

SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY NOTIFICATION

The Maggie L. Walker Governor's School recognizes the danger sex offenders pose to student safety. Therefore, to protect students while they travel to and from school, attend school or are at school-related activities, the school shall request electronic notification of the registration or reregistration of any sex offender in the same or contiguous zip codes as the school. Such requests and notifications shall be made according to the procedure established by the Virginia Department of State Police (State Police).

Annual Notification

At the beginning of each school year, the Maggie L. Walker Governor's School shall notify parents and employees of this policy. The Regional School Board will also annually notify the parent of each student enrolled in the school of the availability of information in the Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minors Registry and the location of the Internet website.

Dissemination of Sex Offender Registry Information

Sex offender registry information should be provided to employees who are most likely to observe unauthorized persons on or near school property including but not limited to:

- school bus drivers
- employees responsible for visitor registration
- employees responsible for bus duty
- security staff
- coaches
- maintenance personnel.

When registry information is disseminated, it shall include a notice that such information should not be shared with others and may only be used for the purposes discussed below. Employees who share registry information with others may be disciplined.

The Maggie L. Walker Governor's School recognizes that it is the responsibility of local law enforcement to notify the community of potential public danger. Therefore, the school will not disseminate registry information to parents.

Use of Sex Offender Registry Information

Registry information shall only be used for the purposes of the administration of law-enforcement, screening current or prospective school employees or volunteers and for the protection of school students and employees. Registry information shall not be used to intimidate or harass others.

1. **Registered Sex Offender Sighted.** If a notified employee sees a registered sex offender on or near school property, around any school student, or attending any school activity, the Director's designee shall be notified immediately. The Director's designee may, in his or her discretion, notify local law-enforcement.

2. **School Volunteers and Student Teachers.** Each staff member shall submit to the Director's designee the name and address of each volunteer the staff member proposes to use as soon as the person is identified. The Director's designee shall screen each student teacher and volunteer's name and address against the registry information. If a match is found, the Director's designee shall notify the Director, who shall confirm the match. If the match is confirmed, the Director shall inform the individual, in writing, that he or she may not serve as a volunteer or student teacher. The notice shall provide the reason with reference to this policy. The Director shall provide a copy of the notice to the Director's designee and staff member.
3. **Contractors' Employees.** In addition to ensuring that the certification requirements of Policy 7014.1 Purchasing Procedures are met, the Director shall include the following language in all school contracts that may involve an employee of the contractor having any contact with a student:

The contractor shall not send any employee or agent who is a registered sex offender to any school building or school property. Monthly, the contractor shall check the registry to determine if any employee is registered.

4. **School Employees.** Each time sex offender registry information is received, the Director's designee shall review it to determine if a school employee is registered. If a match is found, the Director shall confirm or disprove the match with local law enforcement. If the match is confirmed, the Director shall notify the Regional School Board. The Regional School Board will take the appropriate action to comply with state law which may include termination of employment.
5. **Applicants for Employment.** Before hiring any person, the Director shall determine whether the prospective employee is a registered sex offender. If the prospective employee is a registered sex offender, he or she shall not be hired by the school.
6. **Parents of Students and other Visitors.**

Persons who have been convicted of a sexually violent offense, as defined in Va. Code § 9.1-902, may be present at school during school hours or during school related or school sponsored activities, on any school bus, or on any property, public or private, when such property is solely being used by an elementary or secondary school for a school-related or school-sponsored activity only as provided in Policy 6007 Violent Sex Offenders on School Property.

When the school learns that a parent of an enrolled student is a registered sex offender, other than a violent sex offender, the parent will be notified in writing that he or she is barred from being present at school or at school functions without the express written approval of the Director. Such approval must be obtained in advance of the proposed visit and will state the conditions under which the parent may be present. When a parent who is a registered sex offender is permitted at school or at

school functions he or she will be monitored to ensure that he or she does not come into contact with any children other than his or her own children. The Director's designee will consider requests from registered sex offenders at the Director's discretion.

When the school learns that any person other than the parent of an enrolled student who is a registered sex offender, other than a violent sex offender, seeks to be present at school or at school functions, he or she will be notified in writing that he or she is barred from being present at school or school functions without the express written approval of the Director. Such approval must be obtained in advance of the proposed visit and, if obtained, will state the conditions under which the person may be present. One of the conditions will be that the person will be monitored to ensure the safety of students, staff, and others. The Director's designee will consider requests from registered sex offenders in accordance with procedures prescribed by the Director.

7. Precautions to Protect Students. When the Director determines it is necessary, because of the presence of a registered sex offender, alternative arrangements may be made for bus and walking routes to and from school, recess and physical education periods, or any other activity in order to protect students.

Requests for Registry Information

Anyone requesting registry information from the school shall be referred to the State Police.

Adopted: March 15, 2018

Legal Ref: Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, §§ 22.1-79, 22.1-79.3, 9.1-914, 9.1-918, 18.2-370.5, and 19.2-390.1.

Commonwealth v. Doe, 278 Va. 223 (Va. 2009).

Cross Ref:

Pol 7014.1	Purchasing Procedures
Pol 6011	School Visitors
Pol 6005	Relations with Law Enforcement Authorities
Pol 6007	Violent Sex Offenders on School Property