



Book	Policy Manual
Section	Special Update - Act 57 - February 2026 WI
Title	Special Update - Act 57 - February 2026 OVERVIEW
Code	01 - OVERVIEW
Status	From Neola

WISCONSIN OVERVIEW AND COMMENTS

Special Update - Act 57

February 2026

Act 57 SUMMARY

This Special Update is issued to Neola Clients in response to 2025 Wisconsin Act 57, enacted in December 2025. Act 57 establishes strict new requirements for school districts regarding the notification of parents when a report of sexual misconduct by a staff member is received. Under this law, school boards, private schools, and charter operators must notify the parents of any student alleged to be a victim or target if there is "reasonable cause" to suspect the conduct occurred. The Act mandates a timely response, requiring notification by 5:00 p.m. the same day if a report is received during school hours, or by noon the following day if received after school hours. Additionally, it requires school districts to provide parents with annual information regarding their right to access school employee disciplinary records under Wisconsin's public records laws.

If a District chooses not to adopt a policy or administrative guideline, the District is still obligated to comply with applicable Federal and State laws on that topic.

Any proposed new, revised, and replacement policies, administrative guidelines, and forms included in this update have been thoroughly prepared and reviewed by Neola's legal counsel for statutory compliance. If you make changes or substitute in their entirety policies or other materials of your own drafting, those materials should be reviewed by your legal counsel to verify compliance. Neola does not review District-specific edits to update materials or District-specific policies for statutory compliance.

If the District authors language and adds it to a policy template or deletes content that is not marked as a choice in the policy template, then these actions will constitute District-specific edits.

Policies to be deleted from the policy manual require Board action to rescind the policy.

District-Specific Materials

If the District chooses, during any step of the Update process, to incorporate District-specific material into a new policy or guideline that has been proposed or to insert District-specific material into a current policy or guideline for which revisions have been proposed in an update issued by Neola, then the District agrees to hold Neola harmless for those District-specific edits and acknowledges that Neola's warranty for legal challenges to that District-specific language in that policy or guideline will not be in effect. In addition, Neola retains ownership of the text from the original policy template that remains in a policy to which District-specific material has been added. District-specific materials include the following:

1. Materials from the District's existing materials that the District requests be incorporated during the drafting process;
2. New materials that the District develops in its entirety and exclusive of Neola;
3. Revisions or deletions that substantively depart from Neola's templates; and
4. Outdated material that a District did not keep current with Neola updates.

Further, Neola does not recommend the use or incorporation of District-specific materials. Neola will, at the request of the District, incorporate District-specific materials into the licensed materials, with the implicit understanding that the District bears all risks associated with the District's decision to request that such District-specific materials be incorporated. Neola reserves the right to, but is not obligated to, advise the District to seek its own legal review of District-specific materials.

Notice Regarding Legal Accuracy

Neola is vigilant in providing clients with policy language vetted for legal accuracy by outside legal counsel. Should questions arise as to the legal compliance or accuracy of Neola materials, it is our expectation that Neola's counsel would have the opportunity to assist in the resolution of such a claim. Please notify the Neola corporate office if an issue arises in which such a review or assistance is necessary.

Policies in this update have been reviewed by Renning Lewis & Lacy, s.c. for consistency with Federal and State law. This Update includes the following documents:

02 - Sample Annual Parental Notice

In compliance with the 2025 Wisconsin Act 57, the included sample notice provides an annual summary of parents' and guardians' rights to access school employee disciplinary records under Wisconsin's public records laws.

Policy 1213/3213/4213 - Student Supervision and Welfare (Revised)

These policies establish a standard of care to protect student safety by clearly defining behavioral boundaries for all staff. As required by 2025 Wisconsin Act 57, the updated language mandates that parents be notified of sexual misconduct reports by 5:00 p.m. on the same day (or noon the next day if the report is received on a school day after the end of regularly scheduled instruction or on a day that is not a school day, by noon of the next calendar day.). A new, comprehensive optional section on "Appropriate Staff and Student Relationships" further safeguards students by explicitly prohibiting "boundary invasions"—such as grooming, inappropriate digital contact, or unauthorized transport. Violations of this policy may result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination, and may be reported to external agencies as required by law.

