



# Barrow County School System

Boldly Committed to Student Success

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## Mandated Reporter and Confidentiality Acknowledgement Form for School Volunteers

### **Mandated Reporter**

Georgia Law (O.C.G.A. §19-7-5) requires school system employees and volunteers (mandated reporters) who have “reasonable cause to believe that a child has been abused” to report suspected child abuse to the appropriate authority according to the local child abuse reporting protocol. Within the school setting the designated person to receive reports of suspected abuse is the school counselor or school principal/assistant principal. Any mandated reporter who makes a report to the designated person in the local reporting protocol “shall be deemed to have fully complied” with the law.

Reports of suspected child abuse should be made immediately. Any reporter who makes a report in “good faith” is “immune from any civil or criminal liability.” However, any mandated reporter who “knowingly and willfully fails to do so shall be guilty of a misdemeanor.”

- *I acknowledge that I have been informed of my responsibility as a mandated reporter of suspected child abuse according to Georgia law (O.C.G.A. §19-7-5). I have had opportunity to have all of my questions about this responsibility answered prior to beginning my volunteer work. I have also been provided with additional resources to help me better understand my responsibility as a mandated reporter including contact information should I have additional questions in the future.*

### **Confidentiality**

I agree that all students, parents and guardians have a right to privacy and confidentiality.

- I acknowledge that the right to privacy and confidentiality is protected under the laws of Georgia and policies of the Barrow County Board of Education. I shall hold as absolutely confidential all information that I may obtain directly or indirectly concerning students, parents or guardians. I will not seek to obtain confidential information from a student, parent or guardian. I will not discuss or otherwise communicate any form of information related to students, parents or guardians with anyone other than the appropriate school staff member.

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Signature of Volunteer

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Date