

REPORTING CHILD ABUSE

Any school employee having reason to suspect that a student is being or has been abused or neglected shall immediately report his/her suspicions to the appropriate state officials at the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services – Division for Children, Youth and Families. The employee will inform the building principal within 24 hours that a report has been made. The principal will then notify the Superintendent that a report to the Division for Children, Youth and Families has been made.

The principal shall make a written report within 24-48 hours. The report should contain the name of the school employee who reported the suspected abuse or neglect, the name and address of the child suspected of being abused or neglected, the person responsible for the child's welfare, information indicating neglect/abuse or the nature and extent of the child's injuries (including any evidence of previous injuries), the identity of the person or persons suspected of being responsible for such neglect or abuse, and any other information that might be helpful in establishing neglect or abuse or that may be required by the Division for Children, Youth and Families.

The Board recommends all school district employees receive routine training or information on how to identify child abuse and neglect.

Legal References:

NH Code of Administrative Rules, Section Ed. 306.04(a)(10), Reporting of Suspected Abuse or Neglect

RSA 169-C:29, Persons Required to Report

RSA 169-C:30 Nature and Content of Report

RSA 169-C:34, III Duties of the Department of Health and Human Services

RSA 169-C:31, Immunity from Liability

Guidelines for New Hampshire School Employees: Recognizing and reporting suspected Child Abuse and Neglect, 2002 (Accessible on the NHDOE website)

Mrs. Priscilla Colbath, Chairperson

Mrs. Janet Gagnon

Mrs. J. Lisbeth Olimpio

Mrs. Judith Nason

Mr. Peter Kasprzyk

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