Adult behaviors (parenting sibling)

Antisocial behavior;

Emotional or cognitive developmental delay;

Extremes in behavior - overly aggressive/compliant;

Depression;

Suicide ideation/attempt.

Indicators of Physical Neglect

HISTORICAL

High rate of school absenteeism;

Frequent visits to school nurse with nonspecific complaints;

Inadequate supervision, especially for long periods and for dangerous activities;

Child frequently unattended; locked out of house;

Parental inattention to recommended medical care

No food intake for 24 hours;

Home substandard (no windows, doors, heat), dirty, infested, obvious hazards;

Family member addicted to drugs/alcohol.

PHYSICAL

Hunger, dehydration;

Poor personal hygiene, unkempt, dirty;

Dental cavities/poor oral hygiene;

Inappropriate clothing for weather/size of child, clothing dirty; wears same clothes day after day;

Constant fatigue or listlessness;

Unattended physical or health care needs;

Infestations;

Multiple skin lesions/sores from infection.

BEHAVIORAL

Comes to school early, leaves late;

Frequent sleeping in class;

Begging for/stealing food;

Adult behavior/maturity (parenting siblings);

Delinquent behaviors;

Drug/alcohol use/abuse.

PersonnelReports of Suspected Abuse or Neglect of Children
or Sexual Assault of Students by School Employees

Conn. Gen. Stat. Section 17a-101 et seq. requires school employees who have reasonable cause to suspect or believe (1) that any child under eighteen has been abused or neglected, has had a non-accidental physical injury, or injury which is at variance with the history given of such injury, or has been placed at imminent risk of serious harm, or (2) that any person who is being educated by the technical high school system or a local or regional board of education, other than as part of an adult education program, is the victim of sexual assault, and the perpetrator is a school employee, to report such suspicions to the appropriate authority. In furtherance of this statute and its purpose, it is the policy of the Board of Education to require ALL EMPLOYEES of the Board of Education to report suspected abuse and/or neglect, non-accidental physical injury, imminent risk of serious harm or sexual assault of a student by a school employee, in accordance with the procedures set forth below.

1. Scope of Policy

This policy applies not only to employees who are required by law to report suspected child abuse and/or neglect, non-accidental physical injury, imminent risk of serious harm, or sexual assault of a student by a school employee, but to ALL EMPLOYEES of the Board of Education.

2. Definitions

For the purposes of this policy:

"Abused" means that a child (a) has had physical injury or injuries inflicted upon him or her other than by accidental means, or (b) has injuries which are at variance with the history given of them, or (c) is in a condition which is the result of maltreatment, such as, but not limited to, malnutrition, sexual molestation or exploitation, deprivation of necessities, emotional maltreatment or cruel punishment.

"Neglected" means that a child (a) has been abandoned, or (b) is being denied proper care and attention, physically, educationally, emotionally or morally, or (c) is being permitted to live under conditions, circumstances or associations injurious to his well-being, or (d) has been abused.

"School employee" means (a) A teacher, substitute teacher, school administrator, school superintendent, guidance counselor, psychologist, social worker, nurse, physician, school paraprofessional or coach employed by the Board or who is working in a Board elementary, middle or high school; or (b) any other person who, in the performance of his or her duties, has regular contact with students and who provides services to or on behalf of students enrolled in the Norwich Public Schools, pursuant to a contract with the Board.

"Sexual assault" means, for the purposes of the mandatory reporting laws and this policy, a violation of Sections 53a-70, 53a-70a, 53a-71, 53a-72a, 53a-72b or 53a-73a of the Connecticut General Statutes. Please see Appendix A of this policy for the relevant

statutory definitions of sexual assault laws and related terms covered by the mandatory reporting laws and this policy.

"Statutory mandated reporter" means an individual required by Conn. Gen. Stat. Section 17a-101 et seq. to report suspected abuse and/or neglect of children or the sexual assault of a student by a school employee. In the public school context, the term "statutory mandated reporter" includes all school employees, as defined above, and any person who holds or is issued a coaching permit by the State Board of Education, is a coach of intramural or interscholastic athletics and is eighteen years of age or older.

3. What Must Be Reported

- a) A report must be made when any employee of the Board of Education in the ordinary course of such person's employment or profession has reasonable cause to suspect or believe that any child under the age of eighteen years:
 - i. has been abused or neglected;
 - ii. has had non-accidental physical injury, or injury, which is at variance with the history given for such injury, inflicted upon him/her;
 - iii. is placed at imminent risk of serious harm; or
- b) A report must be made when any employee of the Board of Education in the ordinary course of such person's employment or profession has reasonable cause to suspect or believe that any person, regardless of age, who is being educated by the technical high school system or a local or regional board of education, other than as part of an adult education program, is a victim of the following sexual assault crimes, and the perpetrator is a school employee:
 - i. sexual assault in first degree;
 - ii. aggravated sexual assault in the first degree;
 - iii. sexual assault in the second degree;
 - iv. sexual assault in the third degree;
 - v. sexual assault in the third degree with a firearm; or
 - vi. sexual assault in the fourth degree.

Please see Appendix A of this policy for relevant statutory definitions of sexual assault laws and related terms covered by the mandatory reporting laws and this policy.

- c) The suspicion or belief of a Board employee may be based on factors including, but not limited to, observations, allegations, facts or statements by a child or victim, as described above, or a third party. Such suspicion or belief does not require

certainty or probable cause.

4. Reporting Procedures for Statutory Mandated Reporters

The following procedures apply only to statutory mandated reporters, as defined above.

When an employee of the Board of Education who is a statutory mandated reporter and who, in the ordinary course of the person's employment, has reasonable cause to suspect or believe that a child has been abused or neglected or placed at imminent risk of serious harm, or is a victim of sexual assault by a school employee, as described in Paragraph 3, above, the following steps shall be taken:

- (1) The employee shall make an oral report as soon as practicable, but not later than twelve hours after having reasonable cause to suspect or believe that a child has been abused or neglected or placed at imminent risk of serious harm, or is a victim of sexual assault by a school employee. Such oral report shall be made by telephone or in person to the Commissioner of Children and Families or the local law enforcement agency. The Department of Children and Families has established a 24 hour Child Abuse and Neglect hotline at 1-800-842-8822 for the purpose of making such oral reports.
- (2) The employee shall also make an oral report as soon as practicable to the Building Principal or his/her designee, and/or the Superintendent or his/her designee. If the Building Principal is the alleged perpetrator of the abuse/neglect or sexual assault of a student, then the employee shall notify the Superintendent or his/her designee directly.
- (3) In cases involving suspected or believed abuse, neglect or sexual assault of a student by a school employee, the Superintendent or his/her designee shall immediately notify the child's parent or guardian that such a report has been made.
- (4) Not later than 48 hours after making an oral report, the employee shall submit a written report to the Commissioner of Children and Families or the Commissioner's designee containing all of the required information. The written report should be submitted on the DCF-136 form or any other form designated for that purpose.
- (5) The employee shall immediately submit a copy of the written report to the Building Principal or his/her designee and to the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee.
- (6) If the report concerns suspected abuse, neglect or sexual assault of a student by a school employee holding a certificate, authorization or permit issued by the State Department of Education, the Commissioner of Children and Families (or his/her designee) shall submit a copy of the written report to the Commissioner of Education (or his/her representative).

5. Reporting Procedures for Employees Other Than Statutory Mandated Reporters

The following procedures apply only to employees who are not statutory mandated reporters, as defined above.

- a) When an employee who is not a statutory mandated reporter and who, in the ordinary course of the person's employment or profession, has reasonable cause to suspect or believe that a child has been abused or neglected or placed at imminent risk of serious harm, or is the victim of sexual assault by a school employee, as described in Paragraph 3, above, the following steps shall be taken.
 - (1) The employee shall make an oral report as soon as practicable, but not later than twelve hours after the employee has reasonable cause to suspect or believe that a child has been abused or neglected or placed at imminent risk of serious harm or is a victim of sexual assault by a school employee. Such oral report shall be made by telephone or in person to the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee, to be followed by an immediate written report to the Superintendent or his/her designee.
 - (2) If the Superintendent or his/her designee determines that there is reasonable cause to suspect or believe that a child has been abused or neglected or placed at imminent risk of serious harm or is a victim of sexual assault by a school employee, he/she shall cause reports to be made in accordance with the procedures set forth for statutory mandated reporters.
- b) Nothing in this policy shall be construed to preclude an employee reporting suspected child abuse, neglect or sexual assault by a school employee from reporting the same directly to the Commissioner of Children and Families.

6. Contents of Reports

Any oral or written report made pursuant to this policy shall contain the following information, if known:

- a) The names and addresses of the child* and his/her parents or other person responsible for his/her care;
- b) the age of the child;
- c) the gender of the child;
- d) the nature and extent of the child's injury or injuries, maltreatment or neglect;
- e) the approximate date and time the injury or injuries, maltreatment or neglect occurred;
- f) information concerning any previous injury or injuries to, or maltreatment or neglect of the child or his/her siblings;

- g) the circumstances in which the injury or injuries, maltreatment or neglect came to be known to the reporter;
- h) the name of the person or persons suspected to be responsible for causing such injury or injuries, maltreatment or neglect; and
- i) the reasons such person or persons are suspected of causing such injury or injuries, maltreatment or neglect;
- j) any information concerning any prior cases in which such person or persons have been suspected of causing an injury, maltreatment or neglect of a child; and
- k) whatever action, if any, was taken to treat, provide shelter or otherwise assist the child.

*For purposes of this Paragraph, the term "child" includes any victim of sexual assault by a school employee, as described in Paragraph 3, above.

7. Investigation of the Report

- a) The Superintendent or his/her designee shall thoroughly investigate reports of suspected abuse, neglect or sexual assault if/when such report involves an employee of the Board of Education or other individual under the control of the Board, provided such investigation does not impede an investigation by the Department of Children and Families ("DCF"). In all other cases, DCF shall be responsible for conducting the investigation with the cooperation and collaboration of the Board, as appropriate.
- b) Recognizing that DCF is the lead agency for the investigation of child abuse and neglect reports and reports of a student's sexual assault by school employees, the Superintendent's investigation shall permit and give priority to any investigation conducted by the Commissioner of Children and Families or the appropriate local law enforcement agency. The Superintendent shall conduct the district's investigation and take any disciplinary action, consistent with state law, upon notice from the Commissioner of Children and Families or the appropriate local law enforcement agency that the district's investigation will not interfere with the investigation of the Commissioner of Children and Families or the local law enforcement agency.
- c) The Superintendent shall coordinate investigatory activities in order to minimize the number of interviews of any child or student victim of sexual assault and share information with other persons authorized to conduct an investigation of child abuse or neglect, as appropriate.
- d) Any person reporting child abuse or neglect or the sexual assault of a student by a school employee, or having any information relevant to alleged abuse or neglect or of the sexual assault of a student by a school employee, shall provide the Superintendent with all information related to the investigation that is in the possession or control of such person, except as expressly prohibited by state or federal law.

- e) When the school district is conducting an investigation involving suspected abuse or neglect or sexual assault of a student by an employee of the Board or other individual under the control of the Board, the Superintendent's investigation shall include an opportunity for the individual suspected of abuse or, neglect or sexual assault to be heard with respect to the allegations contained within the report. During the course of such investigation, the Superintendent may suspend a Board employee with pay or may place the employee on administrative leave with pay, pending the outcome of the investigation. If the individual is one who provides services to or on behalf of students enrolled in the Norwich Public Schools, pursuant to a contract with the Board of Education, the Superintendent may suspend the provision of such services, and direct the individual to refrain from any contact with students enrolled in the Norwich Public Schools, pending the outcome of the investigation.

8. Evidence of Abuse, Neglect or Sexual Assault by a School Employee

- a) If, upon completion of the investigation by the Commissioner of Children and Families ("Commissioner"), the Superintendent has received a report from the Commissioner that he or she has reasonable cause to believe that (1) a child has been abused or neglected by a school employee, as defined above, and the Commissioner has recommended that such employee be placed on the Department of Children and Families child abuse and neglect registry, or (2) a student is a victim of sexual assault by a school employee, the Superintendent shall request (and the law provides) that DCF notify the Superintendent not later than five (5) working days after such finding, and provide the Superintendent with records, whether or not created by DCF, concerning such investigation. The Superintendent shall suspend such school employee. Such suspension shall be with pay and shall not result in the diminution or termination of benefits to such employee.
- b) Not later than seventy-two (72) hours after such suspension, the Superintendent shall notify the Board of Education and the Commissioner of Education, or the Commissioner of Education's representative, of the reasons for and the conditions of the suspension. The Superintendent shall disclose such records to the Commissioner of Education and the Board of Education or its attorney for purposes of review of employment status or the status of such employee's certificate, permit or authorization, if any.
- c) The suspension of a school employee employed in a position requiring a certificate shall remain in effect until the Superintendent and/or Board of Education acts pursuant to the provisions of Conn. Gen. Stat. §10-151. If the contract of employment of such certified school employee is terminated, or such certified school employee resigns such employment, the Superintendent shall notify the Commissioner of Education, or the Commissioner of Education's representative, within seventy-two (72) hours after such termination or resignation.

- d) The suspension of a school employee employed in a position requiring an authorization or permit shall remain in effect until the Superintendent and/or Board of Education acts pursuant to any applicable termination provisions. If the contract of employment of a school employee holding an authorization or permit from the State Department of Education is terminated, or such school employee resigns such employment, the Superintendent shall notify the Commissioner of Education, or the Commissioner of Education's representative, within seventy-two hours after such termination or resignation.
- e) Regardless of the outcome of any investigation by the Commissioner of Children and Families and/or the police, the Superintendent and/or the Board, as appropriate, may take disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment, in accordance with the provisions of any applicable statute, if the Superintendent's investigation produces evidence that a child has been abused or neglected by a school employee or that a student has been a victim of sexual assault by a school employee.
- f) The Norwich Public Schools shall not employ a person whose employment contract is terminated or who resigned from employment following a suspension pursuant to Paragraph 8(a) of this policy and Conn. Gen. Stat. § 17a-101i, if such person is convicted of a crime involving an act of child abuse or neglect or an act of sexual assault of a student, as described in Paragraph 3 of this policy.

