

Prevention of Student Sexual Abuse by Staff Policy

I. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

The District of Columbia Public Schools (DCPS) is committed to ensuring that every student feels loved, challenged, and prepared to positively influence society and thrive in life. At DCPS, we are committed to educating the whole child by providing rigorous, joyful, and inclusive academic and social emotional learning experiences to ensure all students are college and career ready. As a part of this commitment, DCPS works to create a safe and secure learning environment that supports the whole child and ensures that every student has access to joyful and rigorous academic experiences.

This policy conveys DCPS requirements regarding the prevention of student sexual abuse by staff, as informed by applicable law, including the School Safety Omnibus Amendment Act of 2018 (“School Safety Act”).¹ The term staff, broadly defined by the School Safety Act and below, means an employee or volunteer of a school, an employee of an entity with whom the school contracts, or an employee or volunteer of an entity with whom the school partners through a Memorandum of Agreement or a Memorandum of Understanding; who acts as an agent of the school at the school or activities sponsored by the school.

II. AUTHORITY AND APPLICABLE LAW

Source	Citation
Federal Law	Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015, 129 Stat. 2120, 20 U.S.C. § 7926
	Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 (Title IX), 20 U.S.C. §1681 <i>et seq.</i>
DC Law	School Safety Omnibus Amendment Act of 2018 (D.C. Law 22-294, D.C. Code § 38-951.01, <i>et seq.</i>)
	Anti-Sexual Abuse Act of 1994 (D.C. Law 10-257; D.C. Code § 22-3001, <i>et seq.</i>)
	Mandated reporting requirements (D.C. Code § 4-1321.02)
	D.C. Official Code §4-1501 <i>et seq.</i> (Criminal Background Checks for Government Services to Children)
	D.C. Human Rights Act of 1977, DC Code § 2-1401 <i>et seq.</i>
DC Regulations	6-B DCMR § 400 <i>et seq.</i> (Government Personnel suitability requirements)

III. DEFINITIONS

Child abuse means the:

- (A) infliction of physical or mental injury upon a child;
- (B) **sexual abuse**, as that term is defined below, or exploitation of a child; or
- (C) negligent treatment or maltreatment of a child. (D.C. Code § 38-951.01(1))

Minor means a person who has not yet attained the age of 18 years. (D.C. Code § 22-3001 (5A))

¹ D.C. Code § 38-951.01, *et seq.*

Sexual abuse means, as defined by the Anti-Sexual Abuse Act of 1994 (D.C. Law 10-257; D.C. Code 3020.51(4)), any action that is a violation of:

- (A) D.C. Code § 22-1834 (sex trafficking of children);
- (B) D.C. Code § 22-2704 (abducting or enticing a child from his or her home for purposes of prostitution; harboring such child);
- (C) D.C. Code § 22-3001, et seq. (sexual abuse), including but not limited to child sexual abuse, sexual abuse of a minor, sexual abuse of a secondary education student, enticing a child or minor, or arranging for sexual contact with a real or fictitious child; or
- (D) D.C. Code § 22-3102 (sexual performance using minors).²

Sexual misconduct means any verbal, nonverbal, written or electronic communication, or any other act directed toward or with a student that is designed to establish a sexual relationship with a student, including:

- (A) A sexual invitation;
- (B) Dating or soliciting a date;
- (C) Engaging in sexual dialogue;
- (D) Making sexually suggestive comments;
- (E) Describing prior sexual encounters; or
- (F) Physical exposure of a sexual or erotic nature. (D.C. Code § 38-951.01(4))

Staff means an employee or volunteer of a school, an employee of an entity with whom the school contracts, or an employee or volunteer of an entity with whom the school partners through a Memorandum of Agreement or a Memorandum of Understanding; who acts as an agent of the school at the school or activities sponsored by the school (see D.C. Code § 38-951.01(5)).

