

Reports of Suspected Abuse or Neglect of Children or Reports of Sexual Assault of Students by School Employees

4050.

Conn. Gen. Stat. Sec. 17-101 et seq. requires school employees who have suspected abuse or neglect of a child to report the incident to the appropriate state or local authority as soon as possible.

1. Scope of Policy

This policy applies not only to school employees, but to all employees of the Board of Education.

2. Definitions

For the purposes of this policy:

"Abused" means that a child(ren) has had physical injury or injuries inflicted upon the child or children, including but not limited to, bruising, laceration, or other physical injuries.

"Neglected" means that a child(ren) has been abandoned or is being denied proper care, supervision, or education.

"School employee" means (a) a teacher, substitute teacher, school administrator, school personnel, or other staff member employed by the Board of Education (District), or

"Statutorily mandated reporter" means an individual defined by Conn. Gen. Stat. Section 17-101 et seq. as a mandatory reporter of child abuse or neglect, and is eighteen years of age or older.

3. What Must Be Reported

a) A report must be made when any employee of the Board of Education in the primary

- i) has been abused or neglected;
- ii) has had a non-accidental physical injury or injury which is at variance
- iii) is placed at imminent risk of serious harm; or

b) A report must be made when any employee of the Board of Education in the primary

- i) sexual assault in the first degree;
- ii) aggravated sexual assault in the first degree;
- iii) sexual assault in the second degree;
- iv) sexual assault in the third degree;
- v) sexual assault in the third degree with a firearm; or
- vi) sexual assault in the fourth degree.

Reporters should refer to Appendix A of this policy for the relevant statutory definitions of laws

a) The supervisor or administrator of a Board employee may be held liable for the actions of the

d) A Board employee is not precluded from conducting a preliminary inquiry to determine

4. Reporting Procedures for Statutorily Mandated Reporters

The following procedures apply only to statutorily mandated reporters, as defined above.

a) When an employee of the Board of Education who is a statutorily mandated reporter

b) The employer shall make a referral for electronic reports, as soon as practicable,

1. An oral report shall be made by telephone or in person to the Commissioner of DCF or the local

law enforcement agency. DCF has established a 24 hour Child Abuse and Neglect Careline at 1-800-842-2288 for the purpose of making such oral reports.

1. An electronic report shall be made in the manner prescribed by the Commissioner of DCF. An employee making an electronic report shall respond to further inquiries from the Commissioner of DCF or Commissioner's designee made within twenty-four (24) hours. Such employee shall inform the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee as soon as possible as to the nature of the further communication with the Commissioner or Commissioner's designee.

- (2) The employee shall also make oral reports as soon as practicable to the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee if the employee is a mandated reporter and the child is in need of medical attention or the child is in need of protective services.
- (3) The employee shall also make oral reports as soon as practicable to the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee if the employee is a mandated reporter and the child is in need of medical attention or the child is in need of protective services.
- (4) Not later than forty-eight (48) hours after making an oral report to the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee, the employee shall submit a written report to the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee.
- (5) The employee shall submit the report to the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee in writing or electronically.
- (6) If the report concerns suspected child abuse or neglect or sexual assault of a child, the report shall be submitted to the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee.

5. Reporting Procedures for Employees Other Than Statutorily Mandated Reporters

The following procedures apply only to employees who are not statutorily mandated

- a) When an employee who is not a statutorily mandated reporter and who is in the ordinary course of his or her employment is notified of a child abuse or neglect incident, the employee shall:
- (1) The employee shall make oral reports as soon as practicable to the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee.
- (2) If the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee determines that there is a child abuse or neglect incident, the employee shall submit a written report to the Superintendent or Superintendent's designee.

6. Contents of Reports

Any report made pursuant to this policy shall contain the following information, if known:

- a) the child's name and addresses of the child\* and the child's parents or other person responsible for the child's care;
- b) the age of the child;
- c) the gender of the child;
- d) the nature and extent of the child's injury or injuries, maltreatment or neglect;
- e) the approximate date and time the injury or injuries, maltreatment or neglect occurred;
- f) the child's injuries, including any previous injury or injuries to, or maltreatment or neglect of the child;
- g) the circumstances in which the injury or injuries, maltreatment or neglect came to be known to the reporter;
- h) the name of the person or persons suspected to be responsible for causing such injury or maltreatment or neglect;
- i) the reasons such person or persons are suspected of causing such injury or injuries, maltreatment or neglect;
- j) any information concerning any other cases or reports of abuse or neglect, or persons have been suspected of causing such injury or injuries, maltreatment or neglect;
- k) whatever action, if any, was taken to treat, provide shelter or otherwise assist the child.



d) All other definitions as defined above shall continue to apply to the training regarding the program. This policy is intended to be developed by the Board on or before July 1, 2026.

17. Records

a) The Board shall maintain in a central location all records of allegations, investigations, and disciplinary actions. Such records upon request shall be made available to the State Department of Education.

b) Notwithstanding the provisions of Conn. Gen. Stat. §10-151 of the Board shall provide a report on the findings and conclusions of any investigation conducted by the Board.

18. Child Sexual Abuse and/or Sexual Assault Response Policy and Reporting Procedure

The Board has adopted a uniform child sexual abuse and/or sexual assault response policy, reporting procedure, and investigation procedure. The Board shall ensure that all schools are aware of the policy and procedure and that all staff are trained on the policy and procedure. The Board shall also ensure that all staff are aware of the reporting procedure and that all staff are trained on the reporting procedure.

Legal References:

Connecticut General Statutes:

Section 10-151 Employment of teachers. Definition. Tenure. Notice and hearing on

Section 10-221c Reporting of child sexual abuse and/or sexual assault. Telephone number in schools. Investigations of child

Section 17a-101a Statewide Protection of children from child sexual abuse. Mandated reporters. Educational and

Section 17a-101a Statewide Sexual Abuse and Assault Awareness and

Section 17a-103 Reports by others. False reports. Notifications to law enforcement agency.

Section 46b-120 Definitions.

Section 53a-65 Definitions.

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