Board of Trustees

**Public Notice of Proposed Policy for Comment**

Eastern North Carolina School for the Deaf invites public comment on the following proposed policies. In accordance with applicable state law, policies are posted for stakeholder review and feedback prior to adoption by the Board of Trustees.

**Policy Title/Number**

Student Protection and Mandatory Reporting/4240/7312

**Summary of Policy**

The student Protection and Mandatory Reporting Policy outlines the Eastern North Carolina School for the Deaf’s (ENCSD) commitment to safeguarding students from abuse, neglect, and exploitation. It sets clear expectations for all staff to recognize, report, and respond to threats to student safety in compliance with federal and state laws, including North Carolina General Statutes and Department of Public Instruction (DPI) policies.

Key elements of the policy include:

* Mandatory reporting obligations for all ENCSD employees who suspect or have reason to believe a student is being abused, neglected, or exploited.
* Immediate reporting requirements to the appropriate authorities, including the Department of Social Services and law enforcement, as required by law.
* A clear procedure for internal reporting and documentation, including when staff misconduct is involved.
* Required cooperation with child protective services and investigative agencies during the inquiry process.
* Specific procedures for investigating allegations against ENCSD employees, to be conducted by the Superintendent ant the CNSD Human Resources Manager.
* Protections for students and staff who report in good faith, and disciplinary consequences for failure to report or policy violations.

This policy reinforces ENCSD’s zero-tolerance stance on threat to child safety and ensures a structured lawful, an compassionate response to all concerns.

**Comment Period**

June 16, 2025-July 15, 2025

**How to Submit Comments**

Please submit written comments via email to: mandy.armstrong@encsd.k12.nc.us

Or mail to:

Eastern North Carolina School for the Deaf

Attn: Mandy Armstrong

1311 US-301 South

Wilson, NC 27893

**Deadline for Comments:**

All comments must be received by July 15, 2025, 12 PM to be considered by the Board.