

**Curriculum Subcommittee Meeting**  
**Wednesday, January 4, 2023, 5:30 PM**  
**Central Services**

**I. Public Comment**

**{{Goal-}}**

**{{Attachment:}}**

**{{RecommendedMotion}}**

**II. Approve Minutes from the December 7, 2022 Curriculum Subcommittee Meeting**

**{{Goal-}}**

**{{Attachment:}}**

**{{RecommendedMotion}}**

**III. High School Data Conversation**

**{{Goal-}}**

**{{Attachment:}}**

**{{RecommendedMotion}}**

**IV. Assistant Superintendent's Monthly Report**

**{{Goal-}}**

**{{Attachment:}}**

**{{RecommendedMotion}}**

**V. New Course: Psychology of Happiness**

**{{Goal-}}**

**{{Attachment:}}**

**{{RecommendedMotion}}**

**VI. Policies:**

**{{Goal-}}**

**{{Attachment:}}**

**Rationale:**

- Revised Policy 5141.4, Report of Child Abuse, Neglect and Sexual Assault
- New Policy 5145.511, Sexual Abuse Prevention and Education Program

**{{RecommendedMotion}}**

**VII. Other**

**{{Goal-}}**

**{{Attachment:}}**

**{{RecommendedMotion}}**

**Curriculum Subcommittee Meeting - Draft Minutes  
December 7, 2022, 5:30 p.m.  
Central Services**

Present:

David Peling	Kim Bressemer
Kristina Gilton	Denise Edinger
Whitney Sanzo	Angela Ehrenwerth
Sarah Thrall	Alyssa Mullins
Jennifer Parsons	Eileen Swan

Absent:

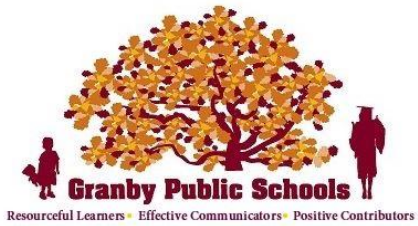
Member of the Public: N/A

Meeting commenced at: 5:33 p.m.

Meeting adjourned at: 6:50 p.m.

1. Public Comment: N/A
2. 18-22 Programming: Discussed the possibility of moving 18-22-year-old programming in-house.
3. Approve Minutes from the November 2, 2022 Curriculum Subcommittee Meeting: Tabled.
4. Assistant Superintendent's Monthly Report: Continuing to review reading programs and potential state waiver; STEAM Committee met; principal and instructional coaches' meetings; reviewing potential data management systems; composting system is up and running at Kelly Lane; the social media presentation with Justine Ginsberg was well attended; RSV, flu and COVID cases are being monitored; and, the Wellness Committee met.
5. New Course - Psychology of Happiness: Introduced as a semester class. Will remain in subcommittee.
6. Policies:
  - Revised Policy 5141.4, Report of Child Abuse, Neglect and Sexual Assault: Tabled
  - New Policy 5145.511, Sexual Abuse Prevention and Education Program: Tabled
7. Other: N/A

A motion was made by David Peling and seconded by Kristina Gilton to adjourn the meeting. This motion passed unanimously at 6:50 p.m.



## ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT'S MONTHLY REPORT – JANUARY 2023

Student Learning and Achievement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Continued to meet with instructional coaches and building principals to monitor student progress</li> <li>● Met with high school math and world language teams to discuss 2023-24 rollout of established course revisions</li> <li>● Continued to explore data management systems and viewed three demonstrations of various platforms</li> <li>● Planned for summative assessments for 2023</li> </ul>
Community Engagement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Met with GEF to review proposed projects and monitor existing grants</li> </ul>
Safety and Social Emotional Well-Being	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Met with the administrative team to discuss analysis of DESSA fall data and teacher training on analyzing data</li> </ul>
Budget Development and Fiscal Management	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Continued to attend budget work sessions to support development of the proposed FY24 budget</li> </ul>
Embracing Diversity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Supported hiring within special education, resource teacher and administrative assistant</li> </ul>
Professional Learning	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Met with Central Services staff to determine professional learning needs of the central services support team</li> </ul>

Communication Checklist:

- Department/CAS Leader
- Principal
- Assistant Superintendent
- Curriculum Committee
- Assistant Superintendent/BOE Curriculum Sub Committee



### Granby Public Schools Change in Program of Study

#### Purpose of Proposal:

- New Course**
  - Revision of a course (not offered for 2 or more years, change in credit, level, alignment to standards, etc.)
  - Course elimination
  - Course level change
  - Impact on Graduation Requirements

<b>Date Submitted:</b> 10/7/2022	<b>Teacher:</b> Rodney Scudder Amanda Ligas	<b>Department/School</b> Social Studies GMHS
_____	_____	_____

#### Course Information:

<b>Course Title:</b>	The Psychology of Happiness/Science of Well-Being
<b>Grade(s) and level (AP, honors, academic):</b>	10-12 Academic level
<b>Number of credits:</b>	.5
<b>Prerequisites:</b>	None

#### Background/Course History:

Yale University professor Laurie Santos developed the most popular course in the history of the university, Psychology and the Good Life. Its success led to a massive online course, The Science of Well-Being. Recently, this program, originally intended to address the climbing mental health needs of Yale students, has been adapted for high schools. Amanda Ligas applied and has been accepted for Granby to offer this course. In the course students will understand and apply the research behind happiness and well-being. The course will challenge them to practice the habits that science has shown lead to happy and fulfilling lives - like gratitude, mindfulness, friendship, and exercise. In the end, the knowledge and skills they develop will help them better understand themselves, recognize the aspects of modern life that might impact their happiness, and build the capacity to constructively deal with what comes their way. The knowledge and skills students will gain from this class will not only help them navigate high school but will be useful for life.

**Rationale for recommendation: (Vision, mission, standard, enrollment)**

Currently, we offer a year-long AP Psychology elective. The AP Psychology has always been part of the Social Studies curriculum for the last 20 years or so. The Psychology of Happiness course is essentially an academic level, semester-long course in psychology, and one that provides practical application of the social science research psychology offers. Right now, not all students have the time or inclination to take a year-long AP course, but they do have the time for a semester-long academic-level course. This course fits that need.

