

REPORTING OF SUSPECTED CHILD ABUSE

Any MESD employee who has reasonable cause to believe that any child with whom he/she has come in contact has suffered abuse or neglect, as defined in state law, or that any adult with whom he/she is in contact has abused a child, will immediately notify the Oregon Department of Human Services, ~~Child Welfare Services~~ or the local law enforcement agency, ~~as required by ORS 419B.010 and 419B.015. Notification should not be delayed until the end of the school day. It may be necessary for law enforcement or the Department of Human Services to interview the child before the child returns home where the abuse may be occurring.~~ The employee shall also immediately inform his/her supervisor, building ~~principal~~ administrator or ~~superintendent~~ Chief Program Officer.

Child abuse by MESD employees will not be tolerated. ~~, and a~~ All MESD employees are subject to this policy and the accompanying administrative regulations. ~~If an MESD employee is a suspected abuser, reporting requirements remain the same. MESD will shall designate the Chief Program Officer to receive reports of child abuse by MESD employees and specify the procedures to be followed upon receipt of a child abuse report. MESD will shall post in each school building the name and contact information of the person designated to receive child abuse reports, as well as the procedures the Program Officer will shall follow upon receipt of a report. When the Program Officer takes action on the report, the person who initiated the report must shall be notified.~~

~~Copies of this policy, the name of the building contact person, and the procedures to follow upon receipt of a report will be posted in each MESD building and at each program site.~~ Upon request, MESD shall provide records of investigations of suspected child abuse by an MESD employee or former MESD employee to law enforcement, Department of Human Services or Teachers Standards and Practices Commission.

Any MESD employee participating in good faith in the making of a report, pursuant to this policy and Oregon law and who has reasonable grounds for making a report, shall have immunity from any liability, civil or criminal, that might otherwise be incurred or imposed with respect to the making or content of any such report. Further, the initiation of a report in good faith about suspected child abuse shall not adversely affect any terms or conditions of employment or the work environment of the person making the report. If a student in good faith initiates a report of suspected child abuse by an MESD employee, the student ~~will~~ shall not be disciplined by the Board or any MESD employee. ~~The initiation, in good faith, of a suspected child abuse report, will not adversely affect any terms or conditions of employment or the work environment of the complainant. The Board or any MESD employee will not discipline a student for the initiation, in good faith, of a suspected child abuse report by an MESD employee.~~

MESD shall establish written procedures to provide annual training for:

- 1) MESD staff in the prevention and identification of child abuse and on the obligations of MESD employees under ORS 419B.005 to report suspected child abuse;
- 2) Parents and legal guardians of students attending MESD schools on the prevention and identification of child abuse, and the obligation of MESD employees to report suspected child abuse, separate from MESD staff training; and
- 3) Training designed to prevent child abuse available to students attending MESD operated schools.

The Superintendent and Cabinet ~~will~~ **shall** implement such regulations and procedures as are necessary to accomplish the intent of this policy and to comply with state law.

~~MESD will provide notification to the complainant upon completion of the investigation by the Department of Human Services or local law enforcement about actions taken by MESD based on the report.~~

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):

ORS 339.370 - .377 **OAR 581-022-0711**
 ORS 418.746 - 418.751
 ORS 418.990
 ORS 419B.005 - 419B.045

Letter Opinion, Office of the Attorney General (May 25, 1984).

Letter Opinion, Office of the Attorney General (Aug. 18, 1986).
~~SB-755 (2005).~~

Greene vs. Camreta, __ F. 3rd __ (2009)

MESD Policy Cross Reference(s):

GBL	Personnel Records
GBL-AR	Personnel Records
GBM	Staff Complaints
GBM-AR	Staff Complaints
GCL	Staff Development
GCL-AR	Staff Development
GCPD	Discipline and Dismissal of Employees
GCPD-AR	Discipline and Dismissal of Employees
IFO	Curriculum Adoption
II/IIA	Instructional Resources/Instructional Materials
II/IIA-AR	Instructional Materials Selection
IJ	Guidance Program
JA/JAA	Student Policies, Goals and Objectives
KK	Visitors to District Facilities**
KLD	Public Complaints about MESD Personnel
KLD-AR	Public Complaints about MESD Personnel