Student sexual abuse means **sexual abuse**, as defined above and by the Anti-Sexual Abuse Act of 1994 (D.C. Law 10-257; D.C. Code 3020.51(4)), committed against a student of a school. (D.C. Code § 38-951.01(6))

IV. REQUIREMENTS

A. Staff Training and Conduct Requirements

1. Staff Training Requirement

The DCPS Central Office is responsible for developing required staff training on sexual misconduct, student sexual abuse, and child abuse that will include instruction on:

- (A) Recognizing and reporting sexual misconduct, student sexual abuse, and child abuse;
- (B) Receiving disclosures of sexual misconduct, student sexual abuse, and child abuse in a supportive, appropriate, and trauma-informed manner;
- (C) Prevention, warning signs, and effects of sexual misconduct, student sexual abuse, and child abuse;
- (D) Communicating with students and parents regarding reporting and preventing sexual misconduct, student sexual abuse, and child abuse; and
- (E) Other appropriate topics identified by the school community.

² Please see Appendix A for relevant excerpts from all local laws referenced in this definition.

Beginning no later than that the first day of the 2020-21 school year, all staff must complete required training on prevention, recognition, and reporting of sexual misconduct, student sexual abuse, and child abuse. Thereafter, this required training must be completed for new hires at the time of hiring and at a minimum every 2 years for all staff. Completion of this required staff training will be tracked by the DCPS Office of Employee Services. The principal of each DCPS school is responsible for verifying, in coordination with the Office of Employee Services, that all school staff are in compliance with this requirement.

2. Staff Background Check Requirements

All adults, including all staff covered by this policy, who may have unsupervised access to children must be cleared through the DCPS Clearance Office before working with DCPS students.³ The clearance process includes a fingerprint-based criminal background check. Except under limited circumstances for volunteers with an active secret or top-secret federal security clearance, no other clearances will be accepted. Background checks are valid for two years from the fingerprinting date.⁴

3. Staff Conduct Requirements⁵

Staff are strictly prohibited from engaging in any behavior that is, or could be perceived as, sexual misconduct, sexual abuse, or child abuse.⁶

Staff are strictly prohibited from engaging in, encouraging, or entertaining sexual or romantic relationships with students, regardless of the employee's or student's age. Staff are prohibited from transporting students in their personal vehicles or meeting with students off school grounds and outside of school hours without the knowledge and consent of the student's parent or guardian. Any staff who engages in such prohibited conduct will be subject to discipline.

4. Communication between Staff and Students Outside of School

When DCPS employees are required to contact a student outside of school hours, communication may occur as follows:

- (a) Via email: DCPS employees are required to use their DCPS-issued email accounts.
- (b) Via phone: DCPS employees with DCPS-issued mobile phones are required to use those devices or other DCPS phones. All other DCPS employees are encouraged to use a DCPS telephone if possible.
- (c) Via text: DCPS employees with DCPS-issued mobile phones are required to use those devices.

³ All background checks must be conducted by means of fingerprint and National Criminal Information Center checks conducted by the Mayor and the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI). DC Code § 4-1501.05(b). Background checks are valid for two years from fingerprinting date. DC Code § 4-1501.05(e)

⁴ Volunteers and DCPS employees are also required to notify their supervisor and the personnel authority whenever they are arrested or charged with any criminal offense. This notification must be done within no more than seven (7) days of the arrest or service of a criminal complaint, or its equivalent, on the volunteer or employee. Failure to do so is cause for disciplinary action. (6-B DCMR § 416.4)

⁵ See also DCPS Employee Rights and Responsibilities Policy, available at: <https://dcps.dc.gov/page/dcps-policies>

⁶ See also Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 ("Title IX") prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sex in schools, and the D.C. Human Rights Act of 1977 ("D.C. Human Rights Act") prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sex and gender identity or gender expression.

