



Catalina Foothills Unified School District #16
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BOARD AGENDA ITEM

ITEM NO: 4.2

BOARD MEETING DATE: Tuesday, June 24, 2025

UNFINISHED BUSINESS: Approval of Revisions to Policy JLF *Reporting Child Abuse / Child Protection* (second reading)

SUBMITTED BY: Mindy Westover, Associate Superintendent

PRESENTED BY: Mindy Westover, Associate Superintendent

Revisions to Policy JLF, *Reporting Child Abuse/Child Protection* are recommended to comply with **Senate Bill 1437**, which amends A.R.S. 13-3620 and A.R.S. 15-514 regarding mandatory reporting obligations.

Following the first reading, three paragraphs outlining reporting procedures were relocated from the “Failure to Report” section to the main body of the policy. This structural revision improves clarity by ensuring that the reporting expectations are clearly outlined alongside the other core policy provisions, rather than being grouped under disciplinary consequences. The reorganization enhances the overall readability and coherence of the policy.

Key policy updates include:

- **Expanded Definition of School Personnel:** Now includes **substitute teachers** and **members of the governing board** as mandatory reporters. This occurs in two places, in the beginning of the first paragraph and again in the last paragraph on page one of the policy.
- **Clarification on Reporting Requirements:** A report made to a **School Resource Officer (SRO)** or **School Safety Officer** does **not** fulfill the legal requirement under A.R.S. 13-3620.

- **New Obligation for SROs:** If an SRO or safety officer receives a report, they must **immediately notify a law enforcement agency** and transfer all relevant information.
- **Interviewing Requirements Added:**
 - SROs may receive voluntary reports from identified student victims.
 - SROs may ask **minimal follow-up questions** as permitted under county protocol pursuant to A.R.S. 8-817.
- **Definitions Section Added:** Provides definitions for **School Safety Officer, School Resource Officer, and Peace Officer** to ensure clarity and consistency.

These revisions bring district policy into full alignment with the updated statute, streamline the document's structure, and clearly outline the procedures and responsibilities of school personnel when addressing suspected abuse or other reportable offenses.

RECOMMENDED MOTION: I move that the governing board approve revisions to Policy JLF *Reporting Child Abuse / Child Protection*, as presented.