

Sexual Offenders

Pursuant to state law, the Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection is obligated to notify school Superintendents whenever a sexual offender is released into the community or whenever a registered sexual offender changes his/her address.

In order to provide information from the Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection to interested persons in the Bethany Public School District's (District) community, a link to the Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection's sexual offender registry will be placed on the District's website.

When the Superintendent of Schools receives a specific notification from the Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection that a registered sexual offender is being released into the Bethany community, the Superintendent or his/her designee will post the notification from the Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection on the District's website within a reasonable period of time.

In addition, District personnel shall cross-reference the Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection's sexual offender registry prior to hiring any new employee and prior to permitting a volunteer to work with students in any capacity. Registration as a sexual offender constitutes grounds for denial of employment and/or volunteer opportunities in the District.

The Superintendent or his/her designee shall provide training to appropriate staff members regarding the methods for accessing the sexual offender registry information posted on the Connecticut Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection and the provisions of these regulations.

Non-Parent/Non-Guardian Sex Offenders

A non-parent/non-guardian sex offender is an individual who meets the legal definition of a sex offender and who has no parental rights or legal guardianship rights to a child attending the school.

A non-parent/non-guardian sex offender is prohibited from District grounds except when attending an open meeting.

A non-parent/non-guardian sex offender who attempts to communicate electronically with a student while the student is on District property will be considered on District property without permission and will be in violation of this Regulation.

Parent/Guardian Sex Offenders

A parent/guardian sex offender is an individual who meets the legal definition of a sexual offender and who has either parental or legal guardianship rights to a child attending the school.

Parent/guardian sex offenders are prohibited from entering school property except:

1. To attend an open meeting.
2. With the Superintendent's prior written approval in the following instances:
 - a. To transport his/her own child to and/from school.
 - b. To attend a conference to discuss his/her student's progress, placement, or individual education plan.
 - c. Under other circumstances on a case-by-case basis, as determined by the Superintendent.

A parent/guardian sex offender who attempts to communicate electronically with a student other than his/her child while the student is on District property will be considered on District property without permission and will be in violation of this Regulation.

District property includes all land within the perimeter of the school site and all school buildings, structures, facilities, computer networks and systems, and school vehicles, whether owned or leased by the District and the site of any school-sponsored activity.

General Provisions

The Superintendent or his/her designee will inform the school administration and other relevant District staff of the scope of the permission granted to each sex offender.

Sex offenders who receive permission to enter District property must immediately report to the individual or location designated in the Superintendent's written permission statement. The school administration shall assign a chaperone to accompany the sex offender while he/she is on District property. The only exceptions to these requirements are when the Superintendent grants permission to a parent/guardian sex offender to transport his/her child and when a student sex offender receives permission to attend the school in which case the guidelines developed for this individual shall apply.

The Superintendent will contact law enforcement anytime a sexual offender violates this Regulation and will immediately revoke any privileges granted to the sex offender under this Regulation.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes § 54-250 to 54-261
 Public Act 07-143
 Public Act 07-4
 United States Code, Title 42

Regulation approved: October 21, 2015
Regulation revised: October 6, 2016
Regulation revised: February 3, 2020
Regulation revised: April 7, 2021

Source: Shipman