

POLICY

SOMERSET COUNTY
BOARD OF EDUCATION

Date Submitted: February 20, 2007 Date Reviewed: February 20, 2007 March 17, 2009	Number: 600-41
Subject: Sexual Offenders Entering School Property	Date Approved: March 20, 2007 May 26, 2009 Date Revised: March 17, 2009 Date Effective: March 20, 2007 May 26, 2009

1. PURPOSE

The Board of Education must provide direction regarding the access of sexual offenders to school property if they are a student or are the parent/guardian of a student according to § 11-722 of the Criminal Procedure Article, Annotated Code of Maryland.

2. Guidelines

A. A registered sexual offender who is a student or the parent/guardian of a student may knowingly enter school grounds if the following conditions are satisfied:

- (1) The registrant must have the specific written permission of the superintendent or designee. This written permission is valid for the current school year only.
- (2) The registrant promptly notifies the school principal or designee of the registrant's presence on the property and the purpose of the registrant's visit.
- (3) The registrant may enter school property to vote on Election Day if the registrant is properly registered to vote and the school is the registrant's polling place. If school is in session, the registrant must not come into contact with any student and must be chaperoned at all times..
- (4) A registrant who enters any school property to visit their child may not have direct contact with any other student and must be chaperoned at all times.
- (5) A registrant wishing to visit a school regarding matters related to their child should do so after school hours when possible.
- (6) A registrant may not serve as a chaperone for their child or any other child during any school related activity.
- (7) A registrant who is a student must provide their own transportation to and from school.
- (8) A registrant who is a student must leave school property at the conclusion of the school day and may not participate in or attend any extra curricular activities unless approved by the principal in advance.

- (9) Violation of these procedures will result in law enforcement contact and possible criminal prosecution.
- B.** The local law enforcement agency must send written notice of the registration statement or change of address of a child sexual offender to the superintendent within five (5) working days after receiving a registration statement or change of address. Within ten (10) working days after receiving this notice, the superintendent is required to send written notice of the registration statement to the principals [§ 11-709(b)].
- C.** A person or company who enters into a contract with the Somerset County Board of Education may not knowingly employ a registrant to work on any school property.
- D.** The Principal or designee should review the sex offender registry found at <http://www.dpscs.state.md.us/sorSearch/> on a monthly basis. All staff responsible for greeting visitors should be made aware of any known registered sexual offenders who may have reason to gain entry to a particular school.

