

**PELHAM SCHOOL DISTRICT POLICY**  
**GADA - EMPLOYMENT REFERENCES AND VERIFICATION**  
**(PROHIBITING AIDING AND ABETTING OF SEXUAL ABUSE)**

*Category: Priority*

As required by the Elementary and Secondary Education Act/Every Student Succeeds Act, the District shall act in good faith when providing employment references and verification of employment for current and former employees.

The School District, and its employees, contractors, and agents, are prohibited from providing a recommendation of employment, and/or from otherwise assisting any school employee, contractor, or agent in obtaining a new position or other employment if he/she or the District has knowledge of, or probable cause to believe that the employee, contractor, or agent ("alleged perpetrator") engaged in illegal sexual misconduct with a minor or student. This prohibition does not include the routine transmission of administrative and personnel files.

In addition, this prohibition does not apply only if all three of the following are true:

1. The information giving rise to probable cause has been properly reported to a law enforcement agency with jurisdiction;
2. The information giving rise to probable cause has been reported to any other authorities as required by local, state or federal law (for instance New Hampshire Division of Children, Youth and Families "DCYF"), and
3. At least one of the following conditions applies:
  - a. The matter has been officially closed;
  - b. The District officials have been notified by the prosecutor or police after an investigation that there is insufficient information for them to proceed;
  - c. The school employee, contractor, or agent has been charged with, and acquitted or otherwise exonerated; or
  - d. The case or investigation remains open and there have been no charges filed against or indictment of the school employee, contractor, or agent within four years of the date on which the information was reported to a law enforcement agency.

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***District Policy History:***

*Adopted: September 15, 2021.*

***Legal References:***

*20 U.S.C. 7926(a) (§8546(a) of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act/Every Student Succeeds Act*