

SEXUAL OFFENDERS ON SCHOOL PROPERTY**Definitions**

For the purposes of this policy, a “sexual offender” is one who is required to register as a sexual offender with the State of Connecticut pursuant to Chapter 969 of the Connecticut General Statutes.

“School property” includes all land within the perimeter of Ledyard Public Schools facilities and all school buildings, structures, computer networks, vehicles used for student transportation, whether owned or under contract to the District, and the site of any activity sponsored by a subdivision of Ledyard Public Schools.

Parent/Guardian Sexual Offender

A “parent/guardian sexual offender” is a sexual offender who has either parental or legal guardianship rights to a child attending a school in the District.

Parent/guardian sexual offenders are prohibited from entering school property except as follows:

- When he/she is a qualified voter and is entering school property solely for the purpose of casting his/her vote at his/her designated polling station.
- To attend an open meeting of the Town of Ledyard.
- With the Superintendent’s prior written approval in the following instances:
 - To transport his/her own child to/from school.
 - To attend a conference to discuss his/her child’s educational progress, placement or individualized education plan (IEP).
 - Other circumstances on a case-by-case basis as determined by the Superintendent.

A parent/guardian sexual offender who attempts to communicate electronically with a student, other than his/her own child, while the student is on school property will be considered in violation of this policy and such action will be reported to the Ledyard Police.

Student Sexual Offender

The Superintendent, or his/her designee, shall determine the appropriate educational placement for student sexual offenders, except for those identified as having a disability. In making this determination, the Superintendent or his/her designee shall consider such factors as the safety and health of the student population. The Superintendent, or his/her designee, shall develop guidelines for managing each student sexual offender attending Ledyard Public Schools. If the Superintendent, or his/her designee, determines that the student sexual offender should be placed in an alternative educational setting, neither the student sexual offender nor his/her parents or guardians shall be required to pay for costs associated with that placement.

A pupil placement team (PPT)/IEP team shall determine the educational placement of a student sexual offender who has a disability. The student sexual offender is entitled to the same due process procedures as for other students with disabilities pursuant to Board policy. The PPT/IEP team shall develop procedures for managing each student sexual offender with a disability that attends a Ledyard Public School. If the PPT/IEP team determines that the student sexual offender should be placed in an alternative educational setting, neither the student sexual offender nor his/her parents/guardians shall be required to pay for costs associated with that placement.

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Non-Parent/Non-Guardian Sexual Offender

A “non-parent/non-guardian sexual offender” is an adult sexual offender who has no parental or legal guardianship rights to a child attending a school in the District.

Non-parent/non-guardian sexual offenders are prohibited from entering school property except as follows:

- When he/she is a qualified voter and is entering school property solely for the purpose of casting his/her vote at his/her designated polling station.
- To attend an open meeting of the Town of Ledyard.

A non-parent/non-guardian sexual offender who attempts to communicate electronically with a student while the student is on school property will be considered in violation of this policy and such action will be reported to the Ledyard Police.

General Requirements and Notifications

The Superintendent, or his/her designee, shall inform the appropriate Principal and other relevant District staff of the scope of the permission granted to each sexual offender.

Sexual offenders who receive permission to enter school property must immediately report to the individual or location designated in the Superintendent’s, or his/her designee’s, written permission statement. The Principal shall assign a chaperone to accompany the sexual offender while he/she is on District property. The only exceptions to these requirements are when the Superintendent grants permission to a parent/guardian sexual offender to transport his/her child and when a student sexual offender receives permission to attend a District school, in which case the guidelines developed for that individual shall apply.

The Superintendent shall use the Connecticut sexual offender registry law, in conjunction with policy 3516.4, to establish a system for identifying sexual offenders who are parents/guardians of children attending Ledyard Public Schools or are students in Ledyard Public Schools and will inform those individuals of the requirements of this policy. Lack of notification by the Superintendent does not excuse sexual offenders from abiding by the requirements and prohibitions of this policy. The Superintendent shall contact the Ledyard Police anytime a sexual offender violates this policy and shall immediately revoke any privileges granted to the sexual offender under this policy.

Parents/guardians who are registered sexual offenders shall receive a copy of this policy via registered/certified mail.

Legal References:

Connecticut General Statutes, Chapter 969, *Registration of Sexual Offenders*

Title 42, United States Code, Section 14071 – *Jacob Wetterling Crimes Against Children and Sexually Violent Offender Registration Program*

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