9. Evidence of Abuse, Neglect or Sexual Assault by An Independent Contractor of the Board of Education

If the investigation by the Superintendent and/or the Commissioner of Children and Families produces evidence that a child has been abused or neglected, or a student has been sexually assaulted, by any individual who provides services to or on behalf of students enrolled in the Norwich Public Schools, pursuant to a contract with the Board of Education, the Superintendent shall permanently suspend the provision of such services, and direct the individual to refrain from any contact with students enrolled in the Norwich Public Schools.

10. Delegation of Authority by Superintendent

The Superintendent may appoint a designee for the purposes of receiving and making reports, notifying and receiving notification, or investigation reports pursuant to this policy.

11. Confidential Rapid Response Team

No later than January 1, 2016, the Superintendent shall establish a confidential rapid response team to coordinate with DCF to (1) ensure prompt reporting of suspected abuse or neglect or sexual assault of a student by a school employee, as described in Paragraph 3, above, and (2) provide immediate access to information and individuals relevant to the department's investigation. The confidential rapid response team shall consist of a teacher and the Superintendent, a local police officer and any other person the Board of Education, acting through its Superintendent, deems appropriate.

12. Disciplinary Action for Failure to Follow Policy

Except as provided in Section 12 below, any employee who fails to comply with the requirements of this policy shall be subject to discipline, up to and including termination of employment.

13. The Norwich Public Schools shall not hire any person whose employment contract was previously terminated by a board of education or who resigned from such employment, if such person has been convicted of a violation of Section 17a-101a of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, relating to mandatory reporting, regardless of whether an allegation of abuse or neglect or sexual assault was substantiated.

14. Non-Discrimination Policy/Prohibition Against Retaliation

The Board of Education expressly prohibits retaliation against individuals reporting child abuse or neglect or the sexual assault of a student by a school employee and shall not discharge or in any manner discriminate or retaliate against any employee who, in good faith makes, or in good faith does not make, a report pursuant to this policy, or testifies or is about to testify in any proceeding involving abuse or neglect or sexual assault by a school employee. The Board of Education also prohibits any employee from hindering or preventing or attempting to hinder or prevent any employee from making a report pursuant to this policy or state law concerning suspected child abuse or neglect or the sexual assault of a student by a school employee or testifying in any proceeding involving child abuse or neglect or the sexual assault of a student by a school employee.

15. Distribution of Policy

This policy shall be distributed annually to all school employees employed by the Board. The Board shall document that all such school employees have received this written policy and completed the training and refresher training programs required by in Section 14, below.

16. Training

- a) All new school employees, as defined above, shall be required to complete an educational training program for the accurate and prompt identification and reporting of child abuse and neglect. Such training programs shall be developed and approved by the Commissioner of Children and Families.
- b) All school employees, as defined above, shall retake a refresher training course developed and approved by the Commissioner of Children and Families at least once every three years.
- c) The principal for each school shall annually certify to the Superintendent that each school employee, as defined above, working at such school, is in compliance with the training provisions in this policy and as required by state law. The Superintendent shall certify such compliance to the State Board of Education.

17. Records

- a) The Board shall maintain in a central location all records of allegations, investigations and reports that a child has been abused or neglected by a school employee, as defined above, employed by the Board or that a student has been a victim of sexual assault by a school employee employed by the Board, as defined above, and conducted in accordance with this policy. Such records shall include any reports made to the Department of Children and Families. The State Department of Education shall have access to such records upon request.
- b) Notwithstanding the provisions of Conn. Gen. Stat. §10-151c, the Board shall provide the Commissioner of Children and Families, upon request and for the purposes of an investigation by the Commissioner of Children and Families of suspected child abuse or neglect by a teacher employed by the Board, any records maintained or kept on file by the Board. Such records shall include, but not be limited to, supervisory records, reports of competence, personal character and efficiency maintained in such teacher's personnel file with reference to evaluation of performance as a professional employee of the Board, and records of the personal misconduct of such teacher. For purposes of this section, "teacher" includes each certified professional employee below the rank of superintendent employed by the Board in a position requiring a certificate issued by the State Board of Education.

Legal References:

Connecticut General Statutes:

Section 10-151

Section 17a-101 et seq.

Section 17a-103

Section 53a-65

Public Act 15-205, "An Act Protecting School Children"

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NORWICH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Norwich, CT

Appendix A

RELEVANT EXCERPTS OF STATUTORY DEFINITIONS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT AND RELATED TERMS COVERED BY MANDATORY REPORTING LAWS AND THIS POLICY

An employee of the Board of Education must make a report in accordance with this policy when the employee of the Board of Education in the ordinary course of such person's employment or profession has reasonable cause to suspect or believe that any person, regardless of age, who is being educated by the technical high school system or a local or regional board of education, other than as part of an adult education program, is a victim of the following sexual assault crimes, and the perpetrator is a school employee. The following are relevant excerpts of the sexual assault laws and related terms covered by mandatory reporting laws and this policy.

"Intimate Parts" (Conn. Gen. Stat. § 53a-65)

"Intimate parts" means the genital area or any substance emitted therefrom, groin, anus or any substance emitted therefrom, inner thighs, buttocks or breasts.

"Sexual Intercourse" (Conn. Gen. Stat. § 53a-65)

"Sexual intercourse" means vaginal intercourse, anal intercourse, fellatio or cunnilingus between persons regardless of sex. Its meaning is limited to persons not married to each other. Penetration, however slight, is sufficient to complete vaginal intercourse, anal intercourse or fellatio and does not require emission of semen. Penetration may be committed by an object manipulated by the actor into the genital or anal opening of the victim's body.

"Sexual Contact" (Conn. Gen. Stat. § 53a-65)

"Sexual contact" means any contact with the intimate parts of a person not married to the actor for the purpose of sexual gratification of the actor or for the purpose of degrading or humiliating such person or any contact of the intimate parts of the actor with a person not married to the actor for the purpose of sexual gratification of the actor or for the purpose of degrading or humiliating such person.

Sexual Assault in First Degree (Conn. Gen. Stat. § 53a-70)

A person is guilty of sexual assault in the first degree when such person (1) compels another person to engage in sexual intercourse by the use of force against such other person or a third person, or by the threat of use of force against such other person or against a third person which reasonably causes such person to fear physical injury to such person or a third person, or (2) engages in sexual intercourse with another person and such other person is under thirteen years of age and the actor is more than two years older than such person, or (3) commits sexual assault in the second degree as provided in section 53a-71 and in the commission of such offense is aided by two or more other persons actually present, or (4) engages in sexual intercourse with another person and such other person is mentally incapacitated to the extent that such other person is unable to consent to such sexual intercourse.

Aggravated Sexual Assault in the First Degree (Conn. Gen. Stat. § 53a-70a)

A person is guilty of aggravated sexual assault in the first degree when such person commits sexual assault in the first degree as provided in section 53a-70 and in the commission of such offense (1) such person uses or is armed with and threatens the use of or displays or represents by such person's words or conduct that such person possesses a deadly weapon, (2) with intent to disfigure the victim seriously and permanently, or to destroy, amputate or disable permanently a member or organ of the victim's body, such

person causes such injury to such victim, (3) under circumstances evincing an extreme indifference to human life such person recklessly engages in conduct which creates a risk of death to the victim, and thereby causes serious physical injury to such victim, or (4) such person is aided by two or more other persons actually present. No person shall be convicted of sexual assault in the first degree and aggravated sexual assault in the first degree upon the same transaction but such person may be charged and prosecuted for both such offenses upon the same information.

Sexual Assault in the Second Degree (Conn. Gen. Stat. § 53a-71)

A person is guilty of sexual assault in the second degree when such person engages in sexual intercourse with another person and: (1) Such other person is thirteen years of age or older but under sixteen years of age and the actor is more than three years older than such other person; or (2) such other person is impaired because of mental disability or disease to the extent that such other person is unable to consent to such sexual intercourse; or (3) such other person is physically helpless; or (4) such other person is less than eighteen years old and the actor is such person's guardian or otherwise responsible for the general supervision of such person's welfare; or (5) such other person is in custody of law or detained in a hospital or other institution and the actor has supervisory or disciplinary authority over such other person; or (6) the actor is a psychotherapist and such other person is (A) a patient of the actor and the sexual intercourse occurs during the psychotherapy session, (B) a patient or former patient of the actor and such patient or former patient is emotionally dependent upon the actor, or (C) a patient or former patient of the actor and the sexual intercourse occurs by means of therapeutic deception; or (7) the actor accomplishes the sexual intercourse by means of false representation that the sexual intercourse is for a bona fide medical purpose by a health care professional; or (8) the actor is a school employee and such other person is a student enrolled in a school in which the actor works or a school under the jurisdiction of the local or regional board of education which employs the actor; or (9) the actor is a coach in an athletic activity or a person who provides intensive, ongoing instruction and such other person is a recipient of coaching or instruction from the actor and (A) is a secondary school student and receives such coaching or instruction in a secondary school setting, or (B) is under eighteen years of age; or (10) the actor is twenty years of age or older and stands in a position of power, authority or supervision over such other person by virtue of the actor's professional, legal, occupational or volunteer status and such other person's participation in a program or activity, and such other person is under eighteen years of age; or (11) such other person is placed or receiving services under the direction of the Commissioner of Developmental Services in any public or private facility or program and the actor has supervisory or disciplinary authority over such other person.

Sexual Assault in the Third Degree (Conn. Gen. Stat. § 53a-72a)

A person is guilty of sexual assault in the third degree when such person (1) compels another person to submit to sexual contact (A) by the use of force against such other person or a third person, or (B) by the threat of use of force against such other person or against a third person, which reasonably causes such other person to fear physical injury to himself or herself or a third person, or (2) engages in sexual intercourse with another person whom the actor knows to be related to him or her within any of the degrees of kindred specified in section 46b-21.

Sexual Assault in the Third Degree with a Firearm (Conn. Gen. Stat. § 53a-72b)

A person is guilty of sexual assault in the third degree with a firearm when such person commits sexual assault in the third degree as provided in section 53a-72a, and in the commission of such offense, such person uses or is armed with and threatens the use of or displays or represents by such person's words or conduct that such person possesses a pistol, revolver, machine gun, rifle, shotgun or other firearm. No person shall be convicted of sexual assault in the third degree and sexual assault in the third degree with a firearm upon the same transaction but such person may be charged and prosecuted for both such offenses upon the same information.

Sexual Assault in the Fourth Degree (Conn. Gen. Stat. § 53a-73a)

A person is guilty of sexual assault in the fourth degree when: (1) Such person subjects another person to sexual contact who is (A) under thirteen years of age and the actor is more than two years older than such other person, or (B) thirteen years of age or older but under fifteen years of age and the actor is more than three years older than such other person, or (C) mentally incapacitated or impaired because of mental disability or disease to the extent that such other person is unable to consent to such sexual contact, or (D) physically helpless, or (E) less than eighteen years old and the actor is such other person's guardian or otherwise responsible for the general supervision of such other person's welfare, or (F) in custody of law or detained in a hospital or other institution and the actor has supervisory or disciplinary authority over such other person; or (2) such person subjects another person to sexual contact without such other person's consent; or (3) such person engages in sexual contact with an animal or dead body; or (4) such person is a psychotherapist and subjects another person to sexual contact who is (A) a patient of the actor and the sexual contact occurs during the psychotherapy session, or (B) a patient or former patient of the actor and such patient or former patient is emotionally dependent upon the actor, or (C) a patient or former patient of the actor and the sexual contact occurs by means of therapeutic deception; or (5) such person subjects another person to sexual contact and accomplishes the sexual contact by means of false representation that the sexual contact is for a bona fide medical purpose by a health care professional; or (6) such person is a school employee and subjects another person to sexual contact who is a student enrolled in a school in which the actor works or a school under the jurisdiction of the local or regional board of education which employs the actor; or (7) such person is a coach in an athletic activity or a person who provides intensive, ongoing instruction and subjects another person to sexual contact who is a recipient of coaching or instruction from the actor and (A) is a secondary school student and receives such coaching or instruction in a secondary school setting, or (B) is under eighteen years of age; or (8) such person subjects another person to sexual contact and (A) the actor is twenty years of age or older and stands in a position of power, authority or supervision over such other person by virtue of the actor's professional, legal, occupational or volunteer status and such other person's participation in a program or activity, and (B) such other person is under eighteen years of age; or (9) such person subjects another person to sexual contact who is placed or receiving services under the direction of the Commissioner of Developmental Services in any public or private facility or program and the actor has supervisory or disciplinary authority over such other person.

APPENDIX B

Operational Definitions of Child Abuse and Neglect

The purpose of this policy is to provide consistency for staff in defining and identifying operational definitions, evidence of abuse and/or neglect and examples of adverse impact indicators.

The following operational definitions are working definitions and examples of child abuse and neglect as used by the Connecticut Department of Children and Families.

For the purposes of these operational definitions,

- a person responsible for a child's health, welfare or care means:
the child's parent, guardian, foster parent, an employee of a public or private residential home, agency or institution or other person legally responsible under State law for the child's welfare in a residential setting; or any staff person providing out-of-home care, including center-based child day care, family day care, or group day care.
- a person given access to a child is a person who is permitted to have personal interaction with a child by the person responsible for the child's health, welfare or care or by a person entrusted with the care of a child for the purpose of education, child care, counseling, spiritual guidance, coaching, training, instruction, tutoring or mentoring.
- **Note:** Only a "child" as defined above may be classified as a victim of child abuse and/or neglect; only a "person responsible", "person given access", or "person entrusted" as defined above may be classified as a perpetrator of child abuse and/or neglect.
While only a child under eighteen may be a victim of child abuse or neglect, a report under mandatory reporting laws and this policy is required if an employee of the Board of Education in the ordinary course of such person's employment or profession has reasonable cause to suspect or believe that any person, regardless of age, who is being educated by the technical high school system or a local or regional board of education, other than as part of an adult education program, is a victim of sexual assault, as set forth in this policy, and the perpetrator is a school employee.

