

Board Policy

Code No. 402.2

CHILD ABUSE REPORTING

Any licensed employee who has a reasonable belief that a child enrolled in the school district has been abused by a person responsible for the care of the child, as defined by law, shall report the suspected abuse verbally to the Iowa Department of Human Services (DHS) within 24 hours and follow the verbal report with a written report on appropriate forms within 48 hours. Mandatory reporters are also required to report non-caretaker (i.e. school employees) sexual abuse of a child under age twelve to the DHS. A report of non-caretaker sexual abuse may be filed if the child is over age twelve.

The failure on the part of a licensed employee who is a mandatory reporter to make a report as required by law may subject the employee to disciplinary sanctions up to and including dismissal. If the mandatory reporter believes the child is in immediate danger, the local law enforcement agency shall also be notified immediately. Reports of child abuse remain confidential, as required by law. Classified (non-licensed) employees are strongly encouraged to report suspected child abuse.

Within six months of their initial employment, mandatory reporters shall take a training course involving the identification and reporting of child abuse. The course shall be retaken at least every five years.

Legal Reference: Iowa Code §§ 232.67-.77; 232A; 235A; 280.17 (2009).
441 I.A.C. 9.2; 155; 175.
1982 Op. Att'y Gen. 390, 417.
1980 Op. Att'y Gen. 275.

Cross Reference: 402.3 Abuse of Students by School District Employees
504 Student Health and Safety Regulations
505.6 Interrogations of Students by Outside Agencies

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