

STUDENTS

Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting

The Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement regulations for identifying and reporting child abuse.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide training in child abuse identification and reporting for all certificated personnel.

The Superintendent or designee shall also provide training in the duties of child abuse identification and reporting to instructional and teacher aides, teacher assistants and other classified employees. (Penal Code 11165.7)

As part of their training in child abuse identification and reporting, employees shall receive written notice of state child abuse reporting requirements and employees' confidentiality rights. (Penal Code 11165.7)

Employees who work with dependent adults shall be notified of legal responsibilities and reporting procedures pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code 15630-15637.

Child Abuse Prevention

The Governing Board recognizes the district's responsibility to educate students about the dangers of child abuse so that they will acquire the skills and techniques needed to identify unsafe situations and to react appropriately and promptly.

The district's instructional program shall include age-appropriate and culturally sensitive child abuse prevention curriculum. This curriculum shall explain students' right to live free of abuse, inform them of available support resources, and teach them how to obtain help and disclose incidents of abuse. The curriculum also shall include training in self-protection techniques.

(cf. 6143 - Courses of Study)

The Superintendent or designee shall seek to incorporate community resources into the district's child abuse prevention programs. To the extent feasible, the Superintendent or designee shall use these community resources to provide parents/guardians with instruction in parenting skills and child abuse prevention.

(cf. 1020 - Youth Services)

Child Abuse Reporting

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.

(cf. 0450 - Comprehensive Safety Plan)

Employees, who are mandated reporters, as defined by law and administrative regulation, 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.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide training regarding the reporting duties of mandated reporters. In the event that training is not provided to mandated reporters, the Superintendent or designee shall report to the California Department of Education the reasons that such training is not provided. (Penal Code 11165.7)

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
44807 Duty concerning conduct of students
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
11164-11174.4 Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act
BP 5141.4 (c)

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND REPORTING

WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE

15630-15637 Dependent adult abuse reporting

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

4650 Filing complaints with CDE, special education students

Management Resources:

CDE LEGAL ADVISORIES

0514.93 Guidelines for parents to report suspected child abuse

WEB SITES

California Attorney General's Office, Crime and Violence Prevention Center: <http://safestate.org>

California Department of Education, Safe Schools: <http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/ss>

*California Department of Social Services, Children and Family Services Division:
<http://www.childsworld.ca.gov>*

*U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, National Clearinghouse on Child Abuse and Neglect
Information: <http://nccanch.acf.hhs.gov>*

Policy adopted: 9/12/00

Policy revised: 6/25/02; 10/11/05