

Ms. Hugo offers the following resolution and moves its adoption:

WHEREAS, recent events have placed renewed attention on the need for all institutions of higher education to take steps to prevent child sexual abuse at events occurring on campus property and during college-sponsored events, and

WHEREAS, the State University of New York (SUNY) Board of Trustees adopted a policy to protect potential victims of child sexual abuse during activities that occur on State University property during university-sponsored events or in the conduct of university business, and

WHEREAS, the SUNY Board of Trustees has made it mandatory for each state-operated SUNY campus to adopt a similar policy, and

WHEREAS, the SUNY Board of Trustees further recommended that all SUNY community colleges adopt a similar policy, and

WHEREAS, the Board of Trustees of Dutchess Community College wishes to reaffirm the general moral responsibility of all members of the college community, including employees, students, and/or volunteers at Dutchess Community College, to report wrongdoing to the appropriate authorities without fear of retaliation, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that, based upon the recommendation of the President of the College, the attached Policy on Mandatory Reporting and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse, which shall be made part of the minutes of this meeting, is hereby adopted and shall be effective immediately.

* * * * *

Seconded by Mr. Kuffner

Resolution Adopted Unanimously

DUTCHESS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Policy on Mandatory Reporting and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse

Any employee, student, or volunteer at Dutchess Community College who witnesses or has reasonable cause to suspect any sexual abuse of a child occurring on college property or while off campus during official college business or at college-sponsored events shall have an affirmative obligation to report such conduct to college officials immediately. Such report should include the names of the victim and assailant (if known), other identifying information about the victim and assailant, the location of the activity, and the nature of the activity. Upon receiving such a report, college officials shall promptly take appropriate action, as well as notify the Chancellor of the State University of New York.

In addition, to aid in the prevention of crimes against children on college property and/or during official college business or at events sponsored by the college, relevant employees should be trained on the identification of such crimes and proper notification requirements. Vendors, licensees or others who are given permission to come onto campus or to use college facilities for events or activities that will include participation of children shall ensure that they have in place procedures for training, implementation of applicable pre-employment screening requirements and reporting of child sexual abuse.

For purposes of this policy, the applicable definitions of child sexual abuse are those used in the New York State Penal Law in Articles 130 and 263 and Section 260.10, and "child" is defined as an individual under the age of 17.