Finally, the policy now requires an annual notice to parents regarding their statutory right to access staff disciplinary records. The non-optional language changes are required for policy compliance with WI Act 57.

Policy 8462 - Child Abuse and Neglect (Revised)

This policy establishes a comprehensive framework for the mandatory identification and immediate reporting of child abuse or neglect. It requires all staff to complete Department of Public Instruction (DPI) training within their first six months and every five years thereafter. A critical update, aligned with 2025 Wisconsin Act 57, integrates specific reporting requirements for sexual misconduct by staff members, carrying severe disciplinary consequences for a failure to report. By strictly prohibiting "investigative" delays by staff, the policy ensures that law enforcement and child welfare agencies can intervene immediately to protect students and preserve evidence. The changes are required for policy compliance with WI Act 57.



Book	Policy Manual
Section	Ready for Review ACT 57
Title	STUDENT SUPERVISION AND WELFARE
Code	po1213
Status	
Adopted	June 22, 2011
Last Revised	February 16, 2026

1213 - STUDENT SUPERVISION AND WELFARE

Administrators are frequently confronted with situations which, if handled incorrectly, could result in liability to the District and personal liability to the administrator. It is the intent of the Board to direct the preparation of guidelines that would minimize that possibility.

An administrator who is found to have had sexual contact with any student shall be referred to the proper authorities and be subject to discipline, up to and including discharge.

Required Notification

The District Administrator shall notify the parent(s) or guardian(s) of a student when the District receives a report that gives reasonable cause to believe one of the following has occurred:

- A. Sexual misconduct by a school staff member against a student;
- B. A school staff member or volunteer has been convicted of a serious child sex offense and worked primarily with children in a way that would be a felony under 948.13, Wis. Stats.; and/or
- C. A registered sex offender has intentionally captured an image of a minor student without the parent's or guardian's written consent.

Definitions

Report means any information, whether written or verbal, indicating one (1) of the categories of conduct described in the section above (A., B., and/or C.) in this policy.

Timing and Method of Notification

Timing

- A. If the report is received before the end of the regular school day, the District shall notify the parent or guardian by 5:00 p.m. that same day.
- B. If the report is received after school hours or on a non-school day, the District shall provide notification by noon of the next calendar day.

Method

- A. Notice must be provided in person or by phone (including voicemail) to the parent(s) or guardian(s) of the specific student who is alleged to have been the victim, target, or recipient of the conduct.
- B. The District may follow up the in-person or phone notification with written or email documentation for record-keeping purposes.

Annual Notice of Rights

The District shall provide an annual notice to all parents and guardians informing them of their rights to access records related to the discipline of a school employee under public records law. ~~This section should not be construed as affecting any~~

~~obligations on the part of staff to report suspected child abuse under 48.981, Wis. Stats. and Policy 8462—Child Abuse and Neglect.~~

Standard of Care of Students

Each administrator shall maintain a standard of care for the supervision, control, and protection of students commensurate with their assigned duties and responsibilities which include, but are not limited to, the following:

- A. An administrator shall report immediately any accident or safety hazard about which they are informed, or detect, to their supervisor as well as to other authorities or District staff members as may be required by established policies and procedures.
- B. An administrator shall report unsafe, potentially harmful, dangerous, violent, or criminal activities, or threat of these activities, by students to the District Administrator and local public safety agencies and/or school officials in accordance with Policy 8420 - School Safety and Reporting of Crime Statistics.
- C. An administrator should not volunteer to assume responsibility for duties that they cannot reasonably perform. Such assumption carries the same responsibilities as assigned duties.
- D. An administrator shall not send students on any personal errands.
- E. An administrator shall not associate with students at any time in a manner which gives the appearance of impropriety including, but not limited to, the creation or participation in any situation or activity which could be considered abusive or sexually suggestive or involve illegal substances such as tobacco, alcohol, or drugs. Any sexual or other inappropriate conduct with a student by any administrator will subject the offender to potential criminal liability and District discipline, up to and including termination of employment.