The course also aligns with our national standards -- the [C3 Framework for Social Studies State Standards](#). Specifically, the course meets the standards articulated on pp. 70-71, specifically D2.Psy.1.9-12. Demonstrate a basic understanding of the scientific methods that are at the core of psychology; D2.Psy.2.9-12. Investigate human behavior from biological, cognitive, behavioral, and sociocultural perspectives; D2.Psy.3.9-12. Discuss theories, methodologies, and empirical findings necessary to plan, conduct, and especially interpret research results; D2.Psy.8.9-12. Explain the complexities of human thought and behavior; D2.Psy.9.9-12. Describe biological, psychological, and sociocultural factors that influence individuals' cognition, perception, and behavior; but most importantly D2.Psy.18.9-12. Apply psychological knowledge to their daily lives; D2.Psy.19.9-12. Apply the major theoretical approaches in psychology to educational, emotional, political, ethical, motivational, organizational, personal, and social issues; D2.Psy.20.9-12. Suggest psychologically based ethical solutions to actual problems...; D2.Psy.21.9-12. Discuss ways in which the applications of psychological science can address domestic...issues; and D2.Psy.22.9-12. Use psychological knowledge to promote healthy lifestyle choices. Of the social sciences, like Psychology, the C3 Framework goes on to say "All have countless applications to everyday life. Indeed, the study of the behavioral and social sciences enhances student preparation for college, careers, and civic life by promoting critical thinking, inquiry, problem-solving, evidence-based reasoning and communication" all of which are key components of the Social Studies standards.

Further, this course directly addresses the GPS' SEL Action plan, especially #5-7. But most importantly, the course concretely brings together two of the action steps (#8-9) by introducing "evidence-based SEL programs and practices" to "explicit SEL instruction." In turn, the course supports Board Goal #3 ("Foster a safe and positive social emotional environment for everyone") and GMHS's Continuous Improvement Goal #3 ("socially-emotionally responsive classroom and school environments").

It is important to know that the course does this with no FTE impact or ongoing cost, other than curriculum writing time, as this course replaces Visual Culture in our program. It seems, therefore, worth putting forward a course that is a social science, aligns with national standards, meets High School, District and Board goals, all while assisting our students with their SEL needs. Additionally, in terms of the curriculum and an equity lens, it was written in partnership with Yale University, the University of Connecticut, and the National Education Equity Lab. Granby teachers will then improve and make the curriculum our own, as we did with the Black & Latino Studies course this past year.

**Curriculum: (Alignment to Standards, common core expectations), integration of other content area standards, performance assessment, rubrics)**

The curriculum is based on Yale University Professor of Psychology Laurie Santos' course The Science of Well-Being and in partnership with the University of Connecticut and the National Education Equity Lab. Granby teachers will then improve and make the curriculum our own, as we've done with the Black & Latino Studies course.

**How will the content of this course be delivered?**

Through activities, videos, readings, mini-lectures students will experience the keys to psychology research methods, what current research says about well-being, and how to apply this research to everyday living.

**Timelines for consideration (significant dates/deadlines/professional development/curriculum writing):**

Summer 2023 Curriculum writing for Amanda Ligas and Lizzy Galaci.

**Budget Implications (textbooks, supplemental resources, staffing, scheduling, professional development training, and curriculum writing):**

This column to be checked by Assistant Superintendent	Budget Need Area	Yes/No: Complete for each area listed	Amount Needed	Purpose-Why??
		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		
		<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		

**Other:**

**FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:**

**Date BOE sub-committee reviewed:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Action:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Approved** \_\_\_\_\_ **Not Approved**

## Students

### Reporting of Child Abuse, Neglect and Sexual Assault

The District recognizes its legal and ethical obligations in the reporting of suspected child abuse, neglect and sexual assault. Any person applying for employment with the District shall submit to a record check of the Department of Children and Families Child Abuse and Neglect Registry before the person may be hired. Mandated reporters include all school employees, specifically Superintendent, administrators, teachers, substitute teachers, guidance counselors, school counselors, paraprofessionals, coaches of intramural and interscholastic athletics, as well as licensed nurses, physicians, psychologists and social workers and licensed behavior analysts either employed by the District or working in one of the District schools, or any other person who, in the performance of his or her duties, has regular contact with students and who provides services to or on behalf of students enrolled in District schools. Such individual(s) who have reasonable cause to suspect or believe that a child has been abused, neglected, placed in imminent risk of serious harm, or sexually assaulted by a school employee is required to report such abuse, neglect or risk and/or sexual assault.

The District shall annually distribute the mandated reporter policy electronically to all school employees. The Board shall annually distribute electronically, to all school employees, Board members, and parents and guardians of enrolled students, (1) guidelines on identifying and reporting child sexual abuse, starting in the 202-23 school year, and (2) information on DCF's sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention program.

A mandated reporter's suspicions may be based on factors including, but not limited to, observations, allegations, facts by a child, victim or third party. Suspicion or belief does not require certainty or probable cause.

Furthermore, the District requires all personnel who have reasonable cause to suspect or believe that a child, under the age of eighteen (18), except in the case of sexual assault by a school employee, has been abused, neglected, has had non-accidental physical injury, or injury which is at variance with the history given of such injury, is placed in imminent danger of serious harm or has been sexually abused by a school employee to report such cases in accordance with the law, Board policy and administrative regulations. The mandatory reporting requirement regarding the sexual assault of a student by a school employee applies based on the person's status as a student, rather than his or her age.

A mandated reporter shall make an oral report, by telephone or in person, to the Commissioner of Children and Families or a law enforcement agency as soon as possible, but not later than twelve (12) hours after the mandated reporter has reasonable cause to suspect or believe that a child has been abused, neglected or placed in imminent risk of serious harm.

## **Students**

### **Reporting of Child Abuse, Neglect and Sexual Assault (continued)**

In addition, the mandated reporter shall inform the building principal or his/her designee that he/she will be making such a report. Not later than forty-eight hours of making the oral report, the mandated reporter shall file a written or electronic report with the Commissioner of Children and Families or his/her designee. (The Department of Children and Families has established a 24-hour Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline, "Careline" at 1-800-842-2288 for the purpose of making such oral reports.)

A mandated reporter may make the required oral report electronically in the manner prescribed by the Commissioner of Children and Families. An employee making an electronic report shall respond to further inquiries from the Commissioner of Children and Families or designee made within twenty-four hours. Such employee shall inform the Superintendent or his/her designee as soon as possible as to the nature of the further communication with the Commissioner or designee.

Online reports may be made to the Careline by mandated reporters if the report is of a non-emergent nature. A non-emergent situation is one in which a report is mandated but the child is not in immediate risk. *(Note: Mandated reporters reporting electronically when they reasonably suspect that a child has been abused, neglected or placed at risk of imminent harm in a "non-emergent" situation, can do so without risk that they will be subject to a failure to report finding and subsequent penalties.)*

The oral and written reports shall include, if known: (1) the names and addresses of the child and his/her parents/guardians or other persons responsible for his/her care; (2) the child's age; (3) the child's gender; (4) the nature and extent of the child's injury or injuries, maltreatment or neglect; (5) the approximate date and time the injury or injuries, maltreatment or neglect occurred; (6) information concerning any previous injury or injuries to, or maltreatment or neglect of, the child or his/her siblings; (7) the circumstances in which the injury or injuries, maltreatment or neglect came to be known to the reporter; (8) the name of the person(s) suspected to be responsible for causing such injury or injuries, maltreatment or neglect; (9) the reasons such person or persons are suspected of causing such injury or injuries, maltreatment or neglect; (10) any information concerning any prior cases in which such person or persons have been suspected of causing an injury, maltreatment or neglect of a child; and (11) whatever action, if any, was taken to treat, provide shelter or otherwise assist the child. (For purposes of this section pertaining to the required reporting, a child includes any victim under eighteen years of age educated in a technical high school or District school. Any person who intentionally and unreasonably interferes with or prevents the making of the required report or attempts to conspire to do so shall be guilty of a class D felony, unless such individual is under eighteen years of age or educated in the technical high school system or in a District school, other than part of an adult education program.)

