

454 – RULE CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT REPORTING GUIDELINES

Definitions

"Abuse" means any of the following:

1. physical injury inflicted on a child by other than accidental means;
2. sexual intercourse or sexual contact with a child;
3. interaction between a child and another person in which the child is being used for the sexual stimulation of the perpetrator or any additional person;
4. permitting, allowing or encouraging a child to violate prostitution laws;
5. emotional damage to a child; or
6. neglect on the part of the caregiver to provide, for reasons other than poverty, necessary care, food, clothing, medical or dental care or shelter so as to seriously endanger the physical health of the child.

Reporting Procedures

1. Any school employee or contracted employee required under state law to report abuse/neglect shall immediately report suspected abuse or neglect by telephone or personally to the appropriate county agency, city police, or sheriff's department, and shall inform the agency or department of the facts and circumstances contributing to a suspicion of child abuse or neglect.
2. School employees reporting suspected abuse or neglect shall immediately inform their immediate supervisor of their report of suspected abuse/neglect and the circumstances contributing to the suspicion.
3. Any person reporting under Board policy shall request an immediate investigation by the police department or other agency if he/she has reason to believe a child's health or safety is in imminent danger.
4. Any person willfully violating state law by failing to make a report, as required, may be fined up to \$1,000.00, imprisoned up to six months, or both.

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