This provision should not be construed as precluding an administrator from associating with students in private for legitimate or proper reasons or to interfere with familial relationships that may exist between staff and students.
- F. An administrator shall not disclose personally identifiable information about a student to third parties unless specifically authorized by law or the student's parent(s) to do so.
- G. An administrator, other than the District Administrator, shall not transport students for school-related activities in a private vehicle without the approval of their immediate supervisor and consistent with the provisions of Policy 8660 - Transportation by Private Vehicle for District-Sponsored Activities or Trips. This does not apply to any student who is an administrator's family member.
- H. A student shall not be required to perform work or services that may be detrimental to their health.
- I. Administrators shall not engage students in social media and online networking media (see also Policy 7544), except for appropriate academic, extra-curricular, and/or professional uses only.
- J. Administrators are expressly prohibited from posting any picture, video, meme, or other visual depiction, or comment pertaining to any student on personal or unauthorized social networking media or similar forums. This provision of the policy does not apply to pictures and/or videos taken of public events that may involve or incidentally include depictions of students participating in or observing such event where the purpose of the photo or video is to depict the event, not a particular student. This section does not apply to depictions of an administrator's own child or other relative.

Since most information concerning a child in school, other than directory information described in Policy 8330 - Student Records, is a confidential student record under Federal and State laws, any administrator who shares confidential information with another person not authorized to receive the information may be subject to discipline and/or civil liability. This includes, but is not limited to, information concerning assessments, grades, behavior, family background, and alleged child abuse.

~~[DRAFTING NOTE: The optional language below is not required by 2025 Act 57, but may be desired for additional direction to employees.]~~

~~[] Appropriate Staff and Student Relationships~~

~~The District is committed to maintaining safe, professional, and developmentally appropriate relationships between staff and students. All employees, volunteers, and adults working with students are expected to uphold clear and appropriate boundaries and report concerns to protect student welfare.~~

Prohibited Conduct

It is impossible to list every inappropriate conduct scenario, but the following expectations, as well as other similar types of behavior, apply:

A. **Preferential Treatment or Favoritism** - Staff behaviors that demonstrate, or give the perception of, preferential treatment toward a student or group of students.

B. **Boundary Invasions** - Staff-student relationships may become inappropriate based on the frequency, timing, location, or nature of interactions. Consent from the student or parent does not justify boundary invasions.

Maintaining professional boundaries is essential to student safety; however, the District recognizes that certain physical contact or personal involvement may be clinically or educationally necessary. Behaviors that are required for a student's well-being or instructional success are permitted. This includes, but is not limited to: providing hygiene assistance to a student (e.g., following a toileting accident); physical spotting or corrective positioning in athletics (e.g., wrestling, gymnastics, or football); and administering first aid or emergency medical care.

Any behavior that lacks a clear educational or medical justification, or that serves the emotional or physical needs of the adult rather than the student, is strictly prohibited. Such behaviors may be indicators of grooming and will be subject to immediate investigation. Inappropriate boundary invasions may include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. hugging, kissing, or other physical contact with a student;
2. telling sexual jokes to students;
3. engaging in talk containing sexual innuendo or banter with students;
4. talking about sexual topics that are not related to curriculum;
5. showing pornography to a student;
6. inappropriate comments about a student's body or appearance;
7. taking an undue interest in a student (i.e. having a special friend or a special relationship);
8. initiating or extending contact with students beyond the school day for personal purposes;
9. using e-mail, text messaging, or websites to discuss personal topics or interests with students;
10. giving students rides in the staff member's personal vehicle or taking students on personal outings without administrative approval;
11. invading a student's privacy (e.g. walking in on the student in the bathroom, locker-room, asking about bra sizes or previous sexual experiences);
12. going to a student's home for non-educational purposes;
13. inviting students to the staff member's home without proper chaperones (i.e. another staff member or parent of student);
14. giving gifts or money to a student for no legitimate educational purpose;
15. accepting gifts or money from a student for no legitimate educational purpose;
16. being overly touchy with students;