Physical Abuse

A child may be found to have been physically abused who:

has been inflicted with physical injury or injuries other than by accidental means,

is in a condition which is the result of maltreatment such as, but not limited to, malnutrition, sexual molestation, deprivation of necessities, emotional maltreatment or cruel punishment, and/or

has injuries at variance with the history given of them.

Evidence of physical abuse includes:

bruises, scratches, lacerations
burns, and/or scalds
reddening or blistering of the tissue through application of heat by fire, chemical substances, cigarettes, matches, electricity, scalding water, friction, etc.
injuries to bone, muscle, cartilage, ligaments:
fractures, dislocations, sprains, strains, displacements, hematomas, etc.
head injuries
internal injuries

death
misuse of medical treatments or therapies
malnutrition related to acts of commission or omission by an established caregiver
resulting in a child's malnourished state that can be supported by professional medical
opinion
deprivation of necessities acts of commission or omission by an established caregiver
resulting in physical harm to child
cruel punishment.

Sexual Abuse/Exploitation Sexual Abuse/Exploitation

Sexual Abuse/Exploitation is any incident involving a child's non-accidental exposure to sexual behavior.

Evidence of sexual abuse includes, but is not limited to the following:

rape
penetration: digital, penile, or foreign objects
oral / genital contact
indecent exposure for the purpose of sexual gratification of the offender, or for purposes
of shaming, humiliating, shocking or exerting control over the victim
incest
fondling, including kissing, for the purpose of sexual gratification of the offender, or for
purposes of shaming, humiliating, shocking or exerting control over the victim
sexual exploitation, including possession, manufacture, or distribution of child
pornography. online enticement of a child for sexual acts, child prostitution, child-sex
tourism, unsolicited obscene material sent to a child, or misleading domain name likely to
attract a child to an inappropriate website
coercing or forcing a child to participate in, or be negligently exposed to, pornography
and/or sexual behavior
disease or condition that arises from sexual transmission
other verbal, written or physical behavior not overtly sexual but likely designed to
"groom" a child for future sexual abuse.

Legal References: Federal Law 18 U.S.C. 2215 Sexual Exploitation of Children.

Emotional Maltreatment-Abuse

Emotional Maltreatment-Abuse is:

act(s), statement(s), or threat(s), which
has had, or is likely to have an adverse impact on the child; and/or
interferes with a child's positive emotional development.

Evidence of emotional maltreatment-abuse includes, but is not limited to, the following:

rejecting;
degrading;
isolating and/or victimizing a child by means of cruel, unusual, or excessive methods of discipline; and/or
exposing the child to brutal or intimidating acts or statements.

Indicators of Adverse Impact of emotional maltreatment-abuse may include, but are not limited to, the following:

depression;
withdrawal;
low self-esteem;

anxiety;
fear;
aggression/ passivity;
emotional instability;
sleep disturbances;
somatic complaints with no medical basis;
inappropriate behavior for age or development;
suicidal ideations or attempts;
extreme dependence;
academic regression;
and/or trust issues.

Physical Neglect

A child may be found neglected who:

has been abandoned;
is being denied proper care and attention physically, educationally, emotionally, or morally;
is being permitted to live under conditions, circumstances or associations injurious to his well-being;
and/or
has been abused.

Evidence of physical neglect includes, but is not limited to:

inadequate food;
malnutrition;
inadequate clothing;
inadequate housing or shelter;
erratic, deviant, or impaired behavior by the person responsible for the child's health, welfare or care; by a person given access to the child; or by a person entrusted with the child's care which adversely impacts the child;
permitting the child to live under conditions, circumstances or associations injurious to his well-being including, but not limited to, the following:
 substance abuse by caregiver, which adversely impacts the child physically
 substance abuse by the mother of a newborn child and the newborn has a positive urine or meconium toxicology for drugs
 psychiatric problem of the caregiver which adversely impacts the child physically
 exposure to family violence which adversely impacts the child physically
 exposure to violent events, situations, or persons that would be reasonably judged to compromise a child's physical safety
 non-accidental, negligent exposure to drug trafficking and/or individuals engaged in the active abuse of illegal substances
 voluntarily and knowingly entrusting the care of a child to individuals who may be disqualified to provide safe care, e.g. persons who are subject to active protective or restraining orders; persons with past history of violent/drug/sex crimes; persons appearing on the Central Registry
 non-accidental or negligent exposure to pornography or sexual acts
 inability to consistently provide the minimum of child-caring tasks
 inability to provide or maintain a safe living environment
action/inaction resulting in death
abandonment
action/inaction resulting in the child's failure to thrive
transience
inadequate supervision:
 creating or allowing a circumstance in which a child is alone for an excessive period of time given the child's age and cognitive abilities

holding the child responsible for the care of siblings or others beyond the child's ability
failure to provide reasonable and proper supervision of a child given the child's age and cognitive abilities.

Note: Inadequate food, clothing, or shelter or transience finding must be related to caregiver acts of omission or commission and not simply a function of poverty alone.

Medical Neglect

Medical Neglect is the unreasonable delay, refusal or failure on the part of the person responsible for the child's health, welfare or care or the person entrusted with the child's care to seek, obtain, and/or maintain those services for necessary medical, dental or mental health care when such person knows, or should reasonably be expected to know, that such actions may have an adverse impact on the child.

Evidence of medical neglect includes, but is not limited to:

frequently missed appointments, therapies or other necessary medical and/or mental health treatments; withholding or failing to obtain or maintain medically necessary treatment from a child with life-threatening, acute or chronic medical or mental health conditions; and/or withholding medically indicated treatment from disabled infants with life threatening conditions.

Note: Failure to provide the child with immunizations or routine well child care in and of itself does not constitute medical neglect.

Educational Neglect

Except as noted below, **Educational Neglect** occurs when, by action or inaction, the parent or person having control of a child five (5) years of age and older and under eighteen (18) years of age who is not a high school graduate

fails to register the child in school
fails to allow the child to attend school or receive home instruction in accordance with CONN. GEN. STAT. §10-184
failure to take appropriate steps to ensure regular attendance at school if the child is registered.

Exceptions (in accordance with Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-184):

A parent or person having control of a child may exercise the option of not sending the child to school at age five (5) or age six (6) years by personally appearing at the school district office and signing an option form. In these cases, educational neglect occurs if the parent or person having control of the child has registered the child at age five (5) or age (6) years and then does not allow the child to attend school or receive home instruction.

Note: Failure to sign a registration option form for such a child is not in and of itself educational neglect.

A parent or person having control of a child seventeen (17) years of age may consent to such child's withdrawal from school. Such parent or person shall personally appear at the school district office and sign a withdrawal form.

Emotional Neglect

Emotional Neglect is the denial of proper care and attention, or failure to respond, to a child's affective needs by the person responsible for the child's health, welfare or care; by the person given access to the child; or by the person entrusted with the child's care which has an adverse impact on the child or seriously interferes with a child's positive emotional development.

Evidence of emotional neglect includes, but is not limited to, the following:

inappropriate expectations of the child given the child's developmental level;
failure to provide the child with appropriate support, attention and affection;
permitting the child to live under conditions, circumstances or associations; injurious to his well-being including, but not limited to, the following:

substance abuse by caregiver, which adversely impacts the child emotionally;
psychiatric problem of the caregiver, which adversely impacts the child emotionally;
and exposure to family violence which adversely impacts the child emotionally.

Indicators may include, but are not limited to, the following:

depression;
withdrawal;
low self-esteem;
anxiety;
fear;
aggression/ passivity;
emotional instability;
sleep disturbances;
somatic complaints with no medical basis;
inappropriate behavior for age or development;
suicidal ideations or attempts;
extreme dependence;
academic regression;
trust issues.

Moral Neglect

Moral Neglect: Exposing, allowing, or encouraging the child to engage in illegal or reprehensible activities by the person responsible for the child's health, welfare or care or person given access or person entrusted with the child's care.

Evidence of Moral Neglect includes but is not limited to:

stealing;
using drugs and/or alcohol;
and involving a child in the commission of a crime, directly or by caregiver indifference.

Appendix C

INDICATORS OF CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT

Indicators of Physical Abuse HISTORICAL

- Delay in seeking appropriate care after injury.
- No witnesses.
- Inconsistent or changing descriptions of accident by child and/or parent.
- Child's developmental level inconsistent with history.
- History of prior "accidents".
- Absence of parental concern.
- Child is handicapped (physically, mentally, developmentally) or otherwise perceived as "different" by parent.
- Unexplained school absenteeism.
- History of precipitating crisis

PHYSICAL

- Soft tissue injuries on face, lips, mouth, back, buttocks, thighs or large areas of the torso;
- Clusters of skin lesions; regular patterns consistent with an implement;
- Shape of lesions inconsistent with accidental bruise;
- Bruises/welts in various stages of healing;
- Burn pattern consistent with an implement on soles, palms, back, buttocks and genitalia; symmetrical and/or sharply demarcated edges;
- Fractures/dislocations inconsistent with history;
- Laceration of mouth, lips, gums or eyes;
- Bald patches on scalp;
- Abdominal swelling or vomiting;
- Adult-size human bite mark(s);
- Fading cutaneous lesions noted after weekends or absences;
- Rope marks.

BEHAVIORAL

- Wary of physical contact with adults;
- Affection inappropriate for age Extremes in behavior, aggressiveness/withdrawal;
- Expresses fear of parents;
- Reports injury by parent;
- Reluctance to go home;
- Feels responsible (punishment "deserved");
- Poor self-esteem;
- Clothing covers arms and legs even in hot weather.

Indicators of Sexual Abuse HISTORICAL

- Vague somatic complaint;
- Excessive school absences;

- Inadequate supervision at home;
- History of urinary tract infection or vaginitis;
- Complaint of pain; genital, anal or lower back/abdominal;
- Complaint of genital itching;
- Any disclosure of sexual activity, even if contradictory.

PHYSICAL

- Discomfort in walking, sitting;
- Evidence of trauma or lesions in and around mouth;
- Vaginal discharge/vaginitis;
- Vaginal or rectal bleeding;
- Bruises, swelling or lacerations around genitalia, inner thighs;
- Dysuria;
- Vulvitis;
- Any other signs or symptoms of sexually transmitted disease;
- Pregnancy.

BEHAVIORAL

- Low self-esteem;
- Change in eating pattern;
- Unusual new fears;
- Regressive behaviors;
- Personality changes (hostile/aggressive or extreme compliance);
- Depression;
- Decline in school achievement;
- Social withdrawal; poor peer relationship;
- Indicates sophisticated or unusual sexual knowledge for age;
- Seductive behavior, promiscuity or prostitution;
- Substance abuse;
- Suicide ideation or attempt;
- Runaway.

Indicators of Emotional Abuse

HISTORICAL

- Parent ignores/isolates/belittles/rejects/scapegoats child
- Parent's expectations inappropriate to child's development
- Prior episode(s) of physical abuse
- Parent perceives child as "different"

PHYSICAL

- (Frequently none);
- Failure to thrive;
- Speech disorder;
- Lag in physical development;
- Signs/symptoms of physical abuse.

BEHAVIORAL

- Poor self-esteem
- Regressive behavior (sucking, rocking, enuresis)
- Sleep disorders
- Adult behaviors (parenting sibling)
- Antisocial behavior;
- Emotional or cognitive developmental delay;
- Extremes in behavior - overly aggressive/compliant;
- Depression;
- Suicide ideation/attempt.

Indicators of Physical Neglect

HISTORICAL

- High rate of school absenteeism;
- Frequent visits to school nurse with nonspecific complaints;
- Inadequate supervision, especially for long periods and for dangerous activities;
- Child frequently unattended; locked out of house;
- Parental inattention to recommended medical care
- No food intake for 24 hours;
- Home substandard (no windows, doors, heat), dirty, infested, obvious hazards;
- Family member addicted to drugs/alcohol.

PHYSICAL

- Hunger, dehydration;
- Poor personal hygiene, unkempt, dirty;
- Dental cavities/poor oral hygiene;
- Inappropriate clothing for weather/size of child, clothing dirty; wears same clothes day after day;
- Constant fatigue or listlessness;
- Unattended physical or health care needs;
- Infestations;
- **Multiple skin lesions/sores from infection.**

BEHAVIORAL

- Comes to school early, leaves late;
- Frequent sleeping in class;
- Begging for/stealing food;
- Adult behavior/maturity (parenting siblings);
- Delinquent behaviors;
- Drug/alcohol use/abuse.

**Series 4000
Personnel
4119.5**

**REPORTS OF SUSPECTED ABUSE OR NEGLECT OF ADULTS WITH AN
INTELLECTUAL DISABILITY OR AUTISM SPECTRUM DISORDER**

Section 46a-11b of the Connecticut General Statutes requires that certain school personnel report any suspected abuse or neglect of persons between eighteen (18) and sixty (60) years of age who: 1) have an intellectual disability or 2) receive funding or services from the Department of Social Services' ("DSS") Division of Autism Spectrum Disorder Services. In furtherance of this statute and its purpose, it is the policy of the Norwich Board of Education to require ALL EMPLOYEES of the Board of Education to comply with the following procedures in the event that, in the ordinary course of their employment or profession, they have reasonable cause to suspect that a person with an intellectual disability or an individual receiving funding or services from DSS' Division of Autism Spectrum Disorder Services between eighteen (18) and sixty (60) years of age has been abused or neglected.

1. Scope of Policy

This policy applies not only to employees who are required by law to report suspected abuse and/or neglect of adults with intellectual disabilities, but also to ALL EMPLOYEES of the Board of Education.