No employees of entities with whom DCPS contracts (referred to as “DCPS contractors” in this section) or partners through a Memorandum of Agreement or a Memorandum of Understanding (referred to as “partners” in this section) are permitted to contact a student outside of school hours without written permission from the school principal to do so. If written permission is given, communication may only occur as follows:

- (a) Via email: DCPS contractors and partners are required to use DCPS-issued email accounts, if issued, or official email accounts issued by the contracting or partnership entity.
- (b) Via phone: DCPS contractors and partners with DCPS-issued mobile phones are required to use those devices or other DCPS phones. All other DCPS contractors are encouraged to use a DCPS telephone if possible.
- (c) Via text: DCPS contractors and partners with DCPS-issued mobile phones are required to use those devices.

No DCPS volunteers are permitted to contact a student outside of school hours without written permission from the school principal and the student’s parent or guardian to do so.

Staff shall limit communication with students who are currently enrolled in DCPS (regardless of the student age) or with DCPS alumni who are minors to online communities where the staff member uses his or her professional username or social media handle. Staff may only communicate with students using his or her personal username or social media handle if the student is:

- (a) A relative;
- (b) A member or participant in the same civic, social recreational, athletic or religious organization; or
- (c) Involved in an emergency situation requiring such communication. In such cases, the employee shall notify his or her supervisor of the contact as soon as possible.

DCPS employees should refer to the DCPS Social Media Policy for more information regarding both the professional and personal use of social media.⁷

B. Responding to an Allegation of Student Sexual Abuse Committed by Staff

1. Reporting Requirements for DCPS School Leaders

All incidents involving alleged or suspected sexual misconduct, student sexual abuse, and child abuse must be reported to MPD, CFSA, and the Central Office Comprehensive Alternative Resolution & Equity (CARE) Team⁸ as soon as immediate medical and security needs have been met. School leaders must:

- Contact the Metropolitan Police Department (MPD) by calling 911;
- Contact the Child and Family Services Administration (CFSA) by calling (202) 671-SAFE(7233); and
- Contact the Central Office CARE Team by calling (202) 442-5405 or emailing dcps.care@dc.gov.

⁷ The DCPS Social Media Policy is available at: <https://dcps.dc.gov/page/dcps-policies>

⁸ The DCPS CARE Team is responsible for addressing claims of discrimination, sexual harassment, bullying, or any unfair treatment a student, parent or visitor encounter at a DC Public School.

School leaders must also follow all DCPS [incident reporting requirements](#),⁹ including:

- Contact your school's security officer immediately to ensure that an incident report is completed and submitted.¹⁰
- Submit an incident report in the Critical Incident Tracker.¹¹
- If an incident involves any DCPS employee, contact Labor Management and Employee Relations (LMER) at (202) 442-5374 or dcps.lmer@dc.gov.

2. Reporting Requirements for all Other Staff

In addition to fulfilling all mandated reporting requirements,¹² staff must report all incidents involving alleged or suspected sexual misconduct, student sexual abuse, and child abuse to the school principal or designee.

All non-DCPS staff must report all incidents involving alleged or suspected sexual misconduct, student sexual abuse, and child abuse to the school principal or designee and the school-based point of contact assigned to the volunteer, contract, or school program providers. All contracted entities and school program providers must report all incidents to the Central Office contact listed in the contract, Memorandum of Agreement, or Memorandum of Understanding.¹³

3. Informing the School Community About an Investigation or Allegation of Sexual Abuse Committed by Staff

When an allegation of student sexual abuse by staff is received, DCPS will follow the [Personnel Misconduct Allegations Communications Process](#), available on the DCPS Student Safety website at <https://dcps.dc.gov/page/student-safety>.

C. Public Awareness and Parent Training

1. Public Awareness

The principal of each DCPS school shall ensure this policy is posted to the school's website. The principal of each DCPS school shall ensure this policy is provided to staff, parents, and in a developmentally appropriate manner, students. Schools may provide the policy to staff and parents via hard copy or electronic means. Schools electing to provide the policy electronically to parents must include information regarding how to obtain a hard copy.

⁹ Available on the available on the DCPS Student Safety website at <https://dcps.dc.gov/page/student-safety>.