If the report of abuse, neglect or sexual assault involves an employee of the District as the perpetrator, the District may conduct its own investigation into the allegation, provided that such investigation shall not interfere with or impede any investigation conducted by the Department of Children and Families or by a law enforcement agency.

## **Students**

### **Reporting of Child Abuse, Neglect and Sexual Assault (continued)**

The District recognizes that the Department of Children and Families is required to disclose records to the Superintendent of Schools in response to a mandated reporter's written or oral report of abuse or neglect or if the Commissioner of Children and Families has reasonable belief that a school employee abused or neglected a student. Not later than five (5) working days after an investigation of child abuse or neglect by a school employee has been completed, DCF is required to notify the school employee and the Superintendent and the Commissioner of Education of the investigation's results. If DCF has reasonable cause, and recommends the employee be placed on DCF's Child Abuse and Neglect Registry, the Superintendent shall suspend such employee.

The District, recognizing its responsibilities to protect children and in compliance with its statutory obligations, shall provide to each employee in-service training regarding the requirements and obligations of mandated reporters. District employees shall also participate in training offered by the Department of Children and Families. Each school employee is required to complete a refresher training program, not later than three years after completion of the initial training program and shall thereafter retake such refresher training course at least once every three years.

The Principal of each school in the district shall annually certify to the Superintendent that each school employee working at such school has completed the required initial training and the refresher training.

State law prohibits retaliation against a mandated reporter for fulfilling his/her obligations to report suspected child abuse or neglect. The Board shall not retaliate against any mandated reporter for his/her compliance with the law and Board policy pertaining to the reporting of suspected child abuse and neglect.

In accordance with the mandates of the law and consistent with its philosophy, the Board in establishing this policy directs the Superintendent of Schools to develop and formalize the necessary rules and regulations to comply fully with the intent of the law.

## **Students**

### **Reporting of Child Abuse, Neglect, and Sexual Assault (continued)**

This policy will be distributed annually to all employees. Documentation shall be maintained that all employees have, in fact, received the written policy and completed the required initial and refresher training related to mandated reporting of child abuse and neglect as required by law.

The District will post the telephone number of the Department of Children and Families' child abuse hotline, Careline, and the Internet web address that provides information about the Careline in each District school in a conspicuous location frequented by students. Such posting shall be in various languages most appropriate for the students enrolled in the school.

### **Establishment of the Confidential Rapid Response Team**

The District shall establish a confidential rapid response team to coordinate with DCF to (1) ensure prompt reporting of suspected child abuse or neglect; or 1st, 2nd, 3rd, or 4th degree sexual assault; 1st degree aggravated sexual assault; or 3rd degree sexual assault with a firearm of a student not enrolled in adult education by a school employee and (2) provide immediate access to information and individuals relevant to DCF's investigation of such cases.

The confidential rapid response team shall consist of (1) a local teacher and the Superintendent, (2) a local police officer, and (3) any other person the Board of Education deems appropriate.

DCF, along with a multidisciplinary team, is required to take immediate action to investigate and address each report of child abuse, neglect or sexual abuse in any school.

### **Hiring Prohibitions**

The District will not employ anyone who was terminated or resigned after a suspension based on DCF's investigation, if he or she has been convicted of (1) child abuse or neglect or (2) 1st, 2nd, 3rd, or 4th degree sexual assault; 1st degree aggravated sexual assault; or 3rd degree sexual assault with a firearm of a student who is not enrolled in adult education.

The District will not employ an individual who was terminated or resigned, if he or she (1) failed to report the suspicion of such crimes when required to do so or (2) intentionally and unreasonably interfered with or prevented a mandated reporter from carrying out this obligation or conspired or attempted to do so. This applies regardless of whether an allegation of abuse, neglect, or sexual assault has been substantiated.

(cf. 4112.6/4212.6 – Personnel Records)

(cf. 5145.511 – Sexual Abuse Prevention and Education Program)

## **Students**

### **Reporting of Child Abuse, Neglect, and Sexual Assault**

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

10-220a Inservice training. Professional development committees. Institutes for educators. Cooperating teacher program, regulations.

10-221d Criminal history records check of school personnel. Fingerprinting. Termination or dismissal.

10-221s Investigations of child abuse and neglect. Disciplinary action.

17a-28 Definitions. Confidentiality of and access to records; exceptions. Procedure for aggrieved persons. Regulations.

17a-101 Protection of children from abuse. Mandated reporters. Educational and training program. Model mandated reporting policy.

17a-101a Report of abuse, neglect by or injury of child or imminent risk of serious harm to the child. Penalty for failure to report. Notification of Chief State's Attorney.

17a-101b Report by mandated reporters. Notification of law enforcement agency when allegation of sexual abuse or serious physical abuse. Notification of person in charge of institution, facility or school when a staff member suspected of abuse or neglect.

17a-101c Written or electronic report by mandated reporter.

17a-101d Contents of reports.

17a-101e Employer prohibited from discriminating or retaliating against employee who makes a good faith report or testifies re child abuse or neglect. Immunity from civil or criminal liability. False report of child abuse. Referral to Office of the Chief State's Attorney. Penalty.

17a-101g Classification and evaluation of reports. Determination of abuse or neglect of child. Investigation. Notice, entry of recommended finding. Referral to local law enforcement authority. Home visit. Removal of child in imminent risk of harm. Family assessment response program. Development of service plans and plans of care. Monitoring. Disclosure of information to community providers. Annual report.

## **Students**

### **Reporting of Child Abuse, Neglect, and Sexual Assault**

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes (continued)

17a-101i Abuse or neglect by school employees or staff member of public or private institution or facility providing care for children. Notice. Adoption of policy. Employee training program.

17a-101o School employee failure or delay in reporting child abuse or neglect. Policy re delayed report by mandated reporters.

17a-106 Cooperation in relation to prevention, identification and treatment of child abuse/neglect.

10-151 Teacher Tenure Act.

DCF Policy 22-1-3 Mandated Reporter's Failure to Report.