2. Definitions

For the purposes of this policy:

"Abuse" means the willful infliction of physical pain or injury or the willful deprivation by a caretaker of services which are necessary to the person's health or safety.

"Neglect" means a situation where a person with an intellectual disability either is living alone and is not able to provide for himself or herself the services which are necessary to maintain his or her physical and mental health, or is not receiving such necessary services from the caretaker.

"Statutory Mandated Reporter" means an individual required by Conn. Gen. Stat. Section 46a-11b to report suspected abuse and/or neglect of adults with intellectual disabilities. In the public school context, the term "statutory mandated reporter" includes teachers, school administrators, school guidance counselors, paraprofessionals, licensed behavior analysts, registered or licensed practical

nurses, psychologists, social workers, licensed or certified substance abuse counselors, mental health professionals, physical therapists, occupational therapists, dental hygienists, speech pathologists, and licensed professional counselors.

3. Reporting Procedures for Statutory Mandated Reporters

If a statutory mandated reporter has reasonable cause to suspect or believe that any person with an intellectual disability, or any individual who receives funding or services from DSS' Division of Autism Spectrum Disorder Services, between eighteen (18) and sixty (60) years of age has been abused or neglected, the mandated reporter shall, as soon as practicable, but not later than forty-eight (48) hours after having reasonable cause to suspect abuse or neglect, make an oral report to:

Abuse Investigation Division
Department of Developmental Services ("DDS")
460 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, Connecticut 06106
Telephone: 1-844-878-8923

An unsuccessful attempt to make an initial report to DDS on the weekend, holiday, or after business hours shall not be construed as a violation of this policy or applicable law if the mandatory reporter makes reasonable attempts to make such report as soon as practicable after the initial attempt. For purposes of this policy, "reasonable attempts" means documented efforts to contact DDS by phone, electronic mail or in person.

The statutory mandated reporter shall also immediately notify the Superintendent.

Such initial oral report shall be followed by a written report to the Abuse Investigation Division of DDS not later than five calendar days after the initial oral report was made, and a copy of any written report shall be given to the Superintendent.

4. Reporting Procedures for Non-Statutory Mandated Reporters

The following procedures apply only to employees who are not statutory mandated reporters, as set forth above.

- a) If an employee who is not a statutory mandated reporter has reasonable cause to suspect that any person with an intellectual disability, or any individual who receives funding or services from the DSS' Division of Autism Spectrum Disorder Services, between eighteen (18) and sixty (60) years of age has been abused or neglected, the following steps shall be taken.

- (1) The employee shall as soon as practicable, but not later than forty-eight (48) hours after having reasonable cause to suspect abuse or neglect, make an oral report by telephone or in person to the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee, to be followed by an immediate written report to the Superintendent or his/her designee.
 - (2) If the Superintendent or his/her designee determines that there is reasonable cause to suspect or believe that any person with an intellectual disability, or any individual who receives funding or services from the DSS' Division of Autism Spectrum Disorder Services, between eighteen (18) and sixty (60) years has been abused or neglected, the Superintendent or designee shall cause reports to be made in accordance with the procedures set forth for statutory mandated reporters, set forth above.
- b) Nothing in this policy shall be construed to preclude an employee from reporting suspected abuse and/or neglect of adults with intellectual disabilities, or any individual who receives funding or services from the DSS' Division of Autism Spectrum Disorder Services, directly to the Abuse Investigation Division of DDS.

5. Contents of Report

Any oral or written report made pursuant to this policy shall contain the following information, if known:

- a) the name and address of the allegedly abused or neglected person;
- b) a statement from the reporter indicating a belief that the person is intellectually disabled or receives funding or services from the DSS' Division of Autism Spectrum Disorder Services, together with information indicating that the person is unable to protect himself or herself from abuse or neglect;
- c) information concerning the nature and extent of the abuse or neglect; and,
- d) any additional information that the reporter believes would be helpful in investigating the report or in protecting the person with an intellectual disability or who receives funding or services from the DSS' Division of Autism Spectrum Disorder Services.

6. Investigation of the Report

If the suspected abuser is a school employee, the Superintendent shall thoroughly investigate the report, and shall, to the extent feasible, endeavor to coordinate any such investigation with the investigation conducted by the Abuse Investigation Division of DDS.

The Superintendent's investigation shall include an opportunity for the suspected abuser to be heard with respect to the allegations contained within the report. During the course of an investigation of suspected abuse by a school employee, the Superintendent may suspend the employee with pay or may place the employee on administrative leave with pay, pending the outcome of the investigation.

If the investigation by the Superintendent and/or the Abuse Investigation Division of DDS produces evidence that a person with an intellectual disability, or any individual who receives funding or services from the DSS' Division of Autism Spectrum Disorder Services, has been abused by a school employee, the Superintendent and/or the Board, as appropriate, may take disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment.

7. Delegation of Authority by Superintendent

The Superintendent may appoint a designee for the purposes of receiving and making reports, notifying and receiving notification, or investigating reports pursuant to this policy.

8. Disciplinary Action for Failure to Follow Policy

Any employee who fails to comply with the requirements of this policy shall be subject to discipline, up to and including termination of employment.

9. Non-discrimination Policy

The Board of Education shall not discharge or in any manner discriminate or retaliate against any employee who, in good faith, makes a report pursuant to this policy, or testifies or is about to testify in any proceeding involving abuse or neglect.

Legal References:

Connecticut General Statutes:

Section 46a-11a

Section 46a-11b et seq.

Public Act 18-96, "An Act Concerning Reports of Abuse or Neglect of Persons with Intellectual Disability or Autism Spectrum Disorder"

Series 5000

Students

5001

CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE AND ASSAULT POLICY AND REPORTING PROCEDURE

The Norwich Board of Education has adopted a uniform child sexual abuse and/or sexual assault response policy and reporting procedure in connection with the implementation of its sexual assault and abuse prevention and awareness program.

I. Procedures for Reporting of Child Sexual Abuse and Sexual Assault

- A. Parents (or guardians) of students may file a written report of suspected child sexual abuse and/or sexual assault pertaining to any student enrolled in the Norwich Public Schools. The written report of suspected child sexual abuse and/or sexual assault shall be reasonably specific as to the basis for the report, including the time and place of the suspected abuse and/or sexual assault, the number of incidents, the victim of the child sexual abuse and/or sexual assault, and the names of potential witnesses or others with pertinent information. Such written reports may be filed with any building or central office administrator. All reports shall be forwarded to the Safe School Climate Specialist for the school in which the student is enrolled. The Safe School Climate Specialist or designee shall cause such reports to be reviewed and actions taken consistent with this policy.
- B. Any adult affiliated with the school community may file a written report of suspected child sexual abuse and/or sexual assault pertaining to any student enrolled in the Norwich Public Schools. The written report of suspected child sexual abuse and/or sexual assault shall be reasonably specific as to the basis for the report, including the time and place of the suspected abuse and/or sexual assault, the number of incidents, the victim of the child sexual abuse and/or sexual assault, and the names of potential witnesses or others with pertinent information. Such written reports may be filed with any building or central office administrator. All reports shall be forwarded to the Safe School Climate Specialist for the school in which the student is enrolled. The Safe School Climate Specialist or designee shall cause such reports to be reviewed and actions taken consistent with this policy.
- C. Students may make written or verbal reports of child sexual abuse and/or sexual assault to any school employee. All reports shall be forwarded to the Safe School Climate Specialist for the school in which the student is enrolled. The Safe School Climate Specialist or designee shall cause such reports to be reviewed and actions taken consistent with this policy.

- D. Upon receipt of any report of child sexual abuse and/or sexual assault from any source, a school employee shall report such suspicion to the appropriate authority in accordance with Board Policy 4119, pertaining to **REPORTS OF SUSPECTED ABUSE OR NEGLECT OF CHILDREN OR SEXUAL ASSAULT OF STUDENTS BY SCHOOL EMPLOYEES**.

II. Procedures for Review of Reports of Child Sexual Abuse and/or Assault

- A. The Safe School Climate Specialist or designee for the school in which the student is enrolled shall be responsible for reviewing any reports of suspected child sexual abuse and/or sexual assault. In the event that the suspected child sexual abuse and/or sexual assault has not yet been reported to the appropriate authority in accordance with Board Policy 4119, pertaining to **REPORTS OF SUSPECTED ABUSE OR NEGLECT OF CHILDREN OR SEXUAL ASSAULT OF STUDENTS BY SCHOOL EMPLOYEES**, the Safe School Climate Specialist or designee shall promptly cause such a report to be made.
- B. If/when such report alleges that an employee of the Board of Education or other individual under the control of the Board is the perpetrator of child sexual abuse and/or sexual assault, the Safe School Climate Specialist or designee shall immediately notify the Superintendent of Schools, who shall cause such report to be investigated in accordance with Board Policy 4119, pertaining to **REPORTS OF SUSPECTED ABUSE OR NEGLECT OF CHILDREN OR SEXUAL ASSAULT OF STUDENTS BY SCHOOL EMPLOYEES**.
- C. The Safe School Climate Specialist or designee shall also promptly notify the parents or guardians of the student about whom a report of suspected child sexual abuse and/or sexual assault has been made. The notification requirement shall not apply if a parent or guardian is the individual suspected of perpetrating the child sexual abuse and/or sexual assault. The Safe School Climate Specialist or designee shall offer to meet with the parents or guardians of the student about whom a report of suspected child sexual abuse and/or sexual assault has been made, in order to discuss the district's review and support procedures, including but not limited to: 1) actions that child victims of sexual abuse and/or sexual assault and their families may take to obtain assistance, 2) intervention and counseling options for child victims of sexual abuse and/or sexual assault, and 3) access to educational resources to enable child victims of sexual abuse and/or sexual assault to succeed in school. If either a Department of Children and Families ("DCF") investigation or a police investigation is pending pertaining to the report of suspected child sexual abuse and/or sexual assault, the Safe School Climate Specialist or designee shall obtain the permission of DCF and/or the police department conducting the investigation prior to informing the parents/guardians of the report.

- D. In the event that the report of suspected child sexual abuse and/or sexual assault alleges that another student enrolled in the Norwich Public Schools is the perpetrator of the sexual abuse and/or sexual assault, the Safe School Climate Specialist or designee shall also take appropriate action to investigate or cause such a report to be investigated, and appropriate remedial actions taken, in accordance with Board Policy 4119 pertaining to **REPORTS OF SUSPECTED ABUSE OR NEGLECT OF CHILDREN OR SEXUAL ASSAULT OF STUDENTS BY SCHOOL EMPLOYEES**, Board Policy 5131.8, pertaining to **Bullying Prevention and Intervention**, and Board Policy 5145.5, **Sex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment**.
- E. The Safe School Climate Specialist or designee shall develop a student support plan for any who has been a victim of child sexual abuse and/or sexual assault. The report of suspected sexual abuse and/or assault need not be verified prior to the implementation of a support plan. The elements of the support plan shall be determined in the discretion of the Safe School Climate Specialist or designee, and shall be designed to support the student victim's ability to access the school environment.

III. Support Strategies

- A. Child sexual abuse and/or sexual assault can take many forms and can vary dramatically in the nature of the offense and the impact the behavior may have on the victim and other students. Accordingly, there is no one prescribed response to child sexual abuse and/or sexual assault.
- B. The following sets forth possible interventions and supports which may be utilized to support individual student victims of child sexual abuse and/or sexual assault:
 - 1. Referral to a school counselor, psychologist or other appropriate social or mental health service.
 - 2. Encouragement of the student victim to seek help when feeling overwhelmed or anxious in the school environment.
 - 3. Facilitated peer support groups.
 - 4. Designation of a specific adult in the school setting for the student victim to seek out for assistance.
 - 5. Periodic follow-up by the Safe School Climate Specialist and/or Title IX Coordinator with the victim of sexual abuse and assault.

- C. The following sets forth possible interventions and supports which may be utilized systemically as prevention and intervention strategies pertaining to child sexual abuse and/or sexual assault:
1. School rules prohibiting sexual assault and establishing appropriate consequences for those who engage in such acts.
 2. School-wide training related to prevention and identification of, and response to, child sexual abuse and/or sexual assault.
 3. Age-appropriate educational materials designed for children in grades kindergarten to twelve, inclusive, regarding child sexual abuse and sexual assault awareness and prevention that will include information pertaining to, and support for, disclosures of sexual abuse and sexual assault, including but not limited to:
 - (a) the skills to recognize child sexual abuse and sexual assault, boundary violations and unwanted forms of touching and contact, and the ways offenders groom or desensitize victims; and
 - (b) strategies to promote disclosure, reduce self-blame and mobilize bystanders.
 4. Promotion of parent involvement in child sexual abuse and sexual assault prevention and awareness through individual or team participation in meetings, trainings and individual interventions.
 5. Respectful and supportive responses to disclosures of child sexual abuse and/or sexual assault by students.
 6. Use of peers to help ameliorate the plight of victims and include them in group activities.
 7. Continuing awareness and involvement on the part of students, school employees and parents with regards to prevention and intervention strategies.

IV. Safe School Climate Specialists

The Safe School Climate Specialists for the Norwich Public Schools are listed on the district and school website. The Title IX Coordinator for the Norwich Board of Education is the Assistant Superintendent, whose office is located at 90 Town Street and whose telephone number is 860-823-6284.

V. Community Resources

The Board of Education recognizes that prevention of child sexual abuse and sexual assault requires a community approach. Supports for victims and families will include both school and community sources. The national, state and local resources below may be accessed by families at any time, without the need to involve school personnel.

A. National Resources:

National Center for Missing & Exploited Children Resource Center

<http://www.missingkids.com/Publications>

699 Prince Street, Alexandria, Virginia 22314-3175

24-hour call center: 1-800-843-5678

- Online resource center contains publications on child safety and abuse prevention, child sexual exploitation, and missing children.