17. favoring certain students by inviting them to come to the classroom at non-class times;
18. getting a student out of class to visit with the staff member;
19. providing advice to or counseling a student regarding a personal problem (i.e. problems related to sexual behavior, substance abuse, mental or physical health, and/or family relationships, etc.), unless properly licensed and authorized to do so;
20. being alone with a student behind closed doors without a legitimate educational purpose;
21. telling a student secrets and having secrets with a student; and
22. other similar activities or behavior.

Inappropriate boundary invasions are prohibited and must be reported promptly.

- C. **Romantic or Sexual Conduct** - Staff must not engage in any romantic or sexual conduct with students, including dating, advances, sexual contact, or sexually suggestive communication.

Outside-District and Staff-Parent Relationships - This policy permits appropriate interactions from legitimate, pre-existing, non-District relationships (e.g., relatives, family friends). Staff who are parents or guardians of enrolled students must maintain professional conduct in all school-related activities and communications, avoiding favoritism or conflicts of interest. Where such relationships compromise professional responsibilities, the District may intervene.

Professional Conduct During Off-Site School Activities - Staff must maintain professional boundaries during all school-sponsored off-site activities such as field trips, competitions, travel, and overnight events. Increased vigilance is required in these less-supervised settings.

Reporting of Allegations of Inappropriate Staff and Student Relationships

- A. **Student Reporting Process** - Students who feel uncomfortable or witness inappropriate behavior are encouraged to report concerns to a trusted staff member or school counselor (↔), or via the District's anonymous reporting tool ~~[END OPTION]~~. All reports will be treated confidentially to the extent legally possible.
- B. **Staff Required Reporting of Misconduct** - Any concerns about inappropriate staff-student conduct must be reported immediately to a supervisor, principal, or the District's Compliance Officer(s). Anonymous reports will be investigated per District harassment procedures outlined in Policy 5517 - Student Anti-Harassment.

Mandated Reporting - Per 48.981, Wis. Stats., all staff are mandatory reporters. Suspected child abuse, including by another staff member, must be reported immediately to:

- A. A designated administrator; and
- B. Child Protective Services and/or law enforcement.

Immediate action is required; do not delay. More info: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/cps/process>

Violations and Consequences - Violations of this policy may result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination, and may be reported to external agencies as required by law.

Policy Access and Training - This policy will be:

- A. posted on the District's website;
- B. reviewed annually with staff; and
- C. included in new employee onboarding.

~~[END OF OPTION]~~

Pursuant to the laws of the State and Board Policy 8462 - Child Abuse and Neglect, each administrator shall report to the proper legal authorities, immediately, any sign of suspected child abuse, abandonment, or neglect.

48.981, Wis. Stats.

118.07(6), Wis. Stats.

948, Wis. Stats.

948.095, Wis. Stats.

Revised 10/28/19
Revised 4/27/20
Revised 4/26/21
Revised 12/19/22

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48.981, Wis. Stats.

948, Wis. Stats.

948.095, Wis. Stats.



Book	Policy Manual
Section	Ready for Review ACT 57
Title	STUDENT SUPERVISION AND WELFARE
Code	po3213
Status	
Adopted	August 1, 2006
Last Revised	February 16, 2026

3213 - **STUDENT SUPERVISION AND WELFARE**

Professional staff members are frequently confronted with situations which, if handled incorrectly, could result in liability to the District and personal liability to the professional staff member, and/or harm to the welfare of the student(s). ~~It is the intent of the Board to direct the preparation of guidelines that would minimize that possibility.~~ **[END OF OPTION]**

A professional staff member, or a person who works or volunteers with children, who is found to have had sexual contact with any student shall be referred to the proper authorities and be subject to discipline, up to and including discharge.

