

REPORTING CHILD ABUSE OR NEGLECT

Category: P

Any school employee having reason to suspect that a child is being or has been abused or neglected shall immediately report his/her suspicions to the building Principal. The Principal shall then immediately notify the appropriate state officials at the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services. The Principal will then notify the Superintendent that such a report to Health and Human Services has been made.

A written report shall be made by the Principal within twenty-four (24) hours. The report should contain the name and address of the child suspected of being abused or neglected, the person responsible for the child's welfare, the specific 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 Department of Health and Human Services.

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

The Principal or Administrator of each school shall post a sign in a public area within the school that is readily accessible to students, in the form provided by the New Hampshire Department of Health and Human Services, Division for Children, Youth, and Families, that contains instructions on how to report child abuse or neglect, including the phone number for filing reports and information on accessing the Division's website.

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:31, Immunity from Liability

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

RSA 189:72, Child Abuse or Neglect Information

SAU #7 Policy Committee: Recommended for Adoption – February 28, 2019

Colebrook School Board: Adopted – May 7, 2019

Pittsburg School Board: Adopted – May 13, 2019

Stewartstown School Board: Adopted – June 3, 2019