National Children's Advocacy Center

www.nationalcac.org

210 Pratt Ave., Huntsville, Alabama 35801

Telephone: (256) 533-5437

National Child Traumatic Stress Network

www.nctsn.org

General information on childhood trauma, including information on child sexual abuse.

- NCCTS — Duke University
1121 West Chapel Hill Street Suite 201
Durham, NC 27701
Telephone: (919) 682-1552

National Sexual Violence Resource Center (Includes Multilingual Access)

<http://www.nsvrc.org/projects/multilingual-access/multilingual-access>

123 North Enola Drive

Enola, PA 17025

Toll Free Telephone: 877-739-3895

Darkness to Light

<http://www.d2l.org>

Grassroots national non-profit organization to educate adults to prevent, recognize and react responsibly to child sexual abuse.

1064 Gardner Road, Suite 210

Charleston, SC 29407

National Helpline: (866) FOR-LIGHT

Administrative Office: (843) 965-5444

B. Statewide Resources:

Department of Children and Families

<http://www.ct.gov/dcf/site/default.asp>

Connecticut agency responsible for protecting children who are abused or neglected

505 Hudson Street

Hartford, Connecticut 06106

Child Abuse and Neglect Careline: 1-800-842-2288

Telephone, Central Office: (860) 550-6300

- FAQs About Reporting Suspected Abuse and Neglect:

<http://www.ct.gov/dcf/cwp/view.asp?a=2534&Q=314388&dcfNav=|>

The Connecticut Alliance to End Sexual Violence

<http://EndSexualViolenceCT.org/>

Telephone: (860) 282-9881

Statewide coalition of community-based sexual assault crisis service programs working to end sexual violence through victim assistance, public policy advocacy, and prevention education training. Each member center provides free and confidential 24/7 hotline services in English and Spanish, individual crisis counseling, support groups, accompaniment and support in hospitals, police stations, and courts, referral information, and other services to anyone in need.

- *To find a Connecticut Alliance to End Sexual Violence member program please visit:* <http://endsexualviolencect.org/who-we-are/our-members/>

Connecticut Children's Alliance

www.ctchildrensalliance.org

75 Charter Oak Ave Suite 1-309

Hartford, Connecticut 06106

Phone: (860) 610-6041

CCA is a statewide coalition of Child Advocacy Centers and Multidisciplinary Teams.

Connecticut Network of Care

<http://connecticut.networkofcare.org>

Connecticut Network of Care is an online information portal listing programs and support groups for sexual assault and abuse in Connecticut.

Legal References:

Conn. Gen. Stat s. 17a-101q, Statewide Sexual Abuse and Assault Awareness and Prevention Program`

ADOPTED: _____

REVISED: _____

**Series 5000
Students 5121**

NON-DISCRIMINATION (STUDENTS)

The Board of Education complies with all applicable federal, state and local laws prohibiting the exclusion of any person from any of its educational programs or activities, or the denial to any person of the benefits of any of its educational programs or activities because of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, age, disability (including pregnancy), veteran status or gender identity or expression, subject to the conditions and limitations established by law.

It is the policy of the Board that any form of discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, age, disability (including pregnancy), veteran status, gender identity or expression, or any other basis prohibited by state or federal law is prohibited, whether by students, Board employees or third parties subject to the control of the Board. The Board's prohibition of discrimination or harassment in its educational programs or activities expressly extends to academic, nonacademic and extracurricular activities, including athletics. It is also the policy of the Board to provide for the prompt and equitable resolution of complaints alleging any discrimination on the basis of protected characteristics such as race, color, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, disability (including pregnancy), veteran status or gender identity or expression.

For the purposes of this policy, "veteran" means any person honorably discharged from, or released under honorable conditions from active service in, the United States Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard and Air Force and any reserve component thereof, including the Connecticut National Guard.

For the purposes of this policy, "gender identity or expression" means a person's gender-related identity, appearance or behavior, whether or not that gender-related identity, appearance or behavior is different from that traditionally associated with the person's physiology or assigned sex at birth, which gender-related identity can be shown by providing evidence including, but not limited to, medical history, care or treatment of the gender-related identity, consistent and uniform assertion of the gender-related identity or any other evidence that the gender-related identity is sincerely held, part of a person's core identity or not being asserted for an improper purpose.

Any student and/or parent/guardian wishing to file a complaint regarding discrimination may obtain a copy of the Board's complaint procedures and complaint form which are included in the Board's Administrative Regulations Regarding Non-Discrimination/Students. These regulations accompany Board Policy #5121 and are

available online on our district website or upon request from the main office of any district school.

If a complaint involves allegations of discrimination or harassment based on reasons such as gender/sex or disability, such complaints will be handled under other appropriate policies (e.g., Policy #5145.5, Students/Sex Discrimination and Harassment; Policy #5145.6 (a), Section 504/ADA).

Any student and/or parent/guardian also may file a complaint with the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education ("OCR"):

Office for Civil Rights, Boston Office
U.S. Department of Education
8th Floor
5 Post Office Square
Boston, MA 02109-3921
(617) 289-0111
<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/howto.html>

Any student and/or parent/guardian may also file a complaint with the Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities:

Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities
450 Columbus Blvd.
Hartford, CT 06103-1835
(800-477-5737)

Anyone who has questions or concerns about this policy, or would like a copy of the Board's complaint procedures or complaint forms related to claims of discrimination, may contact:

**Assistant Superintendent, 90 Town Street, Norwich, CT 06360
(860) 823-6284**

Anyone who has questions or concerns about the Board's policies regarding discrimination on the basis of gender/sex may contact the Board's Title IX Coordinator:

**Assistant Superintendent, 90 Town Street, Norwich, CT 06360
(860) 823-6284**

Anyone who has questions or concerns about the Board's policies regarding discrimination on the basis of disability may contact the Board's Section 504/ADA Coordinator:

**Director of Student Services and Special Education, 90 Town Street,
Norwich, CT 06360
(860) 823-6284**

Legal References:

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. § 1681, et seq.

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. § 2000d, et seq.

Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. § 12101, et seq.

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. § 794, et seq.

Connecticut General Statutes § 10-15c, § 46a-58, and § 46a-81a, et seq.

Connecticut General Statutes § 1-1n, "Gender Identity or Expression"
defined

Public Act 17-127, An Act Concerning Discriminatory Practices Against
Veterans, Leaves of Absence for National Guard Members, Application
for Certain Medicaid Programs, and Disclosure of Certain Records to
Federal Military Law Enforcement.

ADOPTED: _____

REVISED: _____

10/2017

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS REGARDING DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINTS (STUDENTS)

It is the policy of the Board of Education that any form of discrimination or harassment on the basis of protected characteristics such as race, color, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, disability (including pregnancy), veteran status or gender identity or expression is forbidden, whether by students, Board employees or third parties subject to the control of the Board. Students, Board employees and third parties are expected to adhere to a standard of conduct that is respectful of the rights of all members of the school community.

It is also the policy of the Board to provide for the prompt and equitable resolution of complaints alleging any discrimination on the basis of protected characteristics such as race, color, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, disability (including pregnancy), veteran status or gender identity or expression.

Any student and/or parent/guardian wishing to file a complaint regarding discrimination may obtain a copy of the Board's complaint procedures and complaint form which are included in the Board's Administrative Regulations Regarding Non-Discrimination/Students. These regulations accompany Board Policy #5121 and are available online on our district website or upon request from the main office of any district school.

If a complaint involves allegations of discrimination or harassment based on reasons such as gender/sex or disability, such complaints will be handled under other appropriate policies (e.g., Policy #5145.5, Students/Sex Discrimination and Harassment; Policy #5145.6 (a), Section 504/ADA).

All other complaints by a student or parents/guardians alleging discrimination against a student on the basis of the protected characteristics listed herein should file a written complaint with the Safe School Climate Specialist or the School Principal or his/her designee.

Preferably, complaints should be filed within thirty (30) days of the alleged occurrence. Timely reporting of complaints facilitates the investigation and resolution of such complaints. The district will investigate such complaints promptly and equitably, and will take corrective action when allegations are verified.

The district will not tolerate any reprisals or retaliation that occur as a result of the good faith reporting of charges of harassment or discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, disability (including pregnancy), veteran status or gender identity or expression. Any such reprisals or retaliation will result in disciplinary action against the retaliator, and other corrective actions as appropriate.

The school district will periodically provide staff development for district administrators and periodically distribute this Policy and the implementing Administrative Regulations to staff and students in an effort to maintain an environment free of harassment and discrimination.

Complaint Procedure

As soon as a student feels that he or she has been subjected to discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, color, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, disability (including pregnancy), veteran status or gender identity or expression, he/she should make a written complaint to Safe School Climate Specialist or to the building principal, or his/her designee. The student will be provided a copy of the Board's policy and regulation and made aware of his or her rights.

The complaint should state the:

- A. Name of the complainant,
- B. Date of the complaint,
- C. Date(s) of the alleged harassment/discrimination,
- D. Name(s) of the harasser(s) or discriminator(s),
- E. Location where such harassment/discrimination occurred,
- F. Names of any witness(es) to the harassment/discrimination,
- G. Detailed statement of the circumstances constituting the alleged harassment/discrimination; and
- H. Proposed remedy.

Any student who makes an oral complaint of harassment or discrimination to any of the above-mentioned personnel will be provided a copy of this regulation and will be requested to make a written complaint pursuant to the above procedure. If a student (or individual acting on behalf of the student) is unable to make a written complaint, the administrator receiving the oral complaint will either reduce the complaint to writing or assist the student (individual acting on behalf of the student) in completing the written complaint form.

All complaints are to be forwarded immediately to the Superintendent or his/her designee. Upon receipt of a complaint alleging harassment or discrimination under this complaint procedure, the Superintendent shall designate a district or school administrator to promptly investigate the complaint. During the course of the investigation, the investigator shall interview or consult with all individuals reasonably believed to have

relevant information, including the complainant, the alleged harasser/discriminator and any witnesses to the conduct. Complaints will be investigated promptly within the timeframes identified below. Timeframes may be extended as needed given the complexity of the investigation, availability of individuals with relevant information and other extenuating circumstances. Confidentiality will be maintained by all persons involved in the investigation to the extent possible, as determined by the investigator.

Upon receipt of a written complaint of discrimination, the investigator should:

1. offer to meet with the complainant (and respondent, if applicable) within ten (10) business days (provided that such timeframe may be reasonably extended based on the availability of necessary witnesses and/or participants during periods of time when school is not in session) to discuss the nature of the complaint, identify individuals the complainant believes has relevant information, and obtain any relevant documents the complainant may have;
2. provide the complainant (and respondent, if applicable) with a copy of the Board's non-discrimination policy and accompanying regulations;
3. investigate the factual basis of the complaint, including, as applicable, conducting interviews with individuals deemed relevant to the complaint;
4. conduct an investigation that is adequate, reliable, and impartial. Investigate the factual basis for the complaint, including conducting interviews with individuals with information and review of documents relevant to the complaint;
5. maintain confidentiality to the extent practicable throughout the investigative process, in accordance with state and federal law;
6. communicate the outcome of the investigation in writing to the complainant (and respondent, if applicable) (to the extent permitted by state and federal confidentiality requirements), within thirty (30) business days (provided that such timeframe may be extended by fifteen (15) business days during periods of time when school is in session or reasonably extended based on the availability of necessary witnesses and/or participants during periods of time when school is not in session) from the date the complaint was received by the Superintendent's office. The complainant (and respondent, if applicable) shall be notified of any extension of the investigation timeline. The written notice shall include a finding whether the complaint was substantiated and if so, shall identify, to the extent possible, how the district will remedy the discrimination or harassment, adhering to the requirements of state and federal law;
7. if a complaint is made during summer recess, the complaint will be reviewed and addressed as quickly as possible given the availability of staff and/or other individuals who may have information relevant to the complaint. If fixed

timeframes cannot be met, the complainant (and respondent, if applicable) will receive notice and interim measures may be implemented as necessary (see subparagraph 6);

8. whenever allegations are verified, ensure that appropriate corrective action is taken (including, but not limited to, disciplinary action) aimed at preventing the recurrence of the harassment or discrimination. Corrective action should include steps to avoid continuing discrimination;
9. if the complainant (and/or respondent, if applicable) is not satisfied with the findings and conclusions of the investigation, the complainant (and/or respondent, if applicable) may present the complaint and written outcome to the Superintendent within thirty (30) calendar days of receiving the findings. Upon review of a written request from the complainant (and/or respondent, if applicable), the Superintendent shall review the investigative results of the investigator and determine if further action and/or investigation is warranted. Such action may include consultation with the investigator and complainant (and/or respondent, if applicable), a meeting with appropriate individuals to attempt to resolve the complaint, or a decision affirming or overruling the investigator's conclusions or findings. The Superintendent shall provide written notice to the complainant (and respondent, if applicable) of the proposed actions within fifteen (15) business days (provided that such timeframe may be reasonably extended based on the availability of necessary witnesses and/or participants during periods of time when school is not in session) following the receipt of the written request for review.