This section should not be construed as affecting any obligations on the part of staff to report suspected child abuse under 48.981, Wis. Stats. and Policy 8462 - Child Abuse and Neglect.

Standard of Care of Students

Each District employee shall maintain a standard of care for the supervision, control, and protection of students commensurate with their assigned duties and responsibilities which include, but are not limited to, the following standards:

- A. A professional staff member shall report immediately any accident or safety hazard about which they are informed or detect to their supervisor as well as to other authorities or District staff members as may be required by established policies and procedures.
- B. A professional staff member shall report unsafe, potentially harmful, dangerous, violent, or criminal activities, or threat of these activities, by students to the District Administrator and local public safety agencies and/or school officials in accordance with Policy 8420 - School Safety and Reporting of Crime Statistics.
- C. A professional staff member should not volunteer to assume responsibility for duties that they cannot reasonably perform. Such assumption carries the same responsibilities as assigned duties.
- D. A professional staff member shall provide proper instruction in the safety matters presented in assigned course guides.
- E. A professional staff member shall not send students on any personal errands.
- F. A professional staff member shall not associate with students, at any time in a manner which gives the appearance of impropriety, including, but not limited to, the creation or participation in any situation or activity which could be considered abusive or sexually suggestive or involve illegal substances such as tobacco, alcohol, or drugs. Any sexual or other inappropriate conduct with a student by any staff member will subject the offender to potential criminal liability and District discipline up to and including termination of employment.

This provision should not be construed as precluding a professional staff member from associating with students in private for legitimate or proper reasons or to interfere with familial relationships that may exist between staff and students.

- G. A professional staff member shall not disclose personally identifiable information about a student to third parties unless specifically authorized by law or the student's parent(s) to do so.
- H. A professional staff member shall not transport students for school-related activities in a private vehicle without the approval of their immediate supervisor and consistent with the provisions of Policy 8660 - Transportation by Private Vehicle for District-Sponsored Activities or Trips. This does not apply to any student who is a professional staff member's family member.
- I. A student shall not be required to perform work or services that may be detrimental to their health.
- J. Staff members shall not engage students in social media and online networking media (see also Policy 7544 - Use of Social Media), except for appropriate academic, extra-curricular, and/or professional uses consistent with Policy 7540 - Technology, Policy 7540.03 - Student Technology Acceptable Use and Safety, and Policy 7540.04 - Staff Technology Acceptable Use and Safety.
- K. Staff members are expressly prohibited from posting any picture, video, meme, or other visual depiction, or comment pertaining to any student on personal or unauthorized social networking media or similar forums. This provision of the policy does not apply to pictures and/or videos taken of public events that may involve or incidentally include depictions of students participating in or observing such event where the purpose of the photo or video is to depict the event, not a particular student. This section does not apply to depictions of a professional staff member's own child or other relative.

Since most information concerning a child in school, other than directory information described in Policy 8330 - Student Records, is a confidential student record under Federal and State laws, any staff member who shares confidential information with another person not authorized to receive the information may be subject to discipline and/or civil liability. This includes, but is not limited to, information concerning assessments, grades, behavior, family background, and alleged child abuse.

[DRAFTING NOTE: The optional language below is not required by 2025 Act 57, but may be desired for additional direction to employees.]

[] Appropriate Staff and Student Relationships

The District is committed to maintaining safe, professional, and developmentally appropriate relationships between staff and students. All employees, volunteers, and adults working with students are expected to uphold clear and appropriate boundaries and report concerns to protect student welfare.

Prohibited Conduct

It is impossible to list every inappropriate conduct scenario, but the following expectations, as well as other similar types of behavior, apply:

- A. **Preferential Treatment or Favoritism** - Staff behaviors that demonstrate, or give the perception of, preferential treatment toward a student or group of students.
- B. **Boundary Invasions** - Staff-student relationships may become inappropriate based on the frequency, timing, location, or nature of interactions. Consent from the student or parent does not justify boundary invasions.

