

Students

Child Abuse Prevention and Reporting

The Governing Board is committed to supporting the safety and well-being of district students and desires to facilitate the prevention of and response to child abuse and neglect. The Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement strategies for preventing, recognizing, and promptly reporting known or suspected child abuse and neglect.

The Superintendent or designee may provide a student who is a victim of abuse with school-based mental health services or other support services and/or may refer the student to resources available within the community as needed.

Child Abuse Report

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, include instruction in the skills and techniques needed to identify unsafe situations and react appropriately and promptly, inform students of available support resources, and teach students how to obtain help and disclose incidents of abuse.

The district's program also may include age-appropriate curriculum in sexual abuse and sexual assault awareness and prevention. Upon written request of a student's parent/guardian, the student shall be excused from taking such instruction.

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

Child Abuse Reporting

The Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures for the identification and reporting of known and suspected child abuse and neglect in accordance with law.

Procedures for reporting child abuse shall be included in the district and/or school comprehensive safety plan.

District 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.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide training regarding the duties of mandated reporters.

Legal References: 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

11164-11174.3 Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act

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: 06/02/98
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revised: 01/12/16