

District Policy & Regulations

BOARD OF EDUCATION COLUMBUS SCHOOL DISTRICT

OPERATIONS
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STUDENT ABUSE AND NEGLECT

The Board of Education is concerned with the physical and mental well-being of the students of this District and will cooperate in the identification and reporting of cases of child abuse or neglect in accordance with law.

Each staff member employed by this District who has reasonable cause to suspect child abuse, neglect or threatened abuse/neglect shall be responsible for reporting immediately every case, whether ascertained or suspected, of abuse or neglect resulting in physical or mental injury to a student by other than accidental means or if they have reason to believe that a child has been threatened with abuse or neglect and that abuse or neglect of the child will occur.

The staff member shall also notify the appropriate administrator according to the District's Reporting Procedure for Student Abuse or Neglect.

The appropriate administrator in the presence of the reporting staff member shall immediately call the local office of the Child Welfare Department or local law enforcement agency.

Any support staff member who has reasonable cause to suspect child abuse or neglect or threatened abuse/neglect and that abuse or neglect of the child will occur, shall immediately report any such case to the principal who shall, in turn, immediately notify the Child Welfare or law enforcement agency.

The identity of the reporting person shall be confidential, subject only to disclosure by consent or court order. A reporting staff member shall not be dismissed or otherwise penalized for making a report of child abuse or neglect.

Information concerning alleged child abuse is confidential. Any unauthorized disclosure by an official or employee of the District is a violation of the law and may subject the disseminator to civil liability for resulting damages and disciplinary action.

Each principal should be mindful of the possibility of physical or mental abuse being inflicted on a student by a staff member. Any such instances, whether real or alleged, should be dealt with in accordance with state law.

48.02, 49.981, Wis. Stats.

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