Any student and/or parent/guardian also may file a complaint with the Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education ("OCR"):

Office for Civil Rights, Boston Office
U.S. Department of Education
8th Floor
5 Post Office Square
Boston, MA 02109-3921
(617) 289-0111
<http://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ocr/docs/howto.html>

Any student and/or parent/guardian may also file a complaint with the Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities:

Connecticut Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities
450 Columbus Blvd.
Hartford, CT 06103-1835
(800-477-5737)

Anyone who has questions or concerns about this policy, or would like a copy of the Board's complaint procedures or complaint forms related to claims of discrimination, may contact:

**Assistant Superintendent, 90 Town Street, Norwich, CT 06360
(860) 823-6284**

Anyone who has questions or concerns about the Board's policies regarding discrimination on the basis of gender/sex may contact the Board's Title IX Coordinator:

**Assistant Superintendent, 90 Town Street, Norwich, CT 06360
(860) 823-6284**

Anyone who has questions or concerns about the Board's policies regarding discrimination on the basis of disability may contact the Board's Section 504/ADA Coordinator:

**Director of Student Services and Special Education, 90 Town Street,
Norwich, CT 06360
(860) 823-6284**

DISCRIMINATION COMPLAINT FORM
(For complaints based on Race, Color, Religion, Age, Sex, Marital Status, Sexual Orientation, National Origin, Ancestry, Disability (including Pregnancy), Veteran Status or Gender Identity or Expression)

Name of the complainant _____

Date of the complaint _____

Date of the alleged discrimination/harassment _____

Name or names of the discriminator(s) or harasser(s) _____

Location where such discrimination/harassment occurred _____

Name(s) of any witness(es) to the discrimination/harassment _____

Detailed statement of the circumstances constituting the alleged discrimination or harassment _____

Proposed remedy _____

Non-Discrimination-Students

The Board of Education complies with all applicable federal, state and local laws prohibiting the exclusion of any person from any of its educational programs or activities, or the denial to any person of the benefits of any of its educational programs or activities because of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, age, disability (including pregnancy), or gender identity or expression, subject to the conditions and limitations established by law.

It is the policy of the Board that any form of discrimination or harassment on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, age, disability (including pregnancy), gender identity or expression, or any other basis prohibited by state or federal law is prohibited, whether by students, Board employees or third parties subject to the control of the Board. The Board's prohibition of discrimination or harassment in its educational programs or activities expressly extends to academic, nonacademic and extracurricular activities, including athletics. It is also the policy of the Board to provide for the prompt and equitable resolution of complaints alleging any discrimination on the basis of protected characteristics such as race, color, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, marital status, national origin, disability (including pregnancy), gender identity or expression.

For the purposes of this policy, "gender identity or expression" means a person's gender-related identity, appearance or behavior, whether or not that gender-related identity, appearance or behavior is different from that traditionally associated with the person's physiology or assigned sex at birth, which gender-related identity can be shown by providing evidence including, but not limited to, medical history, care or treatment of the gender-related identity, consistent and uniform assertion of the gender-related identity or any other evidence that the gender-related identity is sincerely held, part of a person's core identity or not being asserted for an improper purpose.

The following person has been designated to handle inquiries regarding the Board's non-discrimination policies:

- Assistant Superintendent, 90 Town Street, Norwich, CT 06360
(860) 823-6284

The Board's Title IX Coordinator is:

- Assistant Superintendent, 90 Town Street, Norwich, CT 06360
(860) 823-6284

The Board's Section 504/ADA Coordinator is:

- Director of Student Services and Special Education, 90 Town Street, Norwich, CT 06360,
(860) 823-6284

Legal References:

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. § 1681, et seq.

Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, 42 U.S.C. § 2000d, et seq.

Americans with Disabilities Act, 42 U.S.C. § 12101, et seq.

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. § 794, et seq.

Connecticut General Statutes § 10-15c and § 46a-81a, et seq.

Discrimination on basis of sexual orientation

Connecticut General Statutes § 1-1n, "Gender Identity or Expression"
defined

Policy Adopted: 3/21/17

NORWICH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Norwich, Connecticut

Series 5000
Students 5145.5

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS REGARDING SEX DISCRIMINATION AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT (STUDENTS)

It is the policy of the Board of Education that any form of sex discrimination or sexual harassment is forbidden, whether by students, Board employees or third parties subject to the control of the Board. Students, Board employees and third parties are expected to adhere to a standard of conduct that is respectful of the rights of students. Any student or employee who engages in conduct prohibited by the Board's sex discrimination and sexual harassment policy shall be subject to disciplinary action.

Definitions

Sex discrimination occurs when a person, because of his or her sex, is denied participation in or the benefits of any education program receiving federal financial assistance.

Sexual harassment: In a school setting, sexual harassment is conduct that 1) is sexual in nature; 2) is unwelcome; and 3) denies or limits a student's ability to participate in or benefit from a school's educational program. Sexual harassment can be verbal, nonverbal or physical. Sexual violence is a form of sexual harassment. Sexual harassment creates a hostile environment if the conduct is sufficiently severe or pervasive that it interferes with or limits a student's ability to participate in or benefit from the school's program. Although not an exhaustive list, the following are examples of sexual conduct prohibited by this policy:

1. Statements or other conduct indicating that a student's submission to, or rejection of, sexual overtures or advances will affect the student's grades and/or other academic progress.
2. Unwelcome attention and/or advances of a sexual nature, including verbal comments, sexual invitations, leering and physical touching.
3. Display of sexually suggestive objects, or use of sexually suggestive or obscene remarks, invitations, letters, emails, text messages, notes, slurs, jokes, pictures, cartoons, epithets or gestures.
4. Touching of a sexual nature or telling sexual or dirty jokes.
5. Transmitting or displaying emails or websites of a sexual nature.

6. Using computer systems, including email, instant messaging, text messaging, blogging or the use of social networking websites, or other forms of electronic communications, to engage in any conduct prohibited by this policy.

Sexual Violence: Sexual violence is a form of sexual harassment. For the purposes of this policy, sexual violence refers to physical acts that are sexual in nature, perpetrated against a person's will or where a person is incapable of giving consent due to the victim's use of drugs or alcohol.

Complaint Procedure

1. It is the express policy of the Board of Education to encourage victims of sex discrimination or sexual harassment to promptly report such claims. Preferably, complaints should be filed within thirty (30) days of the alleged occurrence. Timely reporting of complaints facilitates the investigation and resolution of such complaints.
2. As soon as a student feels that he or she has been subjected to sex discrimination or sexual harassment, he/she or his/her parent/legal guardian should make a written complaint to Safe School Climate Specialist or to the building principal, or his/her designee. The student will be provided a copy of the Board's policy and regulation and made aware of his or her rights.
3. The complaint should state the:
 - A. Name of the complainant,
 - B. Date of the complaint,
 - C. Date(s) of the alleged harassment/discrimination,
 - D. Name(s) of the harasser(s) or discriminator(s),
 - E. Location where such harassment/discrimination occurred,
 - F. Names of any witness(es) to the harassment/discrimination,
 - G. Detailed statement of the circumstances constituting the alleged harassment/discrimination; and
 - H. Remedy requested.
4. Any student who makes an oral complaint of harassment or sex discrimination to any of the above-mentioned personnel will be provided a copy of this regulation

and will be requested to make a written complaint pursuant to the above procedure. In appropriate circumstances, such as due to the age of the student making the complaint, a parent or school administrator may be permitted to fill out the form on the student's behalf.

5. If the complainant is a minor student, the person to whom the complaint is given should consider whether a child abuse report should be completed in accordance with the Board's policy on the Reports of Suspected Child Abuse or Neglect of Children.
6. All complaints are to be forwarded immediately to the Safe School Climate Specialist, Building Principal or designee unless that individual is the subject of the complaint, in which case the complaint should be forwarded directly to the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee. In addition, a copy of any complaint filed under this policy shall be forwarded to the Title IX Coordinator.
7. The Title IX Coordinator or designee shall promptly investigate all complaints of sexual discrimination or sexual harassment against a student, regardless of whether the conduct occurred on or off-school grounds. The investigation shall be conducted discreetly, maintaining confidentiality insofar as possible while still conducting an effective and thorough investigation. In most cases, the Safe School Climate Specialist will investigate complaints.
8. Any student who makes a complaint shall be notified of the District's intent to investigate the complaint. In the event the student requests confidentiality or that an investigation not be conducted, the District will take reasonable steps to investigate and respond to the complaint to the extent possible, given the request for confidentiality or that the District not investigate the complaint. If the student insists that his/her personally identifiable information not be shared with the alleged perpetrator, the student will be informed that the District's ability to investigate and/or take corrective action may be limited.
9. Upon receipt of a sexual harassment or sex discrimination complaint, the Title IX Coordinator shall either promptly commence an investigation of the complaint, or shall designate a school administrator to promptly investigate the complaint. The Title IX Coordinator or designee shall:
 - a) offer to meet with the complainant within ten (10) school days to discuss the nature of the complaint, identify individuals the complainant believes has relevant information, and obtain any relevant documents the complainant may have;
 - b) provide the complainant with a copy of the Board's sexual harassment policy and accompanying regulations;

- c) consider whether any interim measures may be appropriate to protect the alleged victim, pending the outcome of the investigation;
 - d) investigate the factual basis of the complaint, including, as applicable, conducting interviews with individuals deemed relevant to the complaint;
 - e) consider whether alleged sex discrimination or sexual harassment has created a hostile school environment, including consideration of the effects of off-campus conduct on the school;
 - f) communicate the outcome of the investigation in writing to the complainant, and to any individual properly identified as a party to the complaint (to the extent permitted by state and federal confidentiality requirements), within sixty (60) school days from the date the complaint was received by the Superintendent's office. The investigator may extend this deadline for no more than fifteen (15) additional school days if needed to complete the investigation. The complainant shall be notified of such extension. The written notice shall include a finding whether the complaint was substantiated and if so, shall identify, to the extent possible, how the district will remedy the discrimination or harassment, adhering to the requirements of state and federal law;
 - g) when sex discrimination or sexual harassment has been found, take steps that are reasonably calculated to end the discrimination, take corrective and/or disciplinary action aimed at preventing the recurrence of the harassment or discrimination, as deemed appropriate by the Superintendent or his/her designee, and take steps to remedy the effects of the sex discrimination or sexual harassment;
10. If the student complainant or alleged perpetrator is dissatisfied with the findings of the investigation, he or she may file a written appeal within thirty (30) calendar days to the Title IX Coordinator, or, if he/she conducted the investigation, to the Superintendent of Schools, who shall review the Title IX Coordinator or designee's written report, the information collected by the Title IX Coordinator or designee together with the recommended disposition of the complaint to determine whether the alleged conduct constitutes sexual harassment or sex discrimination. The Title IX Coordinator or Superintendent of Schools may determine if further action and/or investigation is warranted. After completing this review, the Title IX Coordinator or Superintendent of Schools shall respond to the complainant, in writing, within fifteen (15) school days following the receipt of the written request for review.

If a sex discrimination complaint raises a concern about bullying behavior, the Title IX Coordinator shall notify the Safe School Climate Specialist or designee who shall coordinate any bullying investigation with the Title IX Coordinator, so as to ensure that

any such bullying investigation complies with the requirements of applicable Board policies.

Retaliation against any individual who complains pursuant to the Board's policy and regulations is strictly prohibited. The district will take actions necessary to prevent retaliation as a result of filing a complaint.

At any time, a complainant alleging sex discrimination or sexual harassment may file a formal complaint with the Office for Civil Rights, Boston Office, U.S. Department of Education, 8th Floor, 5 Post Office Square, Boston, MA 02109-3921 (TELEPHONE NUMBER (617) 289-0111).

Title IX Coordinator

The Title IX Coordinator for the Norwich Board of Education is the Assistant Superintendent of Schools, whose office is located at 90 Town Street and whose telephone number is 860-823-6284.

Series 5000
Students

**COMPLAINT FORM REGARDING SEX DISCRIMINATION
AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT (STUDENTS)**

Name of the complainant _____

Date of the complaint _____

Date of the alleged discrimination/harassment _____

Name or names of the discriminator(s) or harasser(s) _____

Location where such discrimination/harassment occurred _____

Name(s) of any witness(es) to the discrimination/harassment _____

Detailed statement of the circumstances constituting the alleged discrimination or
harassment _____

Remedy requested _____

7/22/16

StudentsSex Discrimination and Sexual Harassment

It is the policy of the Board of Education that any form of sex discrimination or sexual harassment is prohibited, whether by students, Board employees or third parties subject to the control of the Board. Students, Board employees and third parties are expected to adhere to a standard of conduct that is respectful of the rights of students. Any student or employee who engages in conduct prohibited by this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action.

The Superintendent of Schools shall develop Administrative Regulations implementing this Policy.

Definitions

Sex discrimination occurs when a person, because of his or her sex, is denied participation in or the benefits of any education program receiving federal financial assistance.

Sexual harassment: While it is difficult to define sexual harassment precisely, it includes any unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct of a sexual nature when:

1. Submission to or rejection of such conduct by an individual is used and/or threatened to be used as a basis for making any educational decision affecting a student; or
2. Such conduct is sufficiently severe, persistent, or pervasive to limit a student's ability to participate in or benefit from the education program, or to create a hostile or abusive educational environment.

Although not an exhaustive list, the following are examples of the type of conduct prohibited by the policy against sexual harassment:

1. Statements or other conduct indicating that a student's submission to, or rejection of, sexual overtures or advances will affect the student's grades and/or other academic progress.
2. Unwelcome attention and/or advances of a sexual nature, including verbal comments, sexual invitations, leering and physical touching.

3. Display of sexually suggestive objects, or use of sexually suggestive or obscene comments, invitations, letters, notes, slurs, jokes, pictures, cartoons, epithets or gestures.

Procedure

It is the express policy of the board of education to encourage victims of sex discrimination or sexual harassment to report such claims. Students are encouraged to promptly report complaints of sex discrimination or sexual harassment to the appropriate personnel, as set forth in the Administrative Regulations implementing this Policy. The district will investigate such complaints promptly and will take corrective action where appropriate. The district will maintain confidentiality to the extent appropriate. The district will not tolerate any reprisals or retaliation that occur as a result of the good faith reporting of charges of sexual harassment or sex discrimination. Any such reprisals or retaliation will result in disciplinary action against the retaliator.

The school district will periodically provide staff development for district administrators and periodically distribute this Policy and the implementing Administrative Regulations to staff and students in an effort to maintain an environment free of sexual harassment and sex discrimination.

Legal References: United States Constitution, Amendment XIV
Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. § 1681, et seq.
Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 34 C.F.R. § 106.1, et seq.
Gebser v. Lago Vista Independent School District, 524 U.S. 274 (1998)
Davis v. Monroe County Board of Education, 526 U.S. 629 (1999)
Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, Revised Sexual Harassment Guidance: Harassment of Students by School Employees, Other Students, or Third Parties, 66 Fed. Reg. 5512 (Jan. 19, 2001).
Constitution of the State of Connecticut, Article I, Section 20.