Maintaining professional boundaries is essential to student safety; however, the District recognizes that certain physical contact or personal involvement may be clinically or educationally necessary. Behaviors that are required for a student's well-being or instructional success are permitted. This includes, but is not limited to: providing hygiene assistance to a student (e.g., following a toileting accident); physical spotting or corrective positioning in athletics (e.g., wrestling, gymnastics, or football); and administering first aid or emergency medical care.

Any behavior that lacks a clear educational or medical justification, or that serves the emotional or physical needs of the adult rather than the student, is strictly prohibited. Such behaviors may be indicators of grooming and will be subject to immediate investigation. Inappropriate boundary invasions may include, but are not limited to, the following:

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3. engaging in talk containing sexual innuendo or banter with students;
4. talking about sexual topics that are not related to curriculum;
5. showing pornography to a student;
6. inappropriate comments about a student's body or appearance;
7. taking an undue interest in a student (i.e. having a special friend or a special relationship);
8. initiating or extending contact with students beyond the school day for personal purposes;
9. using e-mail, text messaging, or websites to discuss personal topics or interests with students;
10. giving students rides in the staff member's personal vehicle or taking students on personal outings without administrative approval;
11. invading a student's privacy (e.g. walking in on the student in the bathroom, locker-room, asking about bra sizes or previous sexual experiences);
12. going to a student's home for non-educational purposes;
13. inviting students to the staff member's home without proper chaperones (i.e. another staff member or parent of student);
14. giving gifts or money to a student for no legitimate educational purpose;
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[END OF OPTION]

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Revised 2/27/07

Revised 6/22/11

Revised 8/22/16

Revised 10/28/19

Revised 4/27/20

Revised 4/26/21

Revised 12/19/22

Revised 10/1/24

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Legal

48.981, 948, 948.095 Wis. Stats.



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- C. Support staff should not volunteer to take on responsibilities they are not reasonably qualified or able to perform. Voluntarily assuming such duties carries the same level of accountability as formally assigned responsibilities.
- D. A support staff member shall not send students on any personal errands.
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5. showing pornography to a student;
6. inappropriate comments about a student's body or appearance;
7. taking an undue interest in a student (i.e. having a special friend or a special relationship);
8. initiating or extending contact with students beyond the school day for personal purposes;
9. using e-mail, text messaging, or websites to discuss personal topics or interests with students;
10. giving students rides in the staff member's personal vehicle or taking students on personal outings without administrative approval;
11. invading a student's privacy (e.g. walking in on the student in the bathroom, locker-room, asking about bra sizes or previous sexual experiences);
12. going to a student's home for non-educational purposes;
13. inviting students to the staff member's home without proper chaperones (i.e. another staff member or parent of student);
14. giving gifts or money to a student for no legitimate educational purpose;
15. accepting gifts or money from a student for no legitimate educational purpose;
16. being overly touchy with students;
17. favoring certain students by inviting them to come to the classroom at non-class times;
18. getting a student out of class to visit with the staff member;
19. providing advice to or counseling a student regarding a personal problem (i.e. problems related to sexual behavior, substance abuse, mental or physical health, and/or family relationships, etc.), unless properly licensed and authorized to do so;
20. being alone with a student behind closed doors without a legitimate educational purpose;
21. telling a student secrets and having secrets with a student; and
22. other similar activities or behavior.

Inappropriate boundary invasions are prohibited and must be reported promptly.

- C. **Romantic or Sexual Conduct** - Staff must not engage in any romantic or sexual conduct with students, including dating, advances, sexual contact, or sexually suggestive communication.

Outside-District and Staff-Parent Relationships - This policy permits appropriate interactions from legitimate, pre-existing, non-District relationships (e.g., relatives, family friends). Staff who are parents or guardians of enrolled students

must maintain professional conduct in all school-related activities and communications, avoiding favoritism or conflicts of interest. Where such relationships compromise professional responsibilities, the District may intervene.