PA 22-87 An Act Concerning the Identification and Prevention of an Response to Adult Sexual Misconduct Against Children

**REPORTS OF SUSPECTED ABUSE OR NEGLECT OF CHILDREN OR  
SEXUAL ASSAULT OF STUDENTS BY SCHOOL EMPLOYEES**

Conn. Gen. Stat. Section 17a-101 et seq. requires school employees who have reasonable cause to suspect or believe (1) that any child under eighteen has been abused or neglected, has had a non-accidental physical injury, or injury which is at variance with the history given of such injury, or has been placed at imminent risk of serious harm, or (2) that any person who is being educated by the technical high school system or a local or regional board of education, other than as part of an adult education program, is a victim of sexual assault, and the perpetrator is a school employee, to report such suspicions to the appropriate authority. In furtherance of this statute and its purpose, it is the policy of the Granby Board of Education to require ALL EMPLOYEES of the Granby Board of Education to report suspected abuse and/or neglect, non-accidental physical injury, imminent risk of serious harm or sexual assault of a student by a school employee, in accordance with the procedures set forth below.

1. Scope of Policy

This policy applies not only to school employees who are required by law to report suspected child abuse and/or neglect, non-accidental physical injury, imminent risk of serious harm or sexual assault of a student by a school employee, but to ALL EMPLOYEES of the Granby Board of Education.

2. Definitions

For the purposes of this policy:

"Abused" means that a child (a) has had physical injury or injuries inflicted upon him or her other than by accidental means, or (b) has injuries which are at variance with the history given of them, or (c) is in a condition which is the result of maltreatment, such as, but not limited to, malnutrition, sexual molestation or exploitation, deprivation of necessities, emotional maltreatment or cruel punishment.

"Neglected" means that a child (a) has been abandoned, or (b) is being denied proper care and attention, physically, educationally, emotionally or morally, or (c) is being permitted to live under conditions, circumstances or associations injurious to his well-being, or (d) has been abused.

**Policy  
5141.4 (b)**

"School employee" means (A) a teacher, substitute teacher, school administrator, school superintendent, school counselor, psychologist, social worker, licensed behavior analyst, nurse, physician, school paraprofessional or coach employed by the Granby Board of Education or who is working in a Granby Board of Education elementary, middle or high school; or (B) any other person who, in the performance of his or her duties, has regular contact with students and who provides services to or on behalf of students enrolled in the Granby Public Schools, pursuant to a contract with the Granby Board of Education.

"Sexual assault" means, for the purposes of the mandatory reporting laws and this policy, a violation of Sections 53a-70, 53a-70a, 53a-71, 53a-72a, 53a-72b or 53a-73a of the Connecticut General Statutes. Please see Appendix A of this policy for the relevant statutory definitions of sexual assault laws and related terms covered by the mandatory reporting laws and this policy.

"Statutory mandated reporter" means an individual required by Conn. Gen. Stat. Section 17a-101 et seq. to report suspected abuse and/or neglect of children or the sexual assault of a student by a school employee. The term "statutory mandated reporter" includes all school employees, as defined above, and any person who holds or is issued a coaching permit by the State Board of Education, is a coach of intramural or interscholastic athletics and is eighteen years of age or older.

3. What Must Be Reported

- a) A report must be made when any employee of the Granby Board of Education in the ordinary course of such person's employment or profession has reasonable cause to suspect or believe that any child under the age of eighteen years:
  - i) has been abused or neglected;
  - ii) has had non-accidental physical injury, or injury which is at variance with the history given for such injury, inflicted upon him/her;
  - iii) is placed at imminent risk of serious harm; or
- b) A report must be made when any employee of the Granby Board of Education in the ordinary course of such person's employment or profession has reasonable cause to suspect or believe that any person, regardless of age, who is being educated by the technical high school system or a local or regional board of education, other than as part of an

**Policy  
5141.4 (c)**

adult education program, is a victim of the following sexual assault crimes, and the perpetrator is a school employee:

- i) sexual assault in first degree;
- ii) aggravated sexual assault in the first degree;
- iii) sexual assault in the second degree;
- iv) sexual assault in the third degree;
- v) sexual assault in the third degree with a firearm; or
- vi) sexual assault in the fourth degree.

Please see Appendix A of this policy for the relevant statutory definitions of sexual assault laws and related terms covered by the mandatory reporting laws and this policy.

- c) The suspicion or belief of a Granby Board of Education employee may be based on factors including, but not limited to, observations, allegations, facts or statements by a child or victim, as described above, or a third party. Such suspicion or belief does not require certainty or probable cause.

4. Reporting Procedures for Statutory Mandated Reporters

The following procedures apply only to statutory mandated reporters, as defined above.

When an employee of the Granby Board of Education who is a statutory mandated reporter and who, in the ordinary course of the person's employment, has reasonable cause to suspect or believe that a child has been abused or neglected or placed at imminent risk of serious harm, or is a victim of sexual assault by a school employee, as described in Paragraph 3, above, the following steps shall be taken.

- (1) The employee shall make an oral report as soon as practicable, but not later than twelve hours after having reasonable cause to suspect or believe that a child has been abused or neglected or placed at imminent risk of serious harm, or is a victim of sexual assault by a school employee. Such oral report shall be made by telephone or in person to the Commissioner of Children and Families or the

**Policy  
5141.4 (d)**

local law enforcement agency. The Department of Children and Families has established a 24-hour Child Abuse and Neglect Hotline at 1-800-842-2288 for the purpose of making such oral reports.

- (2) The employee shall also make an oral report as soon as practicable to the Building Principal or his/her designee, and/or the Superintendent or his/her designee. If the Building Principal is the alleged perpetrator of the abuse/neglect or sexual assault of a student, then the employee shall notify the Superintendent or his/her designee directly.
- (3) In cases involving suspected or believed abuse, neglect or sexual assault of a student by a school employee, the Superintendent or his/her designee shall immediately notify the child's parent or guardian that such a report has been made.
- (4) Not later than forty-eight hours after making an oral report, the employee shall submit a written report to the Commissioner of Children and Families or the Commissioner's designee containing all of the required information. The written report should be submitted on the DCF-136 form or any other form designated for that purpose.
- (5) The employee shall immediately submit a copy of the written report to the Building Principal or his/her designee and to the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee.
- (6) If the report concerns suspected abuse, neglect or sexual assault of a student by a school employee holding a certificate, authorization or permit issued by the State Department of Education, the Commissioner of Children and Families (or his/her designee) shall submit a copy of the written report to the Commissioner of Education (or his/her designee).

5. Reporting Procedures for Employees Other Than Statutory Mandated Reporters

The following procedures apply only to employees who are not statutory mandated reporters, as defined above.

- a) When an employee who is not a statutory mandated reporter and who, in the ordinary course of the person's employment or profession, has reasonable

**Policy  
5141.4 (e)**

cause to suspect or believe that a child has been abused or neglected or placed at imminent risk of serious harm, or is a victim of sexual assault by a school employee, as described in Paragraph 3, above, the following steps shall be taken.

