

REPORTING CHILD ABUSE/CHILD PROTECTION

It is the policy of the Board of Education that the school district complies with the Child Protection Act and with the mandatory reporting requirements of that act.

To that end, any school official or employee who has reasonable cause to know or suspect that a child has been subject to abuse or neglect or who has observed the child being subjected to circumstances or conditions which would reasonably result in abuse or neglect, as defined by statute, shall immediately report or cause a report to be made to the County Department of Social Services or local law enforcement agency. All school officials and employees are affirmatively charged with familiarizing themselves with these reporting requirements. Failure to report promptly may result in civil and/or criminal liability. A person who reports child abuse or neglect in good faith is immune from civil or criminal liability.

Reports of child abuse or neglect, the name and address of the child, family or informant or any other identifying information in the report shall be confidential and shall not be public information.

The Board shall provide periodic in-service programs for all teachers in order to provide them with information about the Child Protection Act and appropriate legislation, to assist them in recognizing and reporting instances of child abuse and to instruct them on how to assist victims and their families.

School employees and officials shall not contact the child's family or any other persons to determine the cause of the suspected abuse or neglect.

It is not the responsibility of the school official or employee to prove that the child has been abused or neglected.

The superintendent shall submit such procedures as are necessary to the Board for approval to accomplish the intent of this policy.

Current practice codified 1988
Adopted: date of manual adoption
Revised September 4, 1991;
Revised April 12, 2000

Legal ref: CRS 19-1-103(1)
CRS 19-3-102 and 103
CRS 19-1-120(1)(a)
CRS 19-3-304
CRS 19-3-307
CRS 19-3-309
CRS 22-32-109(1)(z)

Cross ref: GBGB, Staff Protection