

Students

Child Abuse Reporting Procedures

The Board recognizes that child abuse has severe consequences and that the district has a responsibility to protect students by facilitating the prompt reporting of known and suspected incidents of child abuse. The Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures for the identification and reporting of such incidents in accordance with law.

Employees who are mandated reporters, as defined by law and administrative regulations are obligated to report all known or suspected incidents of child abuse and neglect. Mandated reporters shall not investigate any suspected incidents but rather shall cooperate with agencies responsible for investigating and prosecuting cases of child abuse and neglect.

Known or suspected instances of child abuse shall be immediately reported to the principal of the school that the child attends who will then report his/her action and to the Superintendent.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide training regarding the reporting duties of mandated reporters.

A single report may be made whenever two or more people know of a known or suspected case of child abuse, and with mutual consent of those present, one person can write and sign the written report, except that if the person does not do so, one of the other persons shall make the report.

Known or reasonably suspected case where mental suffering has been inflicted on a child, or where the emotional well-being of a child is endangered in any way may also be reported to the Superintendent, principal and child protective agency.

When a child is released to a peace officer and taken into custody as a victim of suspected child abuse, the Superintendent and/or principal, if requested by the peace officer, shall not notify the parent or guardian as required in other instances of removal of a child from the school, but rather shall provide the peace officer with the address and telephone number of the child's parent or guardian.

(cf. 4112.8 – Signed Statements)

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Legal Reference:

EDUCATION CODE

32280-32288 Comprehensive school safety plans

33308.1 Guidelines on procedure for filing child abuse complaints

44690-44691 Staff development in the detection of child abuse and neglect

48906 Notification when student released to peace officer

48987 Dissemination of reporting guidelines to parents

49001 Prohibition of corporal punishment

51220.5 Parenting skills education

PENAL CODE

152.3 Duty to report murder, rape or lewd or lascivious act

273a Willful cruelty or unjustifiable punishment of child; endangering life or health

288 Definition of lewd or lascivious act requiring reporting

11164-11174.3 Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act

WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE

15630-15637 Dependent adult abuse reporting

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

4650 Filing complaints with CDE, special education students

Policy Adopted: March 23, 1987

Policy Revised: September 26, 2005;