- (1) The employee shall make an oral report as soon as practicable, but not later than twelve hours after the employee has reasonable cause to suspect or believe that a child has been abused or neglected, placed at imminent risk of serious harm or is a victim of sexual assault by a school employee. Such oral report shall be made by telephone or in person to the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee, to be followed by an immediate written report to the Superintendent or his/her designee.
  - (2) If the Superintendent or his/her designee determines that there is reasonable cause to suspect or believe that a child has been abused or neglected or placed at imminent risk of serious harm or is a victim of sexual assault by school employee, he/she shall cause reports to be made in accordance with the procedures set forth for statutory mandated reporters.
- b) Nothing in this policy shall be construed to preclude an employee reporting suspected child abuse, neglect or sexual assault by a school employee from reporting the same directly to the Commissioner of Children and Families.

6. Contents of Reports

Any oral or written report made pursuant to this policy shall contain the following information, if known:

- a) The names and addresses of the child\* and his/her parents or other person responsible for his/her care;
- b) the age of the child;
- c) the gender of the child;
- d) the nature and extent of the child's injury or injuries, maltreatment or neglect;
- e) the approximate date and time the injury or injuries, maltreatment or neglect occurred;

**Policy  
5141.4 (f)**

- f) information concerning any previous injury or injuries to, or maltreatment or neglect of the child or his/her siblings;
- g) the circumstances in which the injury or injuries, maltreatment or neglect came to be known to the reporter;
- h) the name of the person or persons suspected to be responsible for causing such injury or injuries, maltreatment or neglect;
- i) the reasons such person or persons are suspected of causing such injury or injuries, maltreatment or neglect;
- j) any information concerning any prior cases in which such person or persons have been suspected of causing an injury, maltreatment or neglect of a child; and
- k) whatever action, if any, was taken to treat, provide shelter or otherwise assist the child.

\*For purposes of this Paragraph, the term “child” includes any victim of sexual assault by a school employee, as described in Paragraph 3, above.

7. Investigation of the Report

- a) The Superintendent or his/her designee shall thoroughly investigate reports of suspected abuse, neglect or sexual assault if/when such report involves an employee of the Granby Board of Education or other individual under the control of the Granby Board of Education, provided such investigation does not impede an investigation by the Department of Children and Families (“DCF”). In all other cases, DCF shall be responsible for conducting the investigation with the cooperation and collaboration of the Granby Board of Education, as appropriate.
- b) Recognizing that DCF is the lead agency for the investigation of child abuse and neglect reports and reports of a student’s sexual assault by school employees, the Superintendent's investigation shall permit and give priority to any investigation conducted by the Commissioner of Children and Families or the appropriate local law enforcement agency. The Superintendent shall conduct the district’s investigation and take any disciplinary action, consistent with state law, upon notice from the Commissioner of Children and Families or the appropriate local law enforcement agency that the district’s investigation will not interfere with

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5141.4 (g)**

the investigation of the Commissioner of Children and Families or the local law enforcement agency.

- c) The Superintendent shall coordinate investigatory activities in order to minimize the number of interviews of any child or student victim of sexual assault and share information with other persons authorized to conduct an investigation of child abuse or neglect, as appropriate.
- d) Any person reporting child abuse or neglect or the sexual assault of a student by a school employee, or having any information relevant to alleged abuse or neglect or of the sexual assault of a student by a school employee, shall provide the Superintendent with all information related to the investigation that is in the possession or control of such person, except as expressly prohibited by state or federal law.
- e) When the school district is conducting an investigation involving suspected abuse or neglect or sexual assault of a student by an employee of the Granby Board of Education or other individual under the control of the Granby Board of Education, the Superintendent's investigation shall include an opportunity for the individual suspected of abuse, neglect or sexual assault to be heard with respect to the allegations contained within the report. During the course of such investigation, the Superintendent may suspend a Granby Board of Education employee with pay or may place the employee on administrative leave with pay, pending the outcome of the investigation. If the individual is one who provides services to or on behalf of students enrolled in the Granby Public Schools, pursuant to a contract with the Granby Board of Education, the Superintendent may suspend the provision of such services, and direct the individual to refrain from any contact with students enrolled in the Granby Public Schools, pending the outcome of the investigation.

8. Evidence of Abuse, Neglect or Sexual Assault by a School Employee

- a) If, upon completion of the investigation by the Commissioner of Children and Families ("Commissioner"), the Superintendent has received a report from the Commissioner that he or she has reasonable cause to believe that (1) a child has been abused or neglected by a school employee, as defined above, and the Commissioner has recommended that such employee be placed on the Department of Children and Families child abuse and neglect registry, or (2) a student is a victim of sexual assault by a school employee, the Superintendent shall request (and the law provides) that DCF notify the Superintendent not later than five (5) working days after such finding, and provide the Superintendent with records, whether or not

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created by DCF, concerning such investigation. The Superintendent shall suspend such school employee. Such suspension shall be with pay and shall not result in the diminution or termination of benefits to such employee.

- b) Not later than seventy-two (72) hours after such suspension, the Superintendent shall notify the Granby Board of Education and the Commissioner of Education, or the Commissioner of Education's representative, of the reasons for and the conditions of the suspension. The Superintendent shall disclose such records to the Commissioner of Education and the Granby Board of Education or its attorney for purposes of review of employment status or the status of such employee's certificate, permit or authorization, if any.
- c) The suspension of a school employee employed in a position requiring a certificate shall remain in effect until the Superintendent and/or Granby Board of Education acts pursuant to the provisions of Conn. Gen. Stat. §10-151. If the contract of employment of such certified school employee is terminated, or such certified school employee resigns such employment, the Superintendent shall notify the Commissioner of Education, or the Commissioner of Education's representative, within seventy-two (72) hours after such termination or resignation.
- d) The suspension of a school employee employed in a position requiring an authorization or permit shall remain in effect until the Superintendent and/or Granby Board of Education acts pursuant to any applicable termination provisions. If the contract of employment of a school employee holding an authorization or permit from the State Department of Education is terminated, or such school employee resigns such employment, the Superintendent shall notify the Commissioner of Education, or the Commissioner of Education's representative, within seventy-two hours after such termination or resignation.
- e) Regardless of the outcome of any investigation by the Commissioner of Children and Families and/or the police, the Superintendent and/or the Granby Board of Education, as appropriate, may take disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment, in accordance with the provisions of any applicable statute, if the Superintendent's investigation produces evidence that a child has been abused or neglected by a school employee or that a student has been a victim of sexual assault by a school employee.

