

REPORTS BY SCHOOL SYSTEM EMPLOYEES REQUIRED UNDER GEORGIA LAWS AND RULES

- **Reporting Student Crime**

The Official Code of Georgia Annotated (O.C.G.A.) Section 20-2-1184 requires all employees to report certain suspected student crimes on a school campus or at a school activity to the principal or site supervisor. The crimes are:

1. Aggravated assault with a firearm;
2. Aggravated battery
3. Sexual offenses (rape, statutory rape, sodomy, aggravated sodomy, child molestation, aggravated child molestation, public indecency, prostitution, pimping, pandering, solicitation of sodomy, any act of fornication or adultery, sexual battery; enticing a child for indecent purposes)
4. Carrying a deadly weapon at a public gathering (on school property, but not necessarily at a school sponsored event);
5. Possession of a weapon within a school safety zone or at a school function;
6. Illegal possession of a pistol or revolver;
7. Possession of marijuana and controlled substances

Upon receiving a report and if the **principal or site supervisor** has reasonable cause to believe the report is valid, he/she is required to make an immediate oral report to the superintendent and the appropriate police authority and the district attorney.

- **Reporting Child Abuse**

Employees who have reasonable cause to believe that a child under the age of 18 and/or a student has been physically abused, neglected or exploited or sexually abused must report the facts known to that employee to the principal, site supervisor or designee. It then becomes the duty of the principal, site supervisor or designee to make an oral report immediately, but in no case later than twenty-four (24) hours from the time there is reasonable cause to believe a child has been abused to the Department of Family and Children Services (DFACS). A copy of the report shall be forwarded to the school social worker.

- **Reporting Employee Crime**

O.C.G.A. Section 20-2-984.2 requires the reporting of offenses committed by school system educators. The superintendent, associate or assistant superintendents, or the directors of personnel are required to make an immediate written report to the BOE upon receiving a written report from a school district employee or parent/guardian of a child enrolled in the school system that any school system educator has committed certain criminal offenses. The offenses include murder, voluntary manslaughter, aggravated assault, aggravated battery, kidnapping, possession of marijuana or any controlled substance, theft, sexual exploitation of a minor, all of the sexual offenses discussed above except adultery and fornication, unlawfully operating a motor vehicle after being declared a habitual violator.

- **Code of Ethics for FCS Employees**

The Code of Ethics for Educators applies to all Forsyth County School System employees. One of the requirements in this code is that employees must report a breach of one or more of the Standards. Employees should be aware of local policies and procedures and/or the chain of command for reporting unethical conduct.

The Code of Ethics may be viewed in its entirety on the Forsyth County School System website (www.forsyth.k12.ga.us) in the Human Resources section as well as the Georgia Professional Standards Commission website (www.gapsc.com).
