## PROHIBITION AGAINST SILENT RESIGNATIONS IN CASES OF ALLEGED CHILD ABUSE BY EMPLOYEES

As part of Chapter 181 of the Laws of 2000, of the Safe Schools Against Violence in Education (S.A.V.E.) legislation allegations of child abuse by employees and volunteers are to be taken seriously, investigated promptly and reported to the superintendent immediately. The superintendent and school administrators are expressly prohibited from allowing a "silent resignation" or voluntary suspension rather than disclosing allegations of child abuse in an educational setting to law enforcement officers, the superintendent and Commissioner of Education, where appropriate. The superintendent and school administrators are prohibited from making any agreement to withhold from law enforcement, the superintendent, or the commissioner, where appropriate, the fact that an allegation of child abuse in an educational setting on the part of any employee or volunteer was made, in return for the "silent resignation" or voluntary suspension from his or her position, against who the allegation is made.

A violation of this policy constitutes a Class E felony. In violation, one is also subject to a civil penalty not to exceed \$20,000.

Any superintendent or school administrator who reasonably and in good faith complies with the reporting requirements will be immune from any liability, civil or criminal, which otherwise might result from such actions.

Policy Adopted: July 9, 2001 Policy Revised: November 22, 2021