

SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY NOTIFICATION

The Tazewell County school division 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, each school in the Tazewell county school division 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 Tazewell County school division shall notify parents and employees of this policy. The school board will also annually notify the parent of each student enrolled in the school division 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
- playground supervisors, and
- 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 Tazewell County school division recognizes that it is the responsibility of local law enforcement to notify the community of potential public danger. Therefore, the division 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 division employees or volunteers and for the protection of school division 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 division student, or attending any school division activity, the Superintendent or his designee shall be notified immediately. The Superintendent or his designee may, in his or her discretion, notify local law-enforcement.

2. School Volunteers and Student Teachers. Each staff member shall submit to the Principal the name and address of each volunteer the staff member proposes to use as soon as the person is identified. The Principal shall screen each student teacher and volunteer's name and address against the registry information. If a match is found, the Principal shall notify the Superintendent, who shall confirm the match. If the match is confirmed, the Superintendent 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 Superintendent shall provide a copy of the notice to the Principal and staff member.
3. Contractors' Employees. In addition to ensuring that the certification requirements of Policy DJF Purchasing Procedures are met, the Superintendent shall include the following language in all Division 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 Division Employees. Each time sex offender registry information is received, the principal shall review it to determine if a school division employee is registered. If a match is found, the Superintendent shall confirm or disprove the match with local law enforcement. If the match is confirmed, the Superintendent shall notify the School Board. The 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 Superintendent 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 division.
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 KNA Violent Sex Offenders on School property.

When the school division 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 student's principal. 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. Principals will consider requests from registered sex offenders in accordance with procedures prescribed by the superintendent.

When the school division 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 principal of the school the person seeks to visit or which sponsors the event the person seeks to attend. 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. Principals will consider requests from registered sex offenders in accordance with procedures prescribed by the superintendent.

7. Precautions to Protect Students. When the Superintendent 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 division students.

Requests for Registry Information

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

Adopted: July 11, 2011

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:	BBA	School Board Powers and Duties
	DJF	Purchasing Procedures
	KK	School Visitors
	KNA	Violent Sex Offenders on School Property
	KNAJ	Relations with Law Enforcement Authorities

SEX OFFENDER REGISTRY NOTIFICATION

The Tazewell County School Division 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, each school will adhere to the following:

- a. The Division Superintendent/Designee serves as the contact person for purposes of the Child Sex Offender Registry Notification. The Division Superintendent/Designee may at any time request information from law enforcement officials regarding child sex offenders or violent offenders against youth.
- b. Upon receiving a list of sex offenders or violent offenders from law enforcement, the Division Superintendent/Designee shall determine if anyone is listed who is currently an employee, student teacher, or school volunteer.
- c. The Division Superintendent/Designee shall assign central office employees to regularly screen the names of volunteers and coaches against the registry to ensure that students and employees are protected. Companies who have contracted to provide services on school sites in the presence of students will also be required to screen their employees against the registry and assure the school division that any employee listed on the sex offender registry will not be sent to jobs where contact with students may potentially occur. Registry information shall not be used to intimidate or harass others
- d. The school division will annually notify the parent of each student of the availability of information in the Sex Offender and Crimes Against Minors Registry and the location of the internet website so that parents and employees can be aware of where registered sex offenders live in their neighborhood. Recognizing it is the responsibility of local law enforcement to notify the community of potential danger, Tazewell County Public Schools will not disseminate registry information to parents. When the Superintendent/Designee determines it is necessary, due to the perceived danger posed by 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.
- e. When a parent of an enrolled student is a registered sex offender, the parent will be notified in writing that he/she is barred from being present at school or at school functions without the express written approval of the student's principal. Prior to granting any such approval, the principal must consult with the superintendent/designee. 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 on school campus or permitted to attend a school function, he/she will be monitored to ensure that he/she does not come into contact with any children other than his/her own children.
- f. Notwithstanding any other provision of this policy, any person who has been convicted of a sexually violent offense, as defined in §9.1-902 of the Code of Virginia, is prohibited from entering or being present on Tazewell County School Property at any time, unless he is a lawfully registered and a qualified voter and is coming upon such property solely for the purpose of casting a vote, without prior permission of the School Board. Violent sex offenders who have obtained a court order as provided in §18.2-370.5B of the Code

of Virginia may file a petition with the School Board by submitting the petition to the Division Superintendent for permission to enter and be present on school property. Persons filing a petition shall provide such further information as may be required by the School Board and/or the Superintendent. The School Board may, in its sole discretion, grant the petition, subject to whatever restrictions deemed necessary and appropriate.

Exceptions

Upon request of a parent/guardian, the Division Superintendent/Designee may grant an exception, pursuant to §18.2-370.5 of the Code of Virginia, and allow entry onto school property for the purpose of participation in one of the following activities:

- a. Attending an academic conference with school officials.
- b. Attending a scheduled school event with school officials.
- c. Picking up or dropping off a child or children.

The decision to grant or deny an exception will be contingent on whether the parent's/guardian's right to educational information or access to his/her child has been limited by court order.

The Division Superintendent/Designee shall:

- a. Review all of the relevant circumstances, including possible risk to the morals, health, and safety of other students.
- b. Inform the building principal(s) of details regarding the parent's/guardian's request to enter school property.
- c. Inform the parent/guardian of the decision to:
 - deny the request and that such decision may not be appealed to the School Board.
 - grant an exception and allow entry to school property.

Policy Enforcement

- a. Any staff member is entitled to request identification from any person on school property.
- b. Any staff member shall seek the immediate removal of any person who refuses to provide requested identification.
- c. School officials observing a parent/guardian or other person violating this policy shall immediately notify law enforcement.