

Procedures For Reporting Abuse or Neglect

AR-4015

- I. The requirements under this administrative regulation shall apply to all minor children enrolled in this school district reporting or claiming abuse or neglect. Minor child shall be defined as any unemancipated person under the age of nineteen.
- II. Any employee who has reasonable cause to believe that a minor child has been abused or neglected shall report such abuse or neglect.
- III. The employee shall notify his or her immediate supervisor. On the same day the complaint by the minor child is made, the supervisor or the employee or both shall report or cause an oral report to be made to the Child Protective Service Unit of the Nebraska Department of Social Services or to the local police department. The oral report shall be followed by a written report, and to the extent available it shall contain the address and age of the abused or neglected child; the address of the person or persons having custody of the abused or neglected child; the nature and the extent of the abuse or neglect or the conditions and circumstances which would reasonably result in such abuse or neglect; any evidence of previous abuse or neglect, including the nature and extent; and any other information which may be helpful in establishing the case of such abuse or neglect and the identity of the perpetrator or perpetrators.
- IV. Any employee participating in an investigation or the making of a report pursuant to the provisions of the Nebraska statutes relating to child abuse or neglect, or participating in a judicial proceeding resulting therefrom shall be immune from any liability, civil or criminal, that might otherwise be incurred or imposed, except for malicious false statements. No employee shall be terminated from employment or be otherwise subject to reprisals because the employee participated in the reporting or made the actual report of such child abuse or neglect.
- V. Any employee who willfully fails to make any report required by statutes or knowingly releases confidential information shall be subject to the penalties as set forth by Nebraska Statute Chapter 28, Article 7.
- VI. All reports shall be confidential and shall not become a part of a student's educational record.
- VII. The parents or guardians of the abused or neglected child need not be notified.

AR-4015, Con't.

VIII. If the employee considers the situation to be critical and possibly life threatening, and when the Child Protective Services Unit cannot respond promptly, the employee, in cooperation with the employee's immediate supervisor, shall obtain assistance by calling 911 and requesting the local police department or an ambulance to respond as appropriate.

IX. A representative, properly identified, from the Child Protective Services Unit or from the local police department shall be allowed to interview the child at the school facility following a report of child abuse or neglect. The employee and/or the immediate supervisor shall be present during the interview.

X. Photographic evidence may be obtained only by law enforcement personnel.

XI. Nothing in this administrative regulation shall be construed to prohibit employees from the professional sharing of observations and information about a student or requesting the same from other employees; however, once the observation and information causes an employee to become aware of any abuse or neglect, the obligation to report becomes mandatory.

Legal Reference:	§28-710	Child Abuse, Reports,
	through	Investigation, Liability.
	§28-717	
	§43-2101	Persons Declared Minors,
		Marriage Effect.