

6/2/16

DRAFT UPDATE

Mid-Valley Special Education Cooperative

4:175

Operational Services

Convicted Child Sex Offender; Criminal Background Check and/or Screening; Notifications

Persons Prohibited on School Property without Prior Permission

State law prohibits a child sex offender from being present on school property or loitering within 500 feet of school property when persons under the age of 18 are present, unless the offender meets either of the following two exceptions:

1. The offender is a parent/guardian of a student attending the school and has notified the Building Principal of his or her presence at the school for the purpose of: (i) attending a conference with school personnel to discuss the progress of his or her child academically or socially, (ii) participating in child review conferences in which evaluation and placement decisions may be made with respect to his or her child regarding special education services, or (iii) attending conferences to discuss other student issues concerning his or her child such as retention and promotion; or
2. The offender received permission to be present from the Governing Board, Director, or Director's designee. If permission is granted, the Director or Board President shall provide the details of the offender's upcoming visit to the Building Principal.

In all cases, the Director or designee shall supervise a child sex offender whenever the offender is in a child's vicinity. If a student is a sex offender, the Director or designee shall develop guidelines for managing his or her presence in school.

Criminal Background Check and/or Screening

The Superintendent or designee shall perform the fingerprint-based criminal history records information checks and/or criminal background check and/or screenings required by State law or Board policy for employees; student teachers; students doing field or clinical experience other than student teaching; contractors' employees who have direct, daily contact with one or more children; and resource persons and volunteers. He or she shall take appropriate action based on the result of any criminal background check and/or screen.

Notification to Parents/Guardians

The Director shall develop procedures for the distribution and use of information from law enforcement officials under the Sex Offender Community Notification Law and the Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Community Notification Law. The Director or designee shall serve as the Cooperative contact person for purposes of these laws. The Director and Building Principal shall manage a process for schools to notify the parents/guardians during school registration that information about sex offenders is available to the public as provided in the Sex Offender Community Notification Law. This notification must occur during school registration and at other times as the Director or Building Principal determines advisable.

Comment [APowell]:

- The policy and Cross References are updated to:
1. Align with 5:260, *Student Teachers*, which is updated in response to 105 ILCS 5/10-21.9, 5/21B-5, and 5/21B-80, amended by P.A. 99-667;
 2. Clarify School Code requirements for student teacher fingerprint-based criminal history records checks.

The law is silent with regard to screening volunteers and individuals in the proximity of a school. Screening and fingerprint-based criminal history records checks are different. See procedure 4:175-API, *Criminal Offender Notification Laws; Screening*, for further distinctions.

The School Code requires school districts to perform a fingerprint-based criminal history records check through (a) the Illinois State Police (ISP) for an individual's Criminal History Records Information (CHRI) and (b) the FBI's national crime information databases (105 ILCS 5/10-21.9(a), (a-5) and (a-6)).

Screening only involves checking an individual's name and address against publicly-available databases and information provided for local law enforcement like the: (1) Illinois Sex Offender Registry, www.isp.state.il.us/sor/, and (2) the Violent Offender Against Youth Registry maintained by the State Police, www.isp.state.il.us/cmvol/.

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LEGAL REF.: 20 ILCS 2635/, Uniform Conviction Information Act.
720 ILCS 5/11-9.3.
730 ILCS 152/, Sex Offender Community Notification Law.
730 ILCS 154/75-105, Murderer and Violent Offender Against Youth Community
Notification Law.

CROSS REF.: 5:30 (Hiring Process and Criteria), 5:260 (Student Teachers), 6:250 (Community
Resource Persons and Volunteers), 8:30 (Visitors to and Conduct on School
Property), 8:100 (Relations with Other Organizations and Agencies)

ADOPTED: November 5, 2014