

CHILD ABUSE AND RELATED THREATS TO CHILD SAFETY/NEGLECT

The ECU Community School is concerned with the health, safety, and welfare of all children and recognizes the legal and ethical obligations that school employees, contractors, and volunteers have to report known or suspected maltreatment of children. North Carolina has two separate systems that mandate reports of suspected child abuse, neglect, dependency, or maltreatment and a third system for mandated reporting of certain crimes against juveniles to local law enforcement.

All employees of the ECU Community School who have reasonable cause to suspect the abuse, neglect, or dependency of any child under eighteen (18) years of age shall comply with the provisions of the Child Abuse Reporting Law as contained in Article 44 of the North Carolina Juvenile Code. This includes instances when a parent or other caretaker is suspected to have caused a child to be abused, neglected, or dependent, such that this information must be reported to the county child welfare agency. In addition, suspected human trafficking, involuntary servitude, and sexual servitude of a child and death of a child as a result of maltreatment are special forms of child abuse under law and must be reported to the county child welfare agency, regardless of the relationship between the victim and the perpetrator. By contrast, suspected child maltreatment by a caregiver in a child care facility, including in a licensed preschool classroom or other licensed classroom or program operated by the school, must be reported to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child Development and Early Education. When the source of the harm or threat of harm to the child is uncertain, a report should be made to both the county child welfare agency and the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Child Development and Early Education.

In addition, all employees of the ECU Community School shall comply with North Carolina General Statute 14-318.6, which mandates reports to local law enforcement when a child is a victim of certain violent offenses, sexual offenses, or misdemeanor child abuse. An adult who knows or reasonably should have known of any of these offenses inflicted upon a child must report that information immediately.

All employees of the ECU Community School will extend their full and complete cooperation to personnel from the Pitt County Department of Social Services and to any state and local law enforcement officers who may be called upon by the Department of Social Services to assist in the investigation and evaluation of any report of ~~abuse or neglect~~ abuse, neglect or other maltreatment of children.

ECU supports all employees who in good faith make a report under North Carolina's mandated reporting laws.

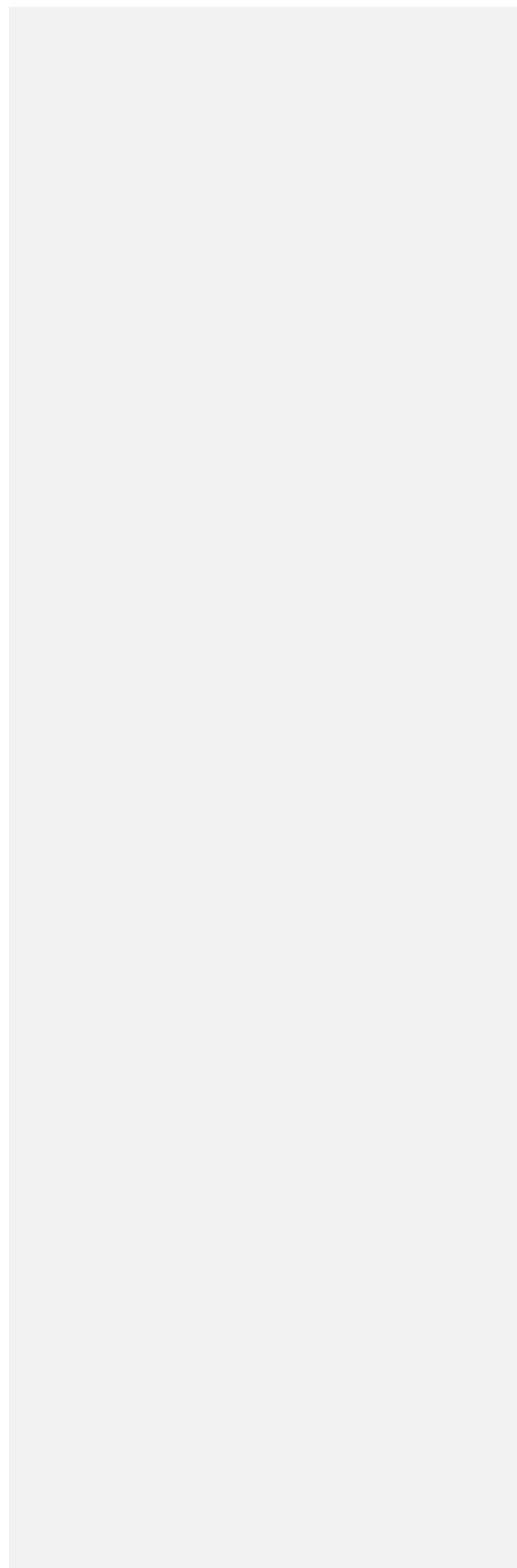
The Dean or his/her designee shall develop administrative regulations, forms and procedures necessary for the proper implementation of this policy. This includes mandatory training for ECU Community school personnel to receive at least two hours of training on sexual abuse and sex trafficking in even-numbered years beginning in 2020, in compliance with N.C.G.S. 115C-375.20.

~~These regulations shall also include extracts of pertinent sections of the Child Abuse~~

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ECU COMMUNITY SCHOOL

POLICY 10.620



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