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5141.4 (i)**

- f) The Granby Public Schools shall not employ a person whose employment contract is terminated or who resigned from employment following a suspension pursuant to Paragraph 8(a) of this policy and Conn. Gen. Stat. § 17a-101i, if such person is convicted of a crime involving an act of child abuse or neglect or an act of sexual assault of a student, as described in Paragraph 3 of this policy.
9. Evidence of Abuse, Neglect or Sexual Assault by an Independent Contractor of the Granby Board of Education
- If the investigation by the Superintendent and/or the Commissioner of Children and Families produces evidence that a child has been abused or neglected, or a student has been sexually assaulted, by any individual who provides services to or on behalf of students enrolled in the Granby Public Schools, pursuant to a contract with the Granby Board of Education, the Superintendent shall permanently suspend the provision of such services, and direct the individual to refrain from any contact with students enrolled in the Granby Public Schools.
10. Delegation of Authority by Superintendent
- The Superintendent may appoint a designee for the purposes of receiving and making reports, notifying and receiving notification, or investigating reports pursuant to this policy.
11. Confidential Rapid Response Team
- No later than January 1, 2016, the Superintendent shall establish a confidential rapid response team to coordinate with DCF to (1) ensure prompt reporting of suspected abuse or neglect or sexual assault of a student by a school employee, as described in Paragraph 3, above, and (2) provide immediate access to information and individuals relevant to the department's investigation. The confidential rapid response team shall consist of a teacher and the Superintendent, a local police officer and any other person the Granby Board of Education, acting through its Superintendent, deems appropriate.
12. Disciplinary Action for Failure to Follow Policy
- Except as provided in Section 12 below, any employee who fails to comply with the requirements of this policy shall be subject to discipline, up to and including termination of employment.

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5141.4 (j)**

13. The Granby Public Schools shall not hire any person whose employment contract was previously terminated by a board of education or who resigned from such employment, if such person has been convicted of a violation of Section 17a-101a of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, relating to mandatory reporting, regardless of whether an allegation of abuse or neglect or sexual assault was substantiated.

14. Non-Discrimination Policy/Prohibition Against Retaliation

The Granby Board of Education expressly prohibits retaliation against individuals reporting child abuse or neglect or the sexual assault of a student by a school employee and shall not discharge or in any manner discriminate or retaliate against any employee who, in good faith makes, or in good faith does not make, a report pursuant to this policy, or testifies or is about to testify in any proceeding involving abuse or neglect or sexual assault by a school employee. The Granby Board of Education also prohibits any employee from hindering or preventing or attempting to hinder or prevent any employee from making a report pursuant to this policy or state law concerning suspected child abuse or neglect or the sexual assault of a student by a school employee or testifying in any proceeding involving child abuse or neglect or the sexual assault of a student by a school employee.

15. Distribution of Policy

This policy shall be distributed annually to all school employees employed by the District. The District shall document that all such school employees have received this written policy and completed the training and refresher training programs required by in Section 16, below.

The District will post the telephone number of the Department of Children and Families' child abuse hotline, Care line, and the internet web address that provides information about the care line in each District school in a conspicuous location frequented by students. Postings may be posted in various language as applicable.

16. Training

- a) All new school employees, as defined above, shall be required to complete an educational training program for the accurate and prompt identification and reporting of child abuse and neglect. Such training program shall be developed and approved by the Commissioner of Children and Families.

**Policy  
5141.4 (k)**

- b) All school employees, as defined above, shall retake a refresher training course developed and approved by the Commissioner of Children and Families at least once every three years.
- c) The principal for each school shall annually certify to the Superintendent that each school employee, as defined above, working at such school, is in compliance with the training provisions in this policy and as required by state law. The Superintendent shall certify such compliance to the State Granby Board of Education.

17. Records

- a) The Granby Board of Education shall maintain in a central location all records of allegations, investigations and reports that a child has been abused or neglected by a school employee employed by the Granby Board of Education or that a student has been a victim of sexual assault by a school employee employed by the Granby Board of Education, as defined above, and conducted in accordance with this policy. Such records shall include any reports made to the Department of Children and Families. The State Department of Education shall have access to such records upon request.
- b) Notwithstanding the provisions of Conn. Gen. Stat. §10-151c, the Granby Board of Education shall provide the Commissioner of Children and Families, upon request and for the purposes of an investigation by the Commissioner of Children and Families of suspected child abuse or neglect by a teacher employed by the Granby Board of Education, any records maintained or kept on file by the Granby Board of Education. Such records shall include, but not be limited to, supervisory records, reports of competence, personal character and efficiency maintained in such teacher's personnel file with reference to evaluation of performance as a professional employee of the Granby Board of Education, and records of the personal misconduct of such teacher. For purposes of this section, "teacher" includes each certified professional employee below the rank of superintendent employed by the Granby Board of Education in a position requiring a certificate issued by the State Board of Education.

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Legal References:

Connecticut General Statutes:  
Section 10-151

Section 17a-101 et seq. PA 18-15 and PA 18-17

Section 17a-103

Section 53a-65

Public Act 15-205, “An Act Protecting School Children”

**Policy Adopted: May 19, 2010**

**Policy Revised: March 16, 2016**

**Policy Revised: February 1, 2017**

**Policy Revised: November 28, 2018**

**GRANBY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

**Granby, CT**

## Appendix A

### RELEVANT EXCERPTS OF STATUTORY DEFINITIONS OF SEXUAL ASSAULT AND RELATED TERMS COVERED BY MANDATORY REPORTING LAWS AND THIS POLICY

An employee of the Granby Board of Education must make a report in accordance with this policy when the employee of the Granby Board of Education in the ordinary course of such person's employment or profession has reasonable cause to suspect or believe that any person, regardless of age, who is being educated by the technical high school system or a local or regional board of education, other than as part of an adult education program, is a victim of the following sexual assault crimes, and the perpetrator is a school employee. The following are relevant excerpts of the sexual assault laws and related terms covered by mandatory reporting laws and this policy.

#### **“Intimate Parts” (Conn. Gen. Stat. § 53a-65)**

“Intimate parts” means the genital area or any substance emitted therefrom, groin, anus or any substance emitted therefrom, inner thighs, buttocks or breasts.

#### **“Sexual Intercourse” (Conn. Gen. Stat. § 53a-65)**

“Sexual intercourse” means vaginal intercourse, anal intercourse, fellatio or cunnilingus between persons regardless of sex. Its meaning is limited to persons not married to each other. Penetration, however slight, is sufficient to complete vaginal intercourse, anal intercourse or fellatio and does not require emission of semen. Penetration may be committed by an object manipulated by the actor into the genital or anal opening of the victim's body.

#### **“Sexual Contact” (Conn. Gen. Stat. § 53a-65)**

“Sexual contact” means any contact with the intimate parts of a person not married to the actor for the purpose of sexual gratification of the actor or for the purpose of degrading or humiliating such person or any contact of the intimate parts of the actor with a person not married to the actor for the purpose of sexual gratification of the actor or for the purpose of degrading or humiliating such person.

