

Book	Policy Manual
Section	8000 Operations
Title	STUDENT ABUSE AND NEGLECT
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**8462 - STUDENT ABUSE AND NEGLECT**

The Board of Education is concerned with the physical and mental well-being of the students of this District and will cooperate in the identification and reporting of cases of child abuse or neglect in accordance with law.

Each professional staff member employed by this District who has reasonable cause to suspect child abuse or neglect shall be responsible for reporting immediately every case, whether ascertained or suspected, of abuse or neglect resulting in physical or mental injury to a student by other than accidental means.

The professional staff member or appropriate administrator in the presence of the staff member shall immediately call the local office of the Family Independence Agency and shall secure prompt medical attention for any such injuries reported.

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

Any support staff member who has reasonable cause to suspect child abuse or neglect shall immediately report any such case to the principal and/or his/her supervisor who shall, in turn, immediately notify the Family Independence Agency.

The identity of the reporting person shall be confidential, subject only to disclosure by consent or court order. A reporting staff member shall not be dismissed or otherwise penalized for making a report of child abuse or neglect.

Information concerning alleged child abuse is confidential. Any unauthorized disclosure by an official or employee of the District is a violation of the law and subjects the disseminator to civil liability for resulting damages.

Each Principal should be mindful of the possibility of physical or mental abuse being inflicted on a student by a staff member. Any such instances, whether real or alleged, should be dealt with in accordance with the administrative guidelines established by the Superintendent.

Legal	M.C.L. 722.621 et seq.
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