¹⁰ If an incident occurs between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 a.m. or on a weekend, contact the DCPS Security team's 24-hour Command Center at (202) 576-6950 to ensure an immediate response.

¹¹ The Critical Incident Tracker is a DCPS reporting database. Secondary schools are currently using the tracker; elementary schools will begin using it in Fall 2019.

¹² D.C. Code § 4-1321.02)

¹³ School program providers must report any incidents regarding the behavior, safety, or health of any DCPS student and/or any Provider Personnel that occur while their organization is working with DCPS, by reporting to the school principal, the school-based point-of-contact, the Central Office contact listed in the organization's Agreement, and submitting the required Incident Report Form.

2. Parent Training and Information

The DCPS Central Office is responsible for developing training and information for parents regarding child abuse, sexual misconduct, and student sexual abuse, including instruction on:

- (A) Recognizing and reporting sexual misconduct, student sexual abuse, and child abuse; including how to report allegations to CFSA, MPD and the DCPS Central Office CARE Team;
- (B) Receiving disclosures of sexual misconduct, student sexual abuse, and child abuse in a supportive, appropriate, and trauma-informed manner;
- (C) Prevention, warning signs, and effects of sexual misconduct, student sexual abuse, and child abuse;
- (D) Effective, developmentally-appropriate methods for discussing sexual misconduct, student sexual abuse, and child abuse; and
- (E) School and community resources available to assist with the prevention of, and response to, sexual misconduct, student sexual abuse, and child abuse.

School principals shall offer at least one in-person parent training each school year and shall post all training materials and related information to the school website.

D. Resources, Services and Information for Students and Families Affected by Student Sexual Abuse

DCPS offers the following evidence-based school-based support and treatment options for students affected by sexual abuse:

- Cognitive Behavioral Intervention for Trauma in Schools (CBITS), a school-based, group and individual intervention designed to reduce symptoms of post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), depression, and behavioral problems, and to improve functioning, grades and attendance, peer and parent support, and coping skills.
- Bounce Back, a school-based group intervention for elementary students exposed to stressful and traumatic events.
- Structured Psychotherapy for Adolescents Responding to Chronic Stress (SPARCS), focusing on enhancing resilience through the development of important self-regulatory, problem solving, and communication skills for adolescents with social and emotional impairments related to complex trauma. (Student level: MS and HS)
- Grief and Trauma in School (GTI), using cognitive behavioral and narrative therapy strategies to ameliorate symptoms of PTSD in children who have experienced violent acts or traumatic grief. (Student level: elementary).

For links to local and national resources, services, and information, please see Appendix B.

E. Other Prohibited Actions: Prohibition on Aiding and Abetting Sexual Abuse through Assisting with Future Employment

DCPS and staff are prohibited from assisting a school employee, contractor, or agent in obtaining a new job, apart from the routine transmission of administrative and personnel files, if DCPS or the staff knows, or has probable cause to believe, that such school employee, contractor, or agent engaged in

sexual misconduct regarding a minor or student in violation of the law.¹⁴ Any staff who engages in such prohibited conduct will be subject to discipline, up to and including separation.

This prohibition does not apply if the information giving rise to probable cause has been properly reported to MPD, CFSA, and the CARE Team and:

- (A) the matter has been officially closed or the prosecutor or police with jurisdiction over the alleged misconduct has investigated the allegations and notified school officials that there is insufficient information to establish probable cause that the school employee, contractor, or agent engaged in sexual misconduct regarding a minor or student in violation of the law;
- (B) the school employee, contractor, or agent has been charged with, and acquitted or otherwise exonerated of the alleged misconduct; or
- (C) the case or investigation remains open and there have been no charges filed against, or indictment of, the school employee, contractor, or agent within 4 years of the date on which the information was reported to a law enforcement agency.

V. POLICY IMPLEMENTATION REQUIREMENTS

All DCPS employees are required to comply with the requirements set forth in this policy. To support its implementation, principals are expected to make staff aware of required activities and timelines on an annual basis.

