

454 CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT REPORTING

Guidelines for reporting child abuse and neglect are derived from state law. Further, professional ethics denote a keen sense of responsibility and commitment by educators to uphold the health, safety, and welfare of each child.

Any teacher, counselor, nurse, administrator, pupil services staff or other employee required by law to report, having reasonable cause to suspect that a child, seen in the course of professional duties, has been abused or neglected, or having reason to believe a child, seen in the course of professional duties, has been threatened with an injury and that abuse will occur, has a responsibility to report this information to the appropriate non-school authorities and his/her immediate supervisor.

The law enforcement or county social service agency making the investigation may contact, observe, or interview the child at any location, including the school, without permission from the child's parent/guardian.

No person making a report under this policy may be disciplined or discharged for making a good faith report. Failure to make a report may result in a fine, imprisonment or both.

Reviewed, revised, and approved by the Board of Education on November 21, 2011