FRESNO COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS FRESNO COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Student CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION AND REPORTING

The County Superintendent and County Board are committed to supporting the safety and well-being of students in County Superintendent-operated schools and desire to facilitate the prevention of and response to child abuse and neglect. The County Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement strategies for preventing, recognizing, and promptly reporting known or suspected child abuse and neglect.

The County Superintendent or designee may provide a student who is a victim of abuse with school-based mental health services or other support services and/or may refer the student to resources available within the community as needed.

Child Abuse Prevention

The County Superintendent's instructional program may include age-appropriate and culturally sensitive child abuse prevention curriculum which explains students' right to live free of abuse, includes instruction in the skills and techniques needed to identify unsafe situations and react appropriately and promptly, informs students of available support resources, and teaches students how to obtain help and disclose incidents of abuse.

The County Superintendent's program also may include age-appropriate curriculum in sexual abuse and sexual assault awareness and prevention. Upon written request of a student's parent/guardian, the student shall be excused from taking such instruction. (Education Code 51900.6)

The County Superintendent or designee may display posters, in areas on campus where students frequently congregate, notifying students of the appropriate telephone number to call to report child abuse or neglect. (Education Code 33133.5)

The County Superintendent or designee shall, to the extent feasible, seek to incorporate community resources into the County Superintendent child abuse prevention programs and may use these resources to provide parents/guardians with instruction in parenting skills and child abuse prevention.

Child Abuse Reporting

The County Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures for the identification and reporting of known and suspected child abuse and neglect in accordance with law.

Procedures for reporting child abuse shall be included in the County Superintendent/County Board comprehensive safety plan. (Education Code 32282)

County Superintendent employees who are mandated reporters, as defined by law and administrative regulation, are obligated to report all known or suspected incidents of child abuse and neglect.

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The County Superintendent or designee shall provide training regarding the duties of mandated reporters.

Adopted: 06/19/1995

Amended: 12/10/2009, 10/15/2020, 04/20/2023

LEGAL REFERENCE

Education Code

32280-32289 Comprehensive school safety plans

33195 Heritage schools, mandated reporters

33308.1 Guidelines on procedure for filing child abuse complaints

44252 Teacher credentialing

44691 Staff development in the detection of child abuse and neglect

44807 Duty concerning conduct of students

48906 Notification when student released to peace officer

48987 Dissemination of reporting guidelines to parents

49001 Prohibition of corporal punishment

51220.5 Parenting skills education

51900.6 Sexual abuse and sexual assault awareness and prevention

Penal Code

152.3 Duty to report murder, rape, or lewd or lascivious act

273a Willful cruelty or unjustifiable punishment of child; endangering life or health

288 Definition of lewd or lascivious act requiring reporting

11164-11174.3 Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act

Welfare and Institutions Code

15630-15637 Dependent adult abuse reporting

Code of Regulations, Title 5

4650 Filing complaints with CDE, special education students

United States Code, Title 42

11434a McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act; definitions

Court Decisions

Camreta v. Greene (2011) 131 S.Ct. 2020

MANAGEMENT RESOURCES

California Department of Education Publications

Health Education Content Standards for California Public Schools, Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve

Health Framework for California Public Schools, Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve

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<u>Websites</u>

California Attorney General's Office, Suspected Child Abuse Report Form: https://oag.ca.gov/sites/all/files/agweb/pdfs/childabuse/ss_8572.pdf?

California Department of Education, Safe Schools: http://www.cde.ca.gov/ls/ss/ap

California Department of Social Services, Children and Family Services Division: https://cdss.ca.gov/inforesources/guides

U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Child Welfare Information Gateway: childwelfare.gov

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