

Reporting Child/Abuse Neglect

Any school employee who has reason to believe that a child is a victim of child abuse or neglect shall immediately make an oral or a written report to the Department of Child Services or to local law enforcement. After the report has been made, the school employee shall notify the school building principal a report of suspected child abuse or neglect has been made to the Department of Child Services or to local law enforcement. School personnel will not contact parents to determine the cause of suspected child abuse or neglect, or otherwise investigate the suspected abuse or neglect.

School employees should be made aware they are required by state law to make the reports immediately. Anyone making a report of a child who may be the victim of child abuse or neglect is granted immunity by statute from any civil or criminal liability.

All records of suspected child abuse or neglect will be kept confidential. The identity of a person making a report will not be revealed to the parent, guardian, custodian, or other person who is responsible for the welfare of the child named in a report.

"Reason to believe" as used in this policy means evidence which, if presented to individuals of similar background and training, would cause those individuals to believe that a child was abused or neglected.

Legal Reference: I.C. 31-33-5

Signature

Date