Completion of required staff training will be tracked by the DCPS Office of Employee Services. The principal of each DCPS school is responsible for verifying, in coordination with the Office of Employee Services, that all school staff are in compliance with this requirement. Implementation of this policy will be reinforced through a central oversight process which includes regular data reviews, record sampling, reviews of underlying documentation, and site visits (as needed). This framework will ensure that together we build a system of continuous improvement and prevent noncompliance.

DCPS is committed to serving every student with equity, excellence, transparency, and accountability. For any concerns about or violations of this directive, contact the Office of the Ombudsman (formerly the Chief Integrity Officer) by completing the [Online Referral Form](#)¹⁵ or sending an email to dcps.cio@dc.gov.

¹⁴ D.C. Code § 38-951.02(a)(5); *see also* section 7926 of the Every Student Succeeds Act of 2015, approved December 10, 2015 (129 Stat. 2120; 20 U.S.C. § 7926),

¹⁵ Available at: <https://dcforms.dc.gov/webform/online-referral-form>.

Appendix A:

Local Laws Referenced by the School Safety Act Definition of Sexual Abuse

D.C. Code § 22–1834. Sex trafficking of children.

(a) It is unlawful for an individual or a business knowingly to recruit, entice, harbor, transport, provide, obtain, or maintain by any means a person who will be caused as a result to engage in a commercial sex act knowing or in reckless disregard of the fact that the person has not attained the age of 18 years.

(b) In a prosecution under subsection (a) of this section in which the defendant had a reasonable opportunity to observe the person recruited, enticed, harbored, transported, provided, obtained, or maintained, the government need not prove that the defendant knew that the person had not attained the age of 18 years.

D.C. Code § 22–2704. Abducting or enticing child from his or her home for purposes of prostitution; harboring such child.

(a) It is unlawful for any person, for purposes of prostitution, to:

(1) Persuade, entice, or forcibly abduct a child under 18 years of age from his or her home or usual abode, or from the custody and control of the child’s parents or guardian; or

(2) Secrete or harbor any child so persuaded, enticed, or abducted from his or her home or usual abode, or from the custody and control of the child’s parents or guardian.

(b) A person who violates subsection (a) of this section shall be guilty of a felony and, upon conviction, shall be punished by imprisonment for not more than 20 years, or by a fine of not more than the amount set forth in [§ 22-3571.01](#), or both.

Excerpts from Chapter 30 (Sexual Abuse) of Title 22 (Criminal Offenses and Penalties) of the D.C. Code

§ 22–3008. First degree child sexual abuse.

Whoever, being at least 4 years older than a child, engages in a sexual act with that child or causes that child to engage in a sexual act shall be imprisoned for any term of years or for life and, in addition, may be fined not more than the amount set forth in [§ 22-3571.01](#). However, the court may impose a prison sentence in excess of 30 years only in accordance with [§ 22-3020](#) or [§ 24-403.01\(b-2\)](#). For purposes of imprisonment following revocation of release authorized by [§ 24-403.01\(b\)\(7\)](#), the offense defined by this section is a Class A felony.

§ 22–3009. Second degree child sexual abuse.

Whoever, being at least 4 years older than a child, engages in sexual contact with that child or causes that child to engage in sexual contact shall be imprisoned for not more than 10 years and, in addition, may be fined in an amount not more than the amount set forth in [§ 22-3571.01](#).

§ 22–3009.01. First degree sexual abuse of a minor.

Whoever, being 18 years of age or older, is in a significant relationship with a minor, and engages in a sexual act with that minor or causes that minor to engage in a sexual act shall be imprisoned for not more than 15 years and may be fined not more than the amount set forth in [§ 22-3571.01](#), or both.

§ 22–3009.02. Second degree sexual abuse of a minor.

Whoever, being 18 years of age or older, is in a significant relationship with a minor and engages in a sexual contact with that minor or causes that minor to engage in a sexual contact shall be imprisoned for not more than 7 1/2 years and may be fined not more than the amount set forth in [§ 22-3571.01](#), or both.