Policy adopted: 4/25/2000

Revised Policy Approved: 11/27/07

Revised Policy Approved: 11/15/16

NORWICH PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Norwich, CT

**NORWICH PUBLIC SCHOOLS
NORWICH, CONNECTICUT 06360**

**SEXUAL HARASSMENT
COMPLAINT REPORT AND
INVESTIGATIVE REPORT**

Check one:

Student _____

Personnel _____

COMPLETE THE APPROPRIATE BOX AND THE BOTTOM OF THIS PAGE

Name of complainant (student): _____	
Student's parents/guardian: _____	
Home Address: _____	Telephone: _____
School: _____	

Name of complainant: _____	Telephone (work): _____
Home address: _____	Telephone (home): _____
Department/Position of Employment: _____	
Supervisor: _____	

Date of incident: _____ Time of incident: _____ Date reported: _____

Location of incident: _____

Complaint filed against (name/position): _____

Details (description) of complaint:

SEXUAL HARASSMENT COMPLAINT AND INVESTIGATIVE REPORT
PAGE 2

(Details [continued])

Witnesses:

Name/Position	Address	Telephone
Name/Position	Address	Telephone
Name/Position	Address	Telephone

Signatures (acknowledgments):

Complainant: _____ Date: _____

Administration: _____ Date: _____
(Person assisting with report)

Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____
(For Students only)

Superintendent of Schools: _____ Date: _____

SEXUAL HARASSMENT COMPLAINT AND INVESTIGATIVE REPORT
PAGE 3

Name of Complainant: _____ Date Decision Rendered: _____

Decision Rendered: ☐ Unfounded ☐ Exonerated ☐ Unsustained ☐
Sustained

Recommended action/action taken:

Signatures (Acknowledgments):

Complainant: _____ Date: _____

Parent/Guardian: _____ Date: _____
(For Students only)

Subject of Investigation: _____ Date: _____

School Administrator: _____ Date: _____

Title: _____

Superintendent of Schools: _____ Date: _____

Series 5000
Students 5145.5

POLICY REGARDING SEX DISCRIMINATION AND SEXUAL HARASSMENT (STUDENTS)

It is the policy of the Board of Education that any form of sex discrimination or sexual harassment is prohibited, whether by students, Board employees or third parties subject to the control of the Board. Students, Board employees and third parties are expected to adhere to a standard of conduct that is respectful of the rights of students. Any student or employee who engages in conduct prohibited by this policy shall be subject to disciplinary action.

The Superintendent of Schools shall develop Administrative Regulations implementing this Policy.

Definitions

Sex discrimination occurs when a person, because of his or her sex, is denied participation in or the benefits of any education program receiving federal financial assistance.

Sexual harassment: In a school setting, sexual harassment is conduct that 1) is sexual in nature; 2) is unwelcome; and 3) denies or limits a student's ability to participate in or benefit from a school's educational program. Sexual harassment can be verbal, nonverbal or physical. Sexual violence is a form of sexual harassment. Sexual harassment creates a hostile environment if the conduct is sufficiently severe or pervasive such that it interferes with or limits a student's ability to participate in or benefit from the school's program. Although not an exhaustive list, the following are examples of sexual conduct prohibited by this policy:

1. Statements or other conduct indicating that a student's submission to, or rejection of, sexual overtures or advances will affect the student's grades and/or other academic progress.
2. Unwelcome attention and/or advances of a sexual nature, including verbal comments, sexual invitations, leering and physical touching.
3. Display of sexually suggestive objects, or use of sexually suggestive or obscene remarks, invitations, letters, emails, text messages, notes, slurs, jokes, pictures, cartoons, epithets or gestures.

4. Touching of a sexual nature or telling sexual or dirty jokes.
5. Transmitting or displaying emails or websites of a sexual nature.
6. Using computer systems, including email, instant messaging, text messaging, blogging or the use of social networking websites, or other forms of electronic communications, to engage in any conduct prohibited by this policy.

Sexual Violence: Sexual violence is a form of sexual harassment. For the purposes of this policy, sexual violence refers to physical acts that are sexual in nature, perpetrated against a person's will or where a person is incapable of giving consent due to the victim's use of drugs or alcohol.

Procedure

It is the express policy of the Board of Education to encourage victims of sex discrimination or sexual harassment to report such claims. Students are encouraged to promptly report complaints of sex discrimination or sexual harassment to the appropriate personnel, as set forth in the Administrative Regulations implementing this Policy. The district will investigate such complaints promptly, take interim measures, and take corrective action where appropriate. The district will maintain confidentiality to the extent appropriate. The district will not tolerate any reprisals or retaliation that occur as a result of the good faith reporting of charges of sexual harassment or sex discrimination. Any such reprisals or retaliation will result in disciplinary action against the retaliator.

The school district will periodically provide staff development for district administrators, and periodically distribute this Policy and the implementing Administrative Regulations to staff and students in an effort to maintain an environment free of sexual discrimination and sex harassment.

Sex discrimination and/or sexual harassment may also constitute bullying behavior under the Board's Bullying Behavior in the Schools Policy.

Legal References: United States Constitution, Amendment XIV

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 20 U.S.C. § 1681, et seq.

Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, 34 C.F.R § 106.1, et seq.

Gebser v. Lago Vista Independent School District, 524 U.S. 274 (1998)

Davis v. Monroe County Board of Education, 526 U.S. 629 (1999)

Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education, Revised Sexual Harassment Guidance: Harassment of Students by School Employees, Other Students, or Third Parties, 66 Fed. Reg. 5512 (Jan. 19, 2001).

Office for Civil Rights, U.S. Department of Education Dear Colleague Letter: Sexual Violence (April 4, 2011).

Constitution of the State of Connecticut, Article I, Section 20.

ADOPTED: _____

REVISED: _____

7/22/16



FROM: Anne H. Littlefield, Shipman & Goodwin LLP

TO: Yvette Jacaruso, Chair, Norwich Board of Education
Joyce Werden, Vice-Chair, Norwich Board of Education
Members, Leadership Evaluation Committee, Norwich Board of Education

CC: Abby Dolliver, Superintendent of Schools

RE: Next Steps Based on Feedback from Board Self-Evaluation

DATE: October 24, 2018

As requested, I am writing to summarize the themes noted at the self-evaluation session of the Norwich Board of Education (the "Board") on October 9, 2018; and to provide some suggestions for next steps based on the issues noted.

As we discussed, the primary utility of the self-evaluation instrument used by the Board on October 9, 2018 was to stimulate discussion among Board members about the functioning of the Board as a whole and areas of strength and concern with respect to same. The October 9th session in which Board members participated, although abbreviated, did surface some specific areas of focus for follow up, as discussed below.

Themes:

- **Long-term Strategic Plan:** Board members noted that the Board functions in a reactive rather than proactive, fashion. Several Board members cited the lack of attention to long-term strategic planning as worrying, noting that the Board focuses primarily on addressing short term needs (passing a budget, approving a grant), rather than developing a cohesive long-term strategic plan. In particular, one Board member noted that long-term planning is vitally important to informing the dialog and decision-making for use/design of facilities.
- **Communications/Community Input:** Board members discussed the manner in which the Board communicates its goals to the community at large, and receives input from stakeholders. Specific concerns noted included 1) a concern that the Board does not pay enough attention to engaging students and parents, 2) a concern that the Board's mission statement is too vague and does not include specific measureable benchmarks, and 3) that the Board's mission statement is not aligned with other important planning tools utilized within the district.

- **Frequent Turnover of Board Members:** Several Board members discussed the challenges associated with the frequent turnover in Board membership, driven (in part) by the two-year terms of office set forth in the City Charter. Frequent turnover necessitates additional ramp up time, and can detract from the Board's ability to meaningfully participate in school district projects and initiatives that have a longer time cycle.
- **Professional Development for Board Members:** Board members reflected on opportunities for the Board for professional development, including previous "Lighthouse" training conducted for the Board by the Connecticut Association of Boards of Education ("CABE") and also Board member attendance at the annual CABE Convention. A consensus emerged that additional opportunities for Board training would be beneficial.
- **District Climate:** Feedback from community members suggests that some parents/others are reluctant to bring items/questions forward.

Suggested Action Steps:

- Convene the Leadership Evaluation Committee to discuss the feedback noted above.
- Leadership Evaluation Committee should discuss/flesh out each of the concerns noted.
- Leadership Evaluation Committee should identify the appropriate committee/process for brainstorming ideas to address the concerns noted.
- Leadership Evaluation Committee should refer the concern to the appropriate committee/process for follow up with specific suggestions for possible action steps (examples below).

Examples:

- **Long-term Strategic Plan:**
 - Leadership Evaluation Committee meets and defines/writes up a more definitive statement of concern.
 - Working with the administration as a resource, Leadership Evaluation Committee researches the proper processes/stakeholders to address the concern (*e.g. is there a long-term strategic planning committee? If not, should the Board consider appointing one? If there is such a committee in existence but it has not met, should it be revitalized? What is the role of the facilities committee and how can the Board better align the work of that committee with the individuals tasked with long-term planning?*)
 - Leadership Evaluation Committee refers the issue to the proper processes/stakeholders to address the concern, with suggested action steps (if any) developed by the Leadership Evaluation Committee.
 - *Examples of action steps to recommend to the Board (non-exhaustive, intended to be illustrative):*
 - Refresh membership/revive long-term strategic planning committee
 - Re-establish regular schedule of meetings for long-term strategic planning committee
 - Invite the Facilities Committee to a joint meeting with the long-term strategic planning committee

- Appoint a liaison from Facilities Committee to long-term planning committee and vice versa
 - Research best practices on long-term planning
 - Retain a consultant to assist the Board with setting up a process/structure for long-term planning
- **Communications/Community Input:**
 - Leadership Evaluation Committee meets and defines/writes up a more definitive statement of concern.
 - Working with the administration as a resource, Leadership Evaluation Committee researches the proper processes/stakeholders to address the concern (*e.g. what vehicles exist for communications with the public? Is the Board utilizing these vehicles effectively? Are these communication vehicles utilized by the public; and if not, how can the Board engender greater participation? Is Board messaging two-way, in that the Board is both pushing out content and receiving feedback from stakeholders? If not, how can the Board amend its current practices to achieve this goal?*)
 - Leadership Evaluation Committee refers the issue to the proper processes/stakeholders to address the concern, with suggested action steps (if any) developed by the Leadership Evaluation Committee.
 - *Examples of action steps to recommend to the Board (non-exhaustive, intended to be illustrative):*
 - Develop schedule of community fora on topics of interest
 - Ensure data collection at these community fora and develop specific action steps based on data collected
 - Cross-walk Mission Statement to district improvement plan (marrying the aspirational goals to the specific action plan)
 - Broaden/enhance district communication methods to ensure maximum audience (*e.g. employ high and low tech means, in depth resources and well as FAQ type communiques*)
- **Frequent Turnover of Board Members:**
 - Leadership Evaluation Committee meets and defines/writes up a more definitive statement of concern.
 - Working with the administration as a resource, Leadership Evaluation Committee researches the proper processes/stakeholders to address the concern (*e.g. does the Board have any role to play in charter revision commission? How can the Board work with municipal officials on a goal of lengthening terms for BOE members? If charter revision not realistic as a goal, what can the Board of Education do to orient new members and ensure that they are prepared to contribute shortly after election? Are there structures or processes for former Board members to assist with institutional knowledge?*)
 - Leadership Evaluation Committee refers the issue to the proper processes/stakeholders to address the concern, with suggested action steps (if any) developed by the Leadership Evaluation Committee.
 - *Examples of action steps to recommend to the Board (non-exhaustive, intended to be illustrative):*

- Reach out to municipal officials about Charter revision
 - Train new Board members by offering opportunity to audit all Board committees
 - Assign new Board members experienced mentors
 - Retain prior institutional knowledge/expertise by inviting former Board members to share information/insights
- **Professional Development for Board Members:**
 - Leadership Evaluation Committee meets and defines/writes up a more definitive statement of concern.
 - Working with the administration as a resource, Leadership Evaluation Committee researches the proper processes/stakeholders to address the concern (*e.g. what resources exist for Board professional development? Are we fully utilizing these resources? Are Board members aware of these opportunities?*)
 - Leadership Evaluation Committee refers the issue to the proper processes/stakeholders to address the concern, with suggested action steps (if any) developed by the Leadership Evaluation Committee.
 - *Examples of action steps to recommend to the Board (non-exhaustive, intended to be illustrative):*
 - Survey Board members regarding topics of interest for Professional Development
 - Join with other neighboring Boards to host/attend sessions so as to increase opportunities
 - Ensure all Board members are made aware of Professional Development opportunities
 - Conduct post Professional Development evaluation surveys to ensure that Professional Development is meaningful and to target constructive feedback for improvement
- **District Climate:** Feedback from community members suggests that some parents/others are reluctant to bring items/questions of concern forward.
 - Leadership Evaluation Committee meets and defines/writes up a more definitive statement of concern.
 - Working with the administration as a resource, Leadership Evaluation Committee researches the proper processes/stakeholders to address the concern (*e.g. what sources of reliable data does the Board have about climate issues? What best practices exist for data collection on climate issues and is the Board utilizing those resources in the district? What are best practices for the Board in addressing these issues?*)
 - Leadership Evaluation Committee refers the issue to the proper processes/stakeholders to address the concern, with suggested action steps (if any) developed by the Leadership Evaluation Committee.
 - *Examples of action steps to recommend to the Board (non-exhaustive, intended to be illustrative):*
 - Review/revise climate assessment instruments to promote better flow of information to the Board
 - Develop resources to ensure that the public is aware of how to process concerns
 - Develop means for confidential communication channels

- Research best practices on school climate
- Consider how budget and funding initiatives affect school climate
- Incorporate school climate data into curricular and parent involvement initiatives

I hope this summary is helpful as you review next steps. Thank you for the opportunity on October 9, 2018 to facilitate a self-evaluation/reflection session for the Board of Education. I would be happy to assist further as needed.