#### **Sexual Assault in First Degree (Conn. Gen. Stat. § 53a-70)**

A person is guilty of sexual assault in the first degree when such person (1) compels another person to engage in sexual intercourse by the use of force against such other person or a third person, or by the threat of use of force against such other person or against a third person which reasonably causes such person to fear physical injury to such person or a third person, or (2) engages in sexual intercourse with another person and such other person is under thirteen years of age and the actor is more than two years older than such person, or (3) commits sexual assault in the second degree as provided in

section 53a-71 and in the commission of such offense is aided by two or more other persons actually present, or (4) engages in sexual intercourse with another person and such other person is mentally incapacitated to the extent that such other person is unable to consent to such sexual intercourse.

#### **Aggravated Sexual Assault in the First Degree (Conn. Gen. Stat. § 53a-70a)**

A person is guilty of aggravated sexual assault in the first degree when such person commits sexual assault in the first degree as provided in section 53a-70 and in the commission of such offense (1) such person uses or is armed with and threatens the use of or displays or represents by such person's words or conduct that such person possesses a deadly weapon, (2) with intent to disfigure the victim seriously and permanently, or to destroy, amputate or disable permanently a member or organ of the victim's body, such person causes such injury to such victim, (3) under circumstances evincing an extreme indifference to human life such person recklessly engages in conduct which creates a risk of death to the victim, and thereby causes serious physical injury to such victim, or (4) such person is aided by two or more other persons actually present. No person shall be convicted of sexual assault in the first degree and aggravated sexual assault in the first degree upon the same transaction but such person may be charged and prosecuted for both such offenses upon the same information.

#### **Sexual Assault in the Second Degree (Conn. Gen. Stat. § 53a-71)**

A person is guilty of sexual assault in the second degree when such person engages in sexual intercourse with another person and: (1) Such other person is thirteen years of age or older but under sixteen years of age and the actor is more than three years older than such other person; or (2) such other person is impaired because of mental disability or disease to the extent that such other person is unable to consent to such sexual intercourse; or (3) such other person is physically helpless; or (4) such other person is less than eighteen years old and the actor is such person's guardian or otherwise responsible for the general supervision of such person's welfare; or (5) such other person is in custody of law or detained in a hospital or other institution and the actor has supervisory or disciplinary authority over such other person; or (6) the actor is a psychotherapist and such other person is (A) a patient of the actor and the sexual intercourse occurs during the psychotherapy session, (B) a patient or former patient of the actor and such patient or former patient is emotionally dependent upon the actor, or (C) a patient or former patient of the actor and the sexual intercourse occurs by means of therapeutic deception; or (7) the actor accomplishes the sexual intercourse by means of false representation that the sexual intercourse is for a bona fide medical purpose by a health care professional; or (8) the actor is a school employee and such other person is a student enrolled in a school in which the actor works or a school under the jurisdiction of the local or regional board of education which employs the actor; or (9) the actor is a coach in an athletic activity or a person who provides intensive, ongoing instruction and such other person is a recipient of coaching or instruction from the actor and (A) is a secondary school student and receives such coaching or instruction in a secondary school setting, or (B) is under eighteen years of age; or (10) the actor is twenty years of age or

older and stands in a position of power, authority or supervision over such other person by virtue of the actor's professional, legal, occupational or volunteer status and such other person's participation in a program or activity, and such other person is under eighteen years of age; or (11) such other person is placed or receiving services under the direction of the Commissioner of Developmental Services in any public or private facility or program and the actor has supervisory or disciplinary authority over such other person.

**Sexual Assault in the Third Degree (Conn. Gen. Stat. § 53a-72a)**

A person is guilty of sexual assault in the third degree when such person (1) compels another person to submit to sexual contact (A) by the use of force against such other person or a third person, or (B) by the threat of use of force against such other person or against a third person, which reasonably causes such other person to fear physical injury to himself or herself or a third person, or (2) engages in sexual intercourse with another person whom the actor knows to be related to him or her within any of the degrees of kindred specified in section 46b-21.

**Sexual Assault in the Third Degree with a Firearm (Conn. Gen. Stat. § 53a-72b)**

A person is guilty of sexual assault in the third degree with a firearm when such person commits sexual assault in the third degree as provided in section 53a-72a, and in the commission of such offense, such person uses or is armed with and threatens the use of or displays or represents by such person's words or conduct that such person possesses a pistol, revolver, machine gun, rifle, shotgun or other firearm. No person shall be convicted of sexual assault in the third degree and sexual assault in the third degree with a firearm upon the same transaction but such person may be charged and prosecuted for both such offenses upon the same information.

**Sexual Assault in the Fourth Degree (Conn. Gen. Stat. § 53a-73a)**

A person is guilty of sexual assault in the fourth degree when: (1) Such person subjects another person to sexual contact who is (A) under thirteen years of age and the actor is more than two years older than such other person, or (B) thirteen years of age or older but under fifteen years of age and the actor is more than three years older than such other person, or (C) mentally incapacitated or impaired because of mental disability or disease to the extent that such other person is unable to consent to such sexual contact, or (D) physically helpless, or (E) less than eighteen years old and the actor is such other person's guardian or otherwise responsible for the general supervision of such other person's welfare, or (F) in custody of law or detained in a hospital or other institution and the actor has supervisory or disciplinary authority over such other person; or (2) such person subjects another person to sexual contact without such other person's consent; or (3) such person engages in sexual contact with an animal or dead body; or (4) such person is a psychotherapist and subjects another person to sexual contact who is (A) a patient of the actor and the sexual contact occurs during the psychotherapy session, or (B) a patient or former patient of the actor and such patient or former patient is emotionally dependent upon the actor, or (C) a patient or former patient of the actor and the sexual contact occurs by means of therapeutic deception; or (5) such person subjects another person to

sexual contact and accomplishes the sexual contact by means of false representation that the sexual contact is for a bona fide medical purpose by a health care professional; or (6) such person is a school employee and subjects another person to sexual contact who is a student enrolled in a school in which the actor works or a school under the jurisdiction of the local or regional board of education which employs the actor; or (7) such person is a coach in an athletic activity or a person who provides intensive, ongoing instruction and subjects another person to sexual contact who is a recipient of coaching or instruction from the actor and (A) is a secondary school student and receives such coaching or instruction in a secondary school setting, or (B) is under eighteen years of age; or (8) such person subjects another person to sexual contact and (A) the actor is twenty years of age or older and stands in a position of power, authority or supervision over such other person by virtue of the actor's professional, legal, occupational or volunteer status and such other person's participation in a program or activity, and (B) such other person is under eighteen years of age; or (9) such person subjects another person to sexual contact who is placed or receiving services under the direction of the Commissioner of Developmental Services in any public or private facility or program and the actor has supervisory or disciplinary authority over such other person.