§ 22–3009.03. First degree sexual abuse of a secondary education student.

Any teacher, counselor, principal, coach, or other person of authority in a secondary level school who engages in a sexual act with a student under the age of 20 years enrolled in that school or school system, or causes that student to engage in a sexual act, shall be imprisoned for not more than 10 years, fined not more than the amount set forth in [§ 22-3571.01](#), or both.

§ 22–3009.04. Second degree sexual abuse of a secondary education student.

Any teacher, counselor, principal, coach, or other person of authority in a secondary level school who engages in sexual conduct with a student under the age of 20 years enrolled in that school or school system, or causes that student to engage in sexual conduct, shall be imprisoned for not more than 5 years, fined not more than the amount set forth in [§ 22-3571.01](#), or both.

§ 22–3010. Enticing a child or minor.

(a) Whoever, being at least 4 years older than a child or being in a significant relationship with a minor, (1) takes that child or minor to any place for the purpose of committing any offense set forth in §§ [22-3002](#) to [22-3006](#) and §§ [22-3008](#) to [22-3009.02](#), or (2) seduces, entices, allures, convinces, or persuades or attempts to seduce, entice, allure, convince, or persuade a child or minor to engage in a sexual act or contact shall be imprisoned for not more than 5 years or may be fined not more than the amount set forth in [§ 22-3571.01](#), or both.

(b) Whoever, being at least 4 years older than the purported age of a person who represents himself or herself to be a child, attempts (1) to seduce, entice, allure, convince, or persuade any person who represents himself or herself to be a child to engage in a sexual act or contact, or (2) to entice, allure, convince, or persuade any person who represents himself or herself to be a child to go to any place for the purpose of engaging in a sexual act or contact shall be imprisoned for not more than 5 years or may be fined not more than the amount set forth in [§ 22-3571.01](#), or both.

(c) No person shall be consecutively sentenced for enticing a child or minor to engage in a sexual act or sexual contact under subsection (a)(2) of this section and engaging in that sexual act or sexual contact with that child or minor, provided, that the enticement occurred closely associated in time with the sexual act or sexual contact.

§ 22–3010.01. Misdemeanor sexual abuse of a child or minor.

(a) Whoever, being 18 years of age or older and more than 4 years older than a child, or being 18 years of age or older and being in a significant relationship with a minor, engages in sexually suggestive conduct with that child or minor shall be imprisoned for not more than 180 days, or fined not more than the amount set forth in [§ 22-3571.01](#), or both.

(b) For the purposes of this section, the term “sexually suggestive conduct” means engaging in any of the following acts in a way which is intended to cause or reasonably causes the sexual arousal or sexual gratification of any person:

- (1) Touching a child or minor inside his or her clothing;
- (2) Touching a child or minor inside or outside his or her clothing close to the genitalia, anus, breast, or buttocks;
- (3) Placing one’s tongue in the mouth of the child or minor; or
- (4) Touching one’s own genitalia or that of a third person.

§ 22–3010.02. Arranging for a sexual contact with a real or fictitious child.

(a) It is unlawful for a person to arrange to engage in a sexual act or sexual contact with an individual (whether real or fictitious) who is or who is represented to be a child at least 4 years younger than the person, or to arrange for another person to engage in a sexual act or sexual contact with an individual (whether real or fictitious) who is or who is represented to be a child of at least 4 years younger than the person. For the purposes of this section, arranging to engage in a sexual act or sexual contact with an individual who is fictitious shall be unlawful only if the arrangement is done by or with a law enforcement officer.

(b) A person who violates subsection (a) of this section shall be imprisoned for not more than 5 years, fined not more than the amount set forth in [§ 22-3571.01](#), or both.

§ 22–3011. Defenses to child sexual abuse and sexual abuse of a minor.

