

CSBA Sample Board Policy

Students

BP 5141.4(a)

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.

(cf. 1400 - Relations Between Other Governmental Agencies and the Schools)

(cf. 5141.5 - Mental Health)

(cf. 5141.6 - School Health Services)

(cf. 6164.2 - Guidance/Counseling Services)

Child Abuse Prevention

Note: The following **optional** section may be revised to reflect district practice.

~~Education Code 51220.5 specifies that the district's course of study for grades 7 and/or 8 may include parenting skills education, including instruction on child abuse and neglect; see AR 6143 - Courses of Study.~~

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

(cf. 6142.8 - Comprehensive Health Education)

(cf. 6143 - Courses of Study)

Note: ~~The following paragraph is optional.~~ Education Code 51900.6, ~~as added by AB 2016 (Ch. 809, Statutes of 2014),~~ authorizes districts to provide age-appropriate instruction in sexual abuse and sexual assault awareness and prevention in grades K-12, provided that students are allowed to be excused from such instruction upon the written request of their parents/guardians. It also requires the State Board of Education and Superintendent of Public Instruction to consider addressing these issues in the next revision of the state health education content standards and curriculum framework.

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)

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND REPORTING (continued)

Note: Pursuant to Education Code 33133.5, posters notifying students of the appropriate telephone number to call to report child abuse or neglect are available on the California Department of Education's web site in five languages. Education Code 33133.5 encourages districts to post the appropriate version or versions of the poster in an area of the school where students frequently congregate.

The Superintendent 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)

Note: The following paragraph is for use by districts that serve students in grades 7-12. Education Code 215.5 requires districts that issue or reissue student identification cards to have the telephone number of the National Domestic Violence Hotline (1-800-799-7233) printed on either side of student identification cards.

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

(cf. 5142 - Safety)

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

Note: The Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act (Penal Code 11164-11174.3) identifies persons who are mandated to report known or suspected child abuse or neglect and establishes procedures for filing a report; see the accompanying administrative regulation.

The Superintendent 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)

(cf. 5145.71 - Title IX Sexual Harassment Complaint Procedures)

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)

Note: Education Code 44252, as amended by AB 2560 (Ch. 110, Statutes of 2014), requires that teachers applying to the Commission on Teacher Credentialing for a new credential or a renewal of their credential read and sign a statement that they understand the duties imposed on them as mandated reporters pursuant to Penal Code 11164-11174.3.

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND REPORTING (continued)

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.

Note: ~~As amended by AB 1432 (Ch. 797, Statutes of 2014),~~ Education Code 44691 and Penal Code 11165.7 require districts to annually train their employees regarding the duties of mandated reporters; see the accompanying administrative regulation. However, pursuant to Penal Code 11165.7, a lack of training does not excuse any mandated reporter from the duty to report suspected child abuse and neglect.

The Superintendent 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)**

*Legal Reference:*EDUCATION CODE

215.5 Student identification cards with National Domestic Violence Hotline telephone number

~~32280-32289.5~~ ~~32289.8~~ Comprehensive school safety plans

33133.5 Posters of telephone number for students to report child abuse or neglect

33195 Heritage schools, mandated reporters

33308.1 Guidelines on procedure for filing child abuse complaints

44252 Teacher credentialing

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

51900.6 Sexual abuse and sexual assault awareness and prevention **instruction**

CODE OF CIVIL PROCEDURE

340.1 Damages suffered as a result of childhood sexual abuse

PENAL CODE

152.3 Duty to report murder, rape, or lewd or lascivious act

273a Willfully ~~cruelty or causing~~ unjustifiable **pain or mental suffering** ~~punishment~~ of child; endangering life or health

286 Crime of sodomy

287 Crime of oral copulation

288 Definition of lewd or lascivious act requiring reporting

289 Crime of sexual penetration

11164-11174.3 Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act

WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE

15630-15637 Dependent adult abuse reporting

CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

~~3200-3205~~ ~~4650~~ Filing complaints with CDE; special education students

UNITED STATES CODE, TITLE 42

11434a McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act; definitions

COURT DECISIONS

Camreta v. Greene (2011) 131 S.Ct. 2020

Management Resources: (see next page)

CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND REPORTING (continued)

Management Resources:

CSBA PUBLICATIONS

Why Schools Hold the Promise for Adolescent Mental Health, Governance Brief, May 2019

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION PUBLICATIONS

Health Education Content Standards for California Public Schools, Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve

Health Framework for California Public Schools, Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve

WEB SITES

California Attorney General's Office, Suspected Child Abuse Report Form:

~~http://www.ag.ca.gov/childabuse/pdf/ss_8572.pdf~~

https://oag.ca.gov/sites/all/files/agweb/pdfs/childabuse/ss_8572.pdf

California Department of Education, **Child Abuse Prevention Training and Resources Safe Schools:**

<http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/ss/ap>

California Department of Social Services, **Information Resources Guide Children and Family Services Division:** <http://www.childsworld.ca.gov>

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Child Welfare Information Gateway:

~~<https://www.childwelfare.gov/eas>~~ <https://www.childwelfare.gov>

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