



ARCHDIOCESE OF BALTIMORE
REGISTERED SEX OFFENDER
who is an Archdiocesan School Parent

If a registered sex offender enrolls his/her child in an Archdiocesan school or it is learned that a registered sex offender's child attends an Archdiocesan school, then because of the nature of the crimes for which the parent(s) was convicted, as a matter of State law and Archdiocesan policy, the following restrictions with regards to his/her participation as a parent of a child in an Archdiocesan school have been established:

1. If the registered sex offender parent wishes to communicate with his/her child's teachers or school administrators, he/she only may do so by telephone, regular mail, or e-mail, or by making an appointment to see them after-hours when no other children are present. The parent must receive advance written approval from the principal for any such appointment, including parent-teacher conferences. If approval is granted, the parent must immediately notify the person the parent is meeting with upon his/her arrival to the school.
2. The registered sex offender parent is not allowed on school grounds at any time while children are present. This includes walking his/her child to and from school. If the parent is in a vehicle, however, he/she may pick-up or drop-off his/her child if the parents remains in his/her vehicle at all times and does not stay any longer than necessary to accomplish this task. Other than his/her own child or children, no child or children may be dropped-off or picked-up from school grounds in a vehicle in which the parent is present..
3. The registered sex offender parent may not attend any school events at which children are present (e.g., field trips, sporting games).
4. The registered sex offender parent may not volunteer or work at any school or parish event.
5. The registered sex offender parent has the right to review his/her child's educational records. He/she may do so by (1) making an appointment with the principal, and (2) receiving written approval from the principal to be on school grounds for this purpose. The appointment will be scheduled for after normal school hours. The parent must immediately notify the principal when he/she arrives on school grounds for any such appointment.

We understand that these restrictions may seem severe but it is very important to take these measures to protect our children. Parish/School Administration should contact the Office of Child and Youth Protection if they learn a school parent is a registered sex offender. The Office of Child and Youth Protection will notify the parent of his/her restrictions. Staff should be informed of the parent's history and restrictions on a need-to-know basis. School Administration should not inform the whole school community of the situation unless, after discussion with the Director of Child and Youth Protection and the Superintendent, it is agreed that doing so is necessary because of extraordinary circumstances.

Parents need to be informed of our policy regarding parents who are registered sex offenders. Parents, like all citizens, are able to obtain information about registered sex offenders in their area on the Maryland Sex Offenders Registry website, www.dpscs.state.md.us, and they should be informed of their right to do so. Searches on the site may be done by name or by zip code.

Attached is the letter that must be given to all Archdiocesan school parents at the beginning of the school year. Also, attached is a letter that may be given to parents in our parishes who may not have a child in an Archdiocesan school. This letter encourages parents to check the Maryland Sex Offender Registry and informs them of the Archdiocese's continued efforts to protecting the children.

We would not be able to create safer environments for our children without your leadership and perseverance. Thank you for your help! Please contact the Office of Child and Youth Protection at 410-547-5348 if you have any concerns or questions.