Professional Conduct During Off-Site School Activities - Staff must maintain professional boundaries during all school-sponsored off-site activities such as field trips, competitions, travel, and overnight events. Increased vigilance is required in these less-supervised settings.

Reporting of Allegations of Inappropriate Staff and Student Relationships

- A. **Student Reporting Process** - Students who feel uncomfortable or witness inappropriate behavior are encouraged to report concerns to a trusted staff member or school counselor (→), or via the District's anonymous reporting tool ~~[END OPTION]~~. All reports will be treated confidentially to the extent legally possible.
- B. **Staff Required Reporting of Misconduct** - Any concerns about inappropriate staff-student conduct must be reported immediately to a supervisor, principal, or the District's Compliance Officer(s). Anonymous reports will be investigated per District harassment procedures outlined in Policy 5517 - Student Anti-Harassment.

Mandated Reporting - Per 48.981, Wis. Stats., all staff are mandatory reporters. Suspected child abuse, including by another staff member, must be reported immediately to:

- A. A designated administrator; and
- B. Child Protective Services and/or law enforcement.

Immediate action is required; do not delay. More info: <https://dcf.wisconsin.gov/cps/process>

Violations and Consequences - Violations of this policy may result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination, and may be reported to external agencies as required by law.

Policy Access and Training - This policy will be:

- A. posted on the District's website;
- B. reviewed annually with staff; and
- C. included in new employee onboarding.

~~[END OF OPTION]~~

Pursuant to the laws of the State and ~~Board~~ Policy 8462 - Child Abuse and Neglect, each support staff member shall report to the proper legal authorities immediately any sign of suspected child abuse, abandonment, or neglect. In addition, if there is any cause to suspect misconduct as specified in 118.07(6), Wis. Stats., as described in "Additional Required Reporting" in Policy 8462 - Child Abuse and Neglect, each support staff member shall immediately report it to the District Administrator or their supervisor or a Title IX Coordinator.

48.981, Wis. Stats.

118.07(6), Wis. Stats.

948, Wis. Stats.

948.095, Wis. Stats.

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Revised 8/12/25

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Legal

48.981, 948, 948.095, Wis. Stats.



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8462 - **CHILD ABUSE AND NEGLECT**

The Board is concerned with the physical and mental well-being of all children of this District and will cooperate in the identification and reporting of cases of child abuse or neglect in accordance with law. In addition, the Board strictly prohibits any actual or threatened acts of physical, mental, sexual, or other form of abuse directed towards students by any person in any District-owned, operated, or leased facility, or at any school-sponsored activity.

Staff Training Required

The Board shall require every employee to receive training provided by the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) in identifying children who have been abused or neglected and in the laws and procedures governing the reporting of suspected or threatened child abuse and neglect. Such training shall be completed within the first six (6) months of employment in the District and at least once every five (5) years after the initial training. This training may be held in conjunction with staff training for threats of violence as required in Policy 8462.01.

Training conducted in fulfillment of this policy shall include a record of the date, time, duration, and content of the training, as well as a list of all attendees at the training.

Reporting of Suspected Child Abuse or Neglect

Each District employee who has reasonable cause to suspect that child abuse or neglect has occurred or is occurring, or has reasonable cause to believe a child has been threatened with abuse or neglect and that abuse or neglect is likely to occur shall be responsible for reporting immediately every case, whether verified or suspected, the circumstances giving rise to the reasonable cause.

Reporting is mandatory even if the staff member has reason to believe that the abuse or neglect occurred, but is no longer occurring (for example, the child is no longer living with the suspected abuser). Staff members should make reports based on reasonable cause to suspect abuse or neglect and are not permitted to first investigate the circumstances in an effort to verify abuse or neglect. This can cause a loss of time and jeopardize law enforcement or social services investigations into child welfare concerns.

Reporting Procedures

The employee shall immediately call the local office of the Child Welfare Department or local law enforcement agency.

Employees shall also notify the appropriate administrator according to the District's Reporting Procedure for Student Abuse or Neglect.

