

**Policy 5141.4: Child Abuse Prevention And Reporting**

**Status:** ADOPTED

**Original Adopted Date:** 01/23/2013 | **Last Revised Date:** 12/09/2015 03/1/2023 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 03/01/2023

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 Chief Learning Officer or designee shall develop and implement strategies for preventing, recognizing, and promptly reporting known or suspected child abuse and neglect.

The Superintendent Chief Learning Officer 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.

~~(cf. 1020 – Youth Services)~~

~~(cf. 5141.6 – School Health Services)~~

~~(cf. 6164.2 – Guidance/Counseling Services)~~

### **Child Abuse Prevention**

The district's instructional program ~~shall include~~ may provide age-appropriate and culturally sensitive child abuse prevention curriculum. ~~This curriculum shall explain which explains~~ students' right to live free of abuse, ~~include~~ includes instruction in the skills and techniques needed to identify unsafe situations and react appropriately and promptly, ~~inform~~ informs students of available support resources, and ~~teach~~ teaches students how to obtain help and disclose incidents of abuse.

~~(cf. 6142.8 – Comprehensive Health Education)~~

~~(cf. 6143 – Courses of Study)~~

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. ~~(Education Code 51900.6)~~

~~The Superintendent Chief Learning Officer (Education Code 51900.6)~~

The Superintendent Chief Learning Officer or designee may display posters, in areas on campus where students frequently congregate, notifying students of the appropriate telephone number to call to report child abuse or neglect. (Education Code 33133.5)

In addition, student identification cards for students in grades 7-12 shall include the National Domestic Violence Hotline telephone number. (Education Code 215.5)

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

~~(cf. 4119.21/4219.21/4319.21 - Professional Standards)~~

~~(cf. 5145.7 - Sexual Harassment)~~

Procedures for reporting child abuse shall be included in the district and/or school comprehensive safety plan. (Education Code 32282)

~~(cf. 0450 - 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 Chief Learning Officer or designee shall provide training regarding the duties of mandated reporters as required by law and as specified in the accompanying administrative regulation. (Education Code 44691; Penal Code 11165.7)

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