## Students

### Exploitation; Sexual Harassment

#### Sexual Abuse Prevention and Education Program (*Version #1*)

##### Definitions

**Sexual violence** is a multi-layered oppression that occurs at the societal and individual level and is connected to and influenced by other forms of oppression, in particular, sexism, racism and heterosexism. On the societal level, it is the preponderance of attitudes, actions, social norms that perpetuate and sustain environments and behaviors that promote a cultural tolerance, acceptance, and denial of sexual assault and abuse. On an individual level, sexual violence is a wide range of sexual acts and behaviors that are unwanted, coerced, committed without consent, or forced either by physical means or through threats.

**Sexual abuse** refers to coerced or forced sexual contact or activity that may be ongoing or occurs over time, often within a trusting relationship. Most victims know their perpetrators. Perpetrators are usually older than their victims and may trick or force them into gradually doing the sexual behavior. The sexual behavior may not be violent and may even be pleasurable to the child, who doesn't necessarily know it is wrong. Perpetrators of ongoing sexual abuse control the child/youth through secrecy, shame, or threats. Children cannot consent to sexual contact with adults or older youth, and sexual contact is considered abuse, regardless of whether it includes touching or not.

**Sexual assault** usually refers to forced or unwanted sexual contact or activity that occurs as a single incident, as opposed to ongoing sexual abuse that may continue over time. It may also involve verbal or visual behaviors, or any type of pressure designed to coerce or force someone to join in the unwanted sexual contact or activity. The assault may involve a similar range of behaviors that are attempted or perpetrated against a victim's will or when a victim cannot consent because of age, disability, or the influence of alcohol or drugs. Sexual assault may involve actual or threatened physical force, use of weapons, coercion, intimidation or pressure. The offender usually takes advantage of the victim's vulnerability. Anyone can perpetrate this type of abuse – a trusted friend or family member, a stranger, a casual acquaintance, or an intimate partner.

## **Students**

### **Exploitation; Sexual Harassment**

#### **Sexual Abuse Prevention and Education Program** (*Version #1*) (continued)

##### **Program**

The Granby Public Schools shall implement the Sexual Abuse and Assault Awareness and Prevention Program identified or developed, in compliance with C.G.S 17a-101q, by the Department of Children and Families, in collaboration with the Department of Education and other assisting entities, with the goal of informing students and staff about child sexual abuse and assault awareness and available resources. The District's implementation of the Sexual Abuse and Assault Awareness and Prevention Program, per statute, shall be not later than October 1, 2016. The program, for students in Grades K-12, inclusive, shall include, but not be limited to:

1. Providing mandatory training to all District staff to ensure they are fully informed on:
  - a. The warning signs of sexual abuse and sexual misconduct involving a child, including recognizing and reporting child sexual abuse,
  - b. Mandatory reporting requirements,
  - c. School District policies pertaining to sexual abuse and sexual misconduct,
  - d. Establishing and maintaining professional relationships with students,
  - e. Available resources for children affected by sexual abuse or misconduct, and
  - f. Appropriate follow-up and care for abused students as they return to the classroom setting.
  
2. Providing students age-appropriate educational materials designed for children in grades kindergarten to twelve, inclusive, regarding child sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention that may include, but not be limited to:
  - a. The skills to recognize:
    - i. Child sexual abuse and assault,
    - ii. Boundary violations and unwanted forms of touching and contact, and
    - iii. Ways offenders groom or desensitize victims.

## **Students**

### **Exploitation; Sexual Harassment**

#### **Sexual Abuse Prevention and Education Program** (continued)

- b. Strategies to promote disclosure, reduce self-blame and mobilize bystanders.
- c. Actions that child victims of sexual abuse and assault may take to obtain assistance.
- d. Intervention and counseling options for child victims of sexual abuse and assault.
- e. Access to educational resources to enable child victims of sexual abuse and assault to succeed in school.
- f. Uniform procedures for reporting instances of child sexual abuse and assault to school staff members.

The lessons should be evidence-informed, developmentally and age appropriate and informed by the required curricula standards and performance indicators contained in the SDE Guidelines (Section Three).

*[Note: Above items a, b, c, d, e, and f are required per P.A. 14-196.]*

- 3. Implementing a child sexual abuse curriculum to provide age-appropriate information to teach students the difference between appropriate and inappropriate conduct in situations where child sexual abuse or sexual assault could occur, and to identify actions a child may take to prevent and report sexual abuse or sexual assault. Students will be:
  - a. Provided with resources and referrals to handle these potentially dangerous situations.
  - b. Provided access to available counseling and educational support.

The Board of Education directs the Superintendent develop administrative regulations to address the issues of students obtaining assistance, intervention and counseling options, access to educational resources and procedures for reporting instances of child sexual abuse and assault.

A student shall be excused from participating in the sexual abuse, assault awareness and prevention program offered within the school, in its entirety or any part thereof, upon receipt by the Principal or his/her designee, of a written request from the student's parent/guardian.

Any student exempted from the sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention program shall be provided, during the period of time in which the student would otherwise be participating in such program, an opportunity for other study or academic work.

Students shall be encouraged to disclose abuse to a trusted adult member of the staff, including, but not limited to, teachers, administrators, nurses, coaches, and counselors. Child abuse reporting procedures will be followed for all acts of violence and sexual abuse against children as delineated in policy #5141.4, "Reporting of Suspected Child Abuse," and its accompanying regulations.

## **Students**

### **Exploitation; Sexual Harassment**

#### **Sexual Abuse Prevention and Education Program (Version #1) (continued)**

#### **Reporting Child Sexual Abuse and Assault**

Connecticut General Statutes §17a-101, as amended, requires all school employees including the Superintendent of Schools, school teachers, substitute teachers, administrators, school guidance counselors, school paraprofessionals, licensed nurses, physicians, psychologists, social workers, coaches of intramural or interscholastic athletics, or any other person, who in the performance of his/her duties, has regular contact with students and who provides services to District students, who have reasonable cause to suspect or believe that a child has been abused, neglected, or placed in imminent risk of serious harm to report such abuse and/or neglect in compliance with applicable state statutes.

An oral report by telephone or in person shall be made as soon as possible but no later than 12 hours to the Commissioner of Children and Families and to the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee followed within 48 hours by a written report to the Department of Children and Families.

Reporting suspected abuse and/or neglect of children, in addition to the requirements pertaining to staff training, record keeping and dissemination of this policy, shall be in accordance with the procedures established and set forth in the Administrative Regulation #5141.4.

(cf. 5131.911 – Bullying)

(cf. 5141.4 – Reporting of Suspected Child Abuse)

(cf. 5145.5 – Sexual Harassment)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes  
17a-101q Statewide sexual abuse and assault awareness and prevention program  
A Statewide K-12 Sexual Assault and Abuse Prevention and Awareness Program developed by DCF, SDE, and Connecticut Alliance (The Alliance) to End Sexual Violence.  
PA 22-87 An Act Concerning the Identification and Prevention of and Response to Adult Sexual Misconduct Against Children