

**CHILD ABUSE/NEGLECT REPORTING**

To combat child abuse and neglect problems and in compliance with state laws, any teacher, administrator, counselor, physical therapist, occupational therapist or speech-language pathologist having reasonable cause to suspect that a child seen in the course of professional duties has been abused or neglected or reason to believe that a child has been threatened with abuse or neglect and that abuse or neglect may occur, shall immediately notify the county department of social services or the sheriff or the village police of the facts and circumstances contributing to a suspicion of child abuse or neglect or to a belief that abuse or neglect will occur. The building principal (or designee) shall also be notified.”}

It is not the responsibility of the school personnel to prove that the child has been abused or neglected or threatened with abuse or neglect, nor to determine whether the child is in need of protection. School personnel shall not contact the child’s family or any other person to determine the cause of any suspected abuse or neglect.

No district employee shall be discharged from employment or disciplined in any way for making such a report. In addition, state law guarantees immunity from any civil or criminal liability that may result from making a report on child abuse or neglect. State law also provides for the protection of the identity of any individual who makes such a report.

LEGAL REF.:                   Sections 48.981 Wisconsin Statutes  
  940.225  
  940.227

APPROVED:                   October 9, 1996

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