

2
3 **COMMUNITY RELATIONS**

4550

4
5 Registered Sex Offenders

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7 The State of Montana has determined that perpetrators of certain sex crimes pose a continuing
8 threat to society as a whole even after completion of their criminal sentences. Great Falls Public
9 Schools, recognizing that the safety and welfare of its students and employees is of paramount
10 importance, and in keeping with its constitutional authority to supervise and control the schools
11 in this District, declares that, except in limited circumstances, Great Falls Public Schools should
12 be off limits to registered sex offenders.

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14 Employment

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16 Notwithstanding any other Board policy, individuals listed by the State of Montana as registered
17 sex offenders are ineligible for employment in any position within the Great Falls School
18 District. However, the Superintendent shall have discretion consistent with other Board policies
19 to recommend an individual whose name has been expunged from the Sex Offender Registry.

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21 School Off Limits

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23 The District hereby declares that no registered sex offender may come on, about, or within 1,000
24 feet of any District owned buildings or property except as otherwise provided in this policy. If an
25 administrator becomes aware that such a sex offender is on, about, or within 1,000 feet of school
26 property, the administrator shall direct the sex offender to leave the area immediately. The
27 School Board authorizes the administrator to request the assistance of the appropriate law
28 enforcement authorities to secure the removal of any registered sex offender from the area. If a
29 registered sex offender disregards the terms of this policy or the directives of the school
30 administrator, then the Superintendent is authorized to confer with counsel and to pursue such
31 criminal or civil action as may be necessary to enforce compliance with this policy.

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33 This policy shall not be construed to impose any duty upon any administrator or any other
34 employee of the District to review the Sex Offender Registry or to screen individuals coming on,
35 or within 1,000 feet of school property to ascertain whether they are on the Registry.

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37 The provisions of this policy prohibiting a registered sex offender from coming on, about, or
38 within 1,000 feet of school property shall not apply in the event that a sex offender's name
39 should be expunged from the Registry.

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41 Rights of Parents on the Sex Offender Registry

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43 In the event that a registered sex offender has a child attending the District, the administrator of
44 the school where the child attends shall be authorized to modify this policy's restrictions to
45 permit the parent to drop off and pick up the child from school and to come onto campus without

1 prior authorization. Great Falls Public Schools' School Resource Officers (SROs) may be
2 contacted and/or present.

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4 This policy does not impose a duty upon the administrator of any school or any other employee
5 of the District to review the Sex Offender Registry and the school system's directory information
6 to ascertain whether a registered sex offender may have a child attending school in the District.
7 The provisions of this policy shall apply only if an administrator actually becomes aware that a
8 parent of a student at the school is a registered sex offender.

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10 To facilitate voluntary compliance with this policy, administrators are encouraged to speak with
11 any affected parents upon learning of their status as registered sex offenders to communicate the
12 restrictions of this policy. At all times, the administrator shall endeavor to protect the privacy of
13 the offender's child.

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15 In the event of a truly exceptional situation such as graduation, a parent on the Sex Offender
16 Registry may ask the Superintendent for a waiver of this policy to permit the parent to attend
17 these special events. It is the intent of the Board, however, that these special circumstances be
18 truly unusual and infrequent occurrences.

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20 Legal Reference:

21 § 20-3-324, MCA Powers and Duties
22 § 46-23-501, MCA Sexual or Violent Offender Registration Act

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24 Policy History:

25 Adopted on: August 11, 2008
26 Reviewed on: November 1, 2016
27 Revised on: September 21, 2026