

Erin's Law

Erin's Law Implementation in Charleston County School District

In accordance with South Carolina Code of Laws Section 59-32-20 (Erin's Law), all Charleston County School District (CCSD) schools are required to provide age-appropriate instruction on personal safety to help students recognize, respond to, and report sexual abuse.

Each school implements lessons annually that are aligned with state-approved standards and designed to empower students with the knowledge and skills needed to protect themselves and seek help from trusted adults. Instruction is delivered by trained and certified educators and incorporates developmentally appropriate materials and resources.

Additionally, to keep the list of resources up to date and relevant, a committee was tasked with reviewing instructional resources for sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention for completeness and developmental appropriateness. The committee identified several programs as appropriate for providing this instruction in South Carolina Schools. A list of these programs can be accessed on the [Instructional Resources](#) page of the SCDE Health Education Website. If you have questions regarding Erin's Law, please contact Dr. Ben Miedema at bjmiedema@ed.sc.gov or (803)734-4533.

Charleston County School District has developed a series of age-appropriate lessons that support student learning and safety. These lessons, available [here](#), include instructional resources aligned with Erin's Law, as well as Gavin's Law and Human Trafficking Prevention. Families can also access [companion materials](#) designed to reinforce these important topics at home and support meaningful discussions with their children.

For more information, please contact, Holly_Kut@charlestoncountyschools.gov.

GAVIN'S LAW

Gavin's Law Implementation in Charleston County School District

Charleston County School District is committed to providing a safe and respectful learning environment for all students and staff. In alignment with Gavin's Law, recently enacted by the State of South Carolina, the district has adopted new policies to address sexual extortion—a serious form of harassment and exploitation.

What is Gavin's Law?

Gavin's Law defines sexual extortion as the act of threatening to release or distribute private, explicit images of another person to compel them to do something against their will. This includes attempts to obtain more images or anything of value. If the victim is a minor or suffers great bodily harm, the offense is classified as aggravated felony sexual extortion with enhanced penalties.

Key Policy Updates for Students and Staff:

- Prohibited Conduct: All forms of sexual extortion and retaliation against individuals who report such incidents are strictly prohibited.
- Applicable to All: These policies apply to students, staff, parents/legal guardians, contractors, volunteers, visitors, and other community members.
- **Consequences:**
 - Students in violation may face disciplinary action up to expulsion and referral to law enforcement.
 - Staff violations may result in termination and criminal investigation.
 - Visitors and volunteers may be banned from district property and referred to authorities.
- **Criminal Penalties Under State Law:**
 - Felony sexual extortion: Up to 5 years in prison for the first offense; up to 20 years for repeat offenses.
 - Aggravated felony sexual extortion: Up to 20 years in prison.
 - Misdemeanor charges: Applicable to minors and handled through family court, possibly including mandatory counseling.

Our Commitment

Charleston County School District will continue to educate students, staff, and families about the dangers of sexual extortion and how to report violations safely and confidentially. We encourage open communication and will work closely with law enforcement to address violations swiftly and appropriately.

For more information, please review policy codes [JICFB](#) (Students) and [GBEBE](#) (Staff), available on the district website or by contacting your school administrator. Please refer to the CCSD [Progressive Discipline Plan](#) for more information.

Together, we can foster a safe, supportive, and respectful environment for every student and staff member.