(a) Neither mistake of age nor consent is a defense to a prosecution under §§ [22-3008](#) to [22-3010.01](#), prosecuted alone or in conjunction with charges under [§ 22-3018](#) or [§ 22-403](#).

(b) Marriage or domestic partnership between the defendant and the child or minor at the time of the offense is a defense, which the defendant must establish by a preponderance of the evidence, to a prosecution under §§ [22-3008](#) to [22-3010.01](#), prosecuted alone or in conjunction with charges under [§ 22-3018](#) or [§ 22-403](#), involving only the defendant and the child or minor.

§ 22–3012. State of mind proof requirement.

In a prosecution under §§ [22-3008](#) to [22-3010](#), prosecuted alone or in conjunction with charges under [§ 22-3018](#) or [§ 22-403](#), the government need not prove that the defendant knew the child’s age or the age difference between himself or herself and the child.

[. . .]

§ 22–3018. Attempts to commit sexual offenses.

Any person who attempts to commit an offense under this subchapter shall be imprisoned for a term of years not to exceed 15 years where the maximum prison term authorized for the offense is life or for not more than 1/2 of the maximum prison sentence authorized for the offense and, in addition, may be fined an amount not to exceed 1/2 of the maximum fine authorized for the offense.

§ 22–3019. No immunity from prosecution for spouses or domestic partners.

No actor is immune from prosecution under any section of this subchapter because of marriage, domestic partnership, or cohabitation with the victim; provided, that marriage or the domestic partnership of the parties may be asserted as an affirmative defense in prosecution under this subchapter where it is expressly so provided.

§ 22–3020. Aggravating circumstances.

(a) Any person who is found guilty of an offense under this subchapter may receive a penalty up to 1 1/2 times the maximum penalty prescribed for the particular offense, and may receive a sentence of more than 30 years up to, and including life imprisonment without possibility of release for first degree sexual abuse or first degree child sexual abuse, if any of the following aggravating circumstances exists:

- (1) The victim was under the age of 12 years at the time of the offense;
- (2) The victim was under the age of 18 years at the time of the offense and the actor had a significant relationship to the victim;
- (3) The victim sustained serious bodily injury as a result of the offense;
- (4) The defendant was aided or abetted by 1 or more accomplices;
- (5) The defendant is or has been found guilty of committing sex offenses against 2 or more victims, whether in the same or other proceedings by a court of the District of Columbia, any state, or the United States or its territories; or
- (6) The defendant was armed with, or had readily available, a pistol or other firearm (or imitation thereof) or other dangerous or deadly weapon.

(b) It is not necessary that the accomplices have been convicted for an increased punishment (or enhanced penalty) to apply under subsection (a)(4) of this section.

(c) No person who stands convicted of an offense under this subchapter shall be sentenced to increased punishment (or enhanced penalty) by reason of the aggravating factors set forth in subsection (a) of this section, unless prior to trial or before entry of a plea of guilty, the United States Attorney or the Corporation Counsel, as the case may be, files an information with the clerk of the court, and serves a copy of such information on the person or counsel for the person, stating in writing the aggravating factors to be relied upon.

Appendix B:

Local and National Resources, Services, and Information for Students and Families Affected by Student Sexual Abuse

Local Resources, Services and Information

- DC Department of Behavior Health Access HelpLine
1-888-7WE-HELP (793-4357)
- DC Rape Crisis Center
<http://dcrcc.org/>
202-333-RAPE (7273)
- Network for Victim Recovery of DC
<https://www.nvrdc.org/>
202-742-1727
- Safe Shores DC Children’s Advocacy Center
<https://www.safeshores.org>
(202) 645-3200

National Resources, Services and Information

- RAINN (Rape, Abuse & Incest National Network)
<https://www.rainn.org>
800-656-HOPE (4673)
- National Sexual Violence Resource Center,
<https://www.nsvrc.org>,
 - Friends & Family Resources, <https://www.nsvrc.org/friends-family>
- Stop It Now!
<https://www.stopitnow.org>,