

Reporting of Abuse by Non-Mandated Reporters

Background:

School officials, including but not limited to teachers, guidance counselors, school psychologists, school nurses, administrators, or other school personnel required to hold a teaching or administrative license or certificate, are required to make a report to child protective services when they have reasonable cause to suspect a student is abused or maltreated (Soc. Serv. Law section 413(1)).

Social Services law includes persons who are not mandated reporters may make such a report if they have reasonable cause to suspect child abuse or maltreatment (Soc. Serv . Law section 414).

Our non-mandated reporters could include aides, monitors, bus drivers, office personnel, cafeteria workers, custodians, cleaners and coaches. Our students frequently interact with all of these people and, in many instances, have established trusting relationships. It would be firmly established that if these people suspect any child abuse or maltreatment to whom they would report and how soon upon suspicion.

Proposed Policy:

All school personnel not covered by Social Service Law, section 413 (1) will be required to report to their building principal or the appropriate guidance counselor any suspicion that a student is being abused or maltreated as soon as is reasonably possible.

First Reading: February 13, 2012

Second Reading and Adoption: February 27, 2012