NORWICH BOARD OF EDUCATION

NON-AGENDA

November 13, 2018

REPORTS

Monthly Out of District Special Education Report

Monthly Object Summary Report #10

Special Education Contracted Services & Tuition Report

PERSONNEL

APPOINTMENTS:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>SALARY</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE</u>
Daniel McClure	Social Worker-Kelly	\$52,450/6 th yr1	11-1-2018
Alyson Briggs	Grade 7-Writing-Kelly	\$55,432/MA4	11-13-2018

RESIGNATIONS:

<u>NAME</u>	<u>POSITION</u>	<u>REASON</u>	<u>EFFECTIVE</u>
Stephana Taylor	Kelly-Chorus	Personal	10-22-2018
Cathy Greenwood	Teachers-Grade 8	Retirement	6-30-2018
Lisa Hackbarth	Kelly-Grade 7	Personal	11-2-2018
Laurie Dowdell	ESS Teacher-Teachers'	Personal	11-14-2018
Gabe Lipman	Art Teacher	Retirement	6-30-2018

NPS OUT OF DISTRICT PLACEMENT REPORT

November 2018

Overview

One hundred and Sixty-two students are currently enrolled in programs out of the Norwich Public School District. In addition to these students:

Fifty-four Special Education students are enrolled at Parent Choice School programs.

Twenty-One Special Education students are enrolled at the Norwich Transition Academy. (Two of these are out of town tuition students).

Thirty-four students currently have 504 Plans managed by the Special Education Department.

Special Notes:

Outside Agency placements impacting the OOD roster:

A student attending Adelbrook/The Learning Center was found to no longer be Norwich Nexus.

A student attending Bradley School has been placed at Grace Webb/Institute of Living.

A student attending Children's Center of Hamden was found to no longer be Norwich Nexus.

A student attending Waterford Country School was found to no longer be Norwich Nexus.

A student attending Joshua Center Thames Valley was placed at Eagle House School.

A student on Homebound Instruction from Woodstock Elementary school was placed at Institute of Living.

NPS initiated changes to the OOD roster:

A Norwich elementary student began a diagnostic placement at Green Valley School.

Two students who moved to Norwich were placed at High Roads at Shiloh.

A student from VLA was placed at Joshua Center Thames Valley Program.

A student already attending LEARN/RMMS registered with NPS.

A student already attending Nathan Hale Arts Magnet registered with NPS.

A student already attending Winthrop Stem Elementary Magnet registered with NPS.

NPS students exiting Out of District programs:

A student attending Waterford Country School moved out of Norwich.

Two students were withdrawn from the Norwich Transition Academy.

A student at LEARN/Dual Language withdrew from NPS.

A student attending Ledyard High School Registered at NFA.

OBJECT SUMMARY

Norwich Public Schools

11/1/2018 9:04:04 AM

		ORIG APPROPRIATION	TRANSFER	REVISED APPROP	YTD CREDIT	YTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBERED	BALANCE	%EXP
Object 111	SALARIES, CERTIFIED	\$18,840,760.34	\$0.00	\$18,840,760.34	\$0.00	\$3,058,542.26	\$14,635,864.06	\$1,146,354.02	93.92%
Object 112	SALARIES, SUPPORT	\$6,525,080.33	\$0.00	\$6,525,080.33	\$8,542.25	\$1,354,899.24	\$4,943,110.17	\$235,613.17	96.39%
Object 121	TEMP PAY CERT PERSONNEL	\$415,000.00	\$0.00	\$415,000.00	\$0.00	\$34,045.76	\$0.00	\$380,954.24	8.20%
Object 122	TEMP PAY SUPPT PERSONNEL	\$254,000.00	\$0.00	\$254,000.00	\$0.00	\$57,481.80	\$0.00	\$196,518.20	22.63%
Object 201	BLUE CROSS/MAJ.MEDICAL	\$6,546,802.74	\$0.00	\$6,546,802.74	\$12,634.57	\$2,017,884.55	\$7,535.00	\$4,534,017.76	30.74%
Object 203	LIFE INSURANCE	\$31,801.64	\$0.00	\$31,801.64	\$0.00	\$14,042.92	\$0.00	\$17,758.72	44.16%
Object 204	UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSTN	\$120,000.00	\$0.00	\$120,000.00	\$0.00	\$25,997.32	\$94,002.68	\$0.00	100.00%
Object 205	WORKER'S COMPENSATION	\$702,033.00	\$0.00	\$702,033.00	\$47,610.35	\$83,333.34	\$0.00	\$666,310.01	5.09%
Object 206	CITY RETIREMENT PLAN	\$809,200.00	\$0.00	\$809,200.00	\$0.00	\$269,733.32	\$0.00	\$539,466.68	33.33%
Object 207	FICA EMPLOYER'S SHARE	\$1,250,000.00	\$0.00	\$1,250,000.00	\$0.00	\$260,913.06	\$0.00	\$989,086.94	20.87%
Object 208	SEVERANCE PAY	\$100,000.00	\$0.00	\$100,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,182.36	\$4,140.00	\$92,677.64	7.32%
Object 209	MEDICARE REIMBURSEMENT	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$10,000.00	\$0.00	\$4,330.08	\$0.00	\$5,669.92	43.30%
Object 323	CONTRACT HEALTH SERVICE	\$1,251,423.00	\$0.00	\$1,251,423.00	\$3,145.50	\$220,170.81	\$84,764.71	\$969,632.98	22.52%
Object 330	PROFESSIONAL SERVICES	\$197,078.20	\$0.00	\$197,078.20	\$0.00	\$36,786.56	\$108,607.10	\$51,684.54	73.77%
Object 333	CONTR TRANS-FIRST STUDENT	\$3,478,149.02	\$0.00	\$3,478,149.02	\$0.00	\$465,495.28	\$0.00	\$3,012,653.74	13.38%
Object 410	PUBLIC UTILITIES	\$953,495.61	\$0.00	\$953,495.61	\$0.00	\$226,045.30	\$699,557.17	\$27,893.14	97.07%
Object 431	CONTRACT REPAIRS BLDGS.	\$190,955.00	\$0.00	\$190,955.00	\$0.00	\$12,957.72	\$54,786.39	\$123,216.89	35.47%
Object 510	SPED CONTRACTED TRANS	\$3,205,936.50	\$0.00	\$3,205,936.50	\$0.00	\$717,191.46	\$2,488,745.04	\$0.00	100.00%
Object 520	PROPERTY INSURANCE	\$350,000.02	\$0.00	\$350,000.02	\$15,651.46	\$187,359.93	\$0.00	\$178,291.55	49.06%
Object 521	LIABILITY INSURANCE	\$12,840.00	\$0.00	\$12,840.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$12,840.00	0.00%
Object 530	TELEPHONE	\$95,632.00	\$0.00	\$95,632.00	\$0.00	\$34,214.29	\$0.00	\$61,417.71	35.78%
Object 531	ADVERTISING	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$826.95	\$0.00	\$4,173.05	16.54%
Object 532	METERED POSTAGE	\$16,500.00	\$0.00	\$16,500.00	\$0.00	\$13,000.00	\$0.00	\$3,500.00	78.79%
Object 560	TUITION PAYMENTS	\$34,233,362.00	\$0.00	\$34,233,362.00	\$0.00	\$7,834,028.57	\$14,189,377.96	\$12,209,955.47	64.33%
Object 580	REIMBURSABLE EXPENSES	\$30,975.00	\$0.00	\$30,975.00	\$0.00	\$11,385.21	\$11,769.22	\$7,820.57	74.75%

OBJECT SUMMARY

Norwich Public Schools

11/1/2018 9:04:04 AM

	ORIG APPROPRIATION	TRANSFER	REVISED APPROP	YTD CREDIT	YTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBERED	BALANCE	%EXP
Object 590	OTHER PURCH SERVICES		\$812,616.99	\$387.66	\$354,080.96	\$204,185.86	\$254,737.83	68.65%
Object 592	ADULT EDUCATION		\$163,116.00	\$0.00	\$163,116.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	100.00%
Object 593	MAINTENANCE SERVICES		\$386,111.00	\$0.00	\$100,660.79	\$68,915.99	\$216,534.22	43.92%
Object 594	FINANCIAL SERVICES		\$40,500.00	\$0.00	\$41,386.57	\$0.00	(\$886.57)	102.19%
Object 611	INSTRUCTIONAL SUPPLIES		\$224,027.00	\$0.00	\$15,938.37	\$20,618.45	\$187,470.18	16.32%
Object 612	HEALTH SUPPLIES		\$12,900.00	\$0.00	\$4,834.43	\$683.60	\$7,381.97	42.78%
Object 613	MAINTENANCE SUPPLIES		\$65,375.00	\$350.50	\$21,185.10	\$19,613.04	\$24,927.36	61.87%
Object 614	CUSTODIAL SUPPLIES		\$120,000.00	\$0.00	\$79,172.43	\$5,903.28	\$34,924.29	70.90%
Object 620	HEATING EXPENSES		\$613,053.04	\$0.00	\$8,692.01	\$600,536.46	\$3,824.57	98.38%
Object 627	FUEL		\$533,280.00	\$0.00	\$82,593.03	\$331,458.86	\$119,228.11	77.64%
Object 641	TEXTBOOKS		\$20,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$20,000.00	0.00%
Object 642	LIBRARY SUPPLIES/MTRLs.		\$25,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$25,000.00	0.00%
Object 690	OTHER SUPPLIES & MATERIALS		\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$2,752.36	\$0.00	\$247.64	91.75%
Object 692	OFFICE SUPPLIES		\$44,132.00	\$1,097.00	\$13,782.01	\$963.71	\$30,483.28	30.93%
Object 694	PROFESSIONAL MATERIALS		\$3,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$3,000.00	0.00%
Object 720	CAPITAL PROJECTS		\$150,000.00	\$0.00	\$41,453.24	\$14,822.00	\$93,724.76	37.52%
Object 730	INSTRUCT. EQUIP. REPAIR		\$3,400.00	\$0.00	\$709.97	\$0.00	\$2,690.03	20.88%
Object 731	INSTRUCTIONAL EQUIPMENT		\$5,000.00	\$0.00	\$72.96	\$112.98	\$4,814.06	3.72%
Object 734	TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT		\$30,000.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$30,000.00	0.00%
Object 735	SOFTWARE LICENSING		\$120,000.00	\$0.00	\$38,334.91	\$8,834.72	\$72,830.37	39.31%
Object 736	MAINT VEH/EQUIP REPAIR		\$24,250.00	\$0.00	\$20,927.36	\$1,679.21	\$1,643.43	93.22%
Object 739	OTHER EQUIPMENT		\$32,188.00	\$0.00	\$10,150.98	\$1,576.79	\$20,460.23	36.44%
Object 810	DUES & SUBSCRIPTIONS		\$5,380.00	\$0.00	\$2,605.00	\$0.00	\$2,775.00	48.42%
Object 920	UNDESIGNATED		(\$4,592,524.43)	\$0.00	\$0.00	\$0.00	(\$4,592,524.43)	0.00%
Fund 01	GENERAL FUND		\$78,469,829.00	\$89,419.29	\$17,946,296.57	\$38,582,168.45	\$22,030,793.27	71.92%

Norwich Public Schools

ORIG APPROPRIATION	TRANSFER	REVISED APPROP	YTD CREDIT	YTD EXPENDED	ENCUMBERED	BALANCE	%EXP
\$78,469,829.00	\$0.00	\$78,469,829.00	\$89,419.29	\$17,946,296.57	\$38,582,158.45	\$22,030,793.27	71.92%

Grand Total for Report

SPED Contracted Services and Tuition Report

FY 2018-2019

As of November 1, 2018

Account 560	Budgeted	Expended	Projected	Credit	Difference
Tuition In-State Public	\$ 3,270,432.00	\$ -	\$ 24,375.60	\$ -	\$ 3,246,056.40
Tuition In-State Non-Public	\$ 5,581,442.00	\$ 3,703,738.91	\$ 2,110,718.18	\$ -	\$ (233,015.09)
Tuition Out of State Public	\$ 25,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 25,000.00
Tuition Out of State Non-Public	\$ 41,202.00	\$ 6,249.40	\$ 7,993.40	\$ -	\$ 26,959.20
NFA Special ED. Tuition	\$ 4,630,859.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,630,859.00
Ledyard SPED Tuition	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50,000.00
Ledyard VOAG SPED	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50,000.00
TOTALS for Tuition	\$ 13,648,935.00	\$ 3,709,988.31	\$ 2,143,087.18	\$ -	\$ 7,795,859.51
GRAND TOTAL	\$ 14,731,935.00	\$ 3,832,710.07	\$ 2,155,997.44	\$ -	\$ 8,743,227.49

SPED Contracted Services and Tuition Report

FY 2018-2019

As of November 1, 2018

Account 323	Budgeted	Expended	Projected	Credit	Difference
Extended School Year	\$ 80,000.00	\$ 79,465.36	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 534.64
Speech Services - Public	\$ 90,000.00	\$ 3,987.50	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 86,012.50
Health Services - OT	\$ 200,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200,000.00
Health Services - PT	\$ 100,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,000.00
Contract Services - Evals	\$ 85,000.00	\$ 114,218.29	\$ 10,763.75	\$ 3,145.50	\$ (36,836.54)
Audiological Services	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 13,357.62	\$ 3,720.00		\$ 32,922.38
Contracted Services	\$ 283,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 283,000.00
Contracted Services - IDCS	\$ 195,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 195,000.00
TOTALS for Contract Serv.	\$ 1,083,000.00	\$ 211,028.77	\$ 14,483.75	\$ 3,145.50	\$ 854,341.98