

Policy 5141.4: Child Abuse Prevention And Reporting

Status: DRAFT

Original Adopted Date: 01/13/2016 | **Last Revised Date:** 04/12/2017 | **Last Reviewed Date:** 09/09/2026

The Governing Board is committed to supporting the safety and well-being of district students and desires to facilitate the prevention of and response to child abuse, assault, and neglect. The Superintendent or designee shall develop and implement strategies for preventing, recognizing, and promptly reporting known or suspected child abuse, assault, and neglect.

The Superintendent or designee may provide a student who is a victim of abuse with school-based mental health services or other support services and/or may refer the student to resources available within the community as needed.

The Superintendent or designee may collaborate with the county's child welfare, probation, mental health, public health, and sheriff's departments; juvenile court; and office of education, on intervention programs for students.

Child Abuse Prevention

The district's instructional program may provide age-appropriate and culturally sensitive child abuse prevention curriculum which explains students' right to live free of abuse, includes instruction in the skills and techniques needed to identify unsafe situations and react appropriately and promptly, informs students of available support resources, and teaches students how to obtain help and disclose incidents of abuse.

Any instructional program on child abuse may include annual instruction on sexual abuse and assault, and human trafficking prevention, including instruction on the prevalence and nature of abuse, including sexual abuse and assault and human trafficking, strategies to reduce risk, techniques to set healthy boundaries, and how to safely seek assistance. (Education Code 51950)

Additionally, the district's program may include age-appropriate instruction in sexual abuse and sexual assault awareness and prevention. (Education Code 51900.6, 51950)

Parent(s)/guardian(s) shall have the right to excuse their child from all or part of instruction regarding abuse, including sexual abuse, and human trafficking prevention education, and assessments related to that education, in accordance with law and Board policy. (Education Code 51950)

The Superintendent or designee may display posters, in areas on campus where students frequently congregate, notifying students of the appropriate telephone number to call to report child abuse or neglect. (Education Code 33133.5)

Additionally, student identification cards for students in grades 7-12 shall have printed on them the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, the National Domestic Violence Hotline (1-800-799-7233), and The Trevor Project's LGBTQ+ suicide hotline (1-866-488-7386, or by texting START to 678-678). In addition, student identification cards of students in grades 7-12 may have printed on them a quick response (QR) code that links to the county's mental health resources website. (Education Code 215.5)

The Superintendent or designee shall, to the extent feasible, seek to incorporate community resources into the district's child abuse prevention programs and may use these resources to provide parents/guardians with instruction in parenting skills and child abuse prevention.

Child Abuse Reporting

The Superintendent or designee shall establish procedures for the identification and reporting of known and suspected child abuse and neglect in accordance with law.

Procedures for reporting child abuse, as specified in Penal Code 11164-11174.3, shall be included in the district

and/or school comprehensive safety plan. (Education Code 32282)

District employees who are mandated reporters, as defined by law and administrative regulation, are obligated to report all known or suspected incidents of child abuse and neglect.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide training regarding the duties of mandated reporters as required by law and as specified in the accompanying administrative regulation. (Education Code 44691; Penal Code 11165.7)

Policy Reference Disclaimer: These references are not intended to be part of the policy itself, nor do they indicate the basis or authority for the Governing Board to enact this policy. Instead, they are provided as additional resources for those interested in the subject matter of the policy.

State	Description
5 CCR 3200-3205	Special education compliance complaints
Code of Civil Procedure 340.1	Damages suffered as result of childhood sexual abuse
Ed. Code 215.5	Student identification cards; inclusion of safety hotlines
Ed. Code 32280-32289.5	School safety plans
Ed. Code 33133.5	Posters of telephone number for students to report child abuse or neglect
Ed. Code 33195	Heritage schools; mandated reporters
Ed. Code 33308.1	Guidelines on procedure for filing child abuse complaints
Ed. Code 33546.2	Health framework for California public schools; sextortion
Ed. Code 44252	Teacher credentialing
Ed. Code 44691	Staff development in the detection of child abuse and neglect
Ed. Code 44807	Teachers' duty concerning conduct of students
Ed. Code 48906	Notification when student released to peace officer
Ed. Code 48987	Dissemination of reporting guidelines to parents/guardians
Ed. Code 49001	Prohibition of corporal punishment
Ed. Code 51220.5	Parent/guardian skills education
Ed. Code 51900.6	Sexual abuse and sexual assault awareness and prevention instruction
Ed. Code 51950	Abuse, sexual abuse, and human trafficking prevention education
Pen. Code 11164-11174.3	Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act
Pen. Code 152.3	Duty to report murder, rape, or lewd or lascivious act
Pen. Code 273a	Willfully causing unjustifiable pain or mental suffering of child; endangering life or health
Pen. Code 286	Crime of sodomy
Pen. Code 288	Crime of oral copulation
Pen. Code 288	Definition of lewd or lascivious act requiring reporting
Pen. Code 289	Crime of sexual penetration
Pen. Code 311-312.7	Obscene matter
Pen. Code 801.8	Failure to report an incident known or reasonably suspected by a mandated reporter to be sexual assault, child abuse, or severe neglect
W&I Code 15630-15637	Dependent adult abuse reporting
W&I Code 16509.1	Treatment of children by spiritual means through prayer; neglect

Federal

42 USC 11434a

Description

[McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act; definitions](#)

Management Resources

CA Office of the Attorney General Publication

Description

[School District Legal Obligations to Prevent and Respond to Sexual Harassment, Assault, and Abuse, April 2026](#)

California Department of Education Publication

[Health Education Framework for California Public Schools, Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve, May 2019](#)

California Department of Education Publication

[Health Education Content Standards for California Public Schools: Kindergarten Through Grade Twelve, 2008](#)

Court Decision

[Camreta v. Greene \(2011\) 131 S.Ct. 2020](#)

CSBA Publication

[Why Schools Hold the Promise for Adolescent Mental Health, Governance Brief, May 2019](#)

Website

[SchoolSafety.gov, Child Exploitation](#)

Website

[CSBA District and County Office of Education Legal Services](#)

Website

[California Department of Social Services, Information Resources Guide](#)

Website

[California Department of Education, Child Abuse Prevention Training and Resources](#)

Website

[U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Child Welfare Information Gateway](#)

Website

[California Attorney General's Office, Suspected Child Abuse Report Form](#)

Cross References

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[Volunteer Assistance](#)

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[Complaints Concerning District Employees](#)

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[Uniform Complaint Procedures](#)

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[Relations Between Other Governmental Agencies And The Schools](#)

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[Response To Immigration Enforcement](#)

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4212.9	Employee Notifications
4212.9-E PDF(1)	Employee Notifications
4219.21	Professional Standards
4219.21-E PDF(1)	Professional Standards - Code Of Ethics Classified Employees
4219.23	Unauthorized Release Of Confidential/Privileged Information
4219.24	Maintaining Appropriate Adult-Student Interactions
4227	Temporary Athletic Team Coaches
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4317.7	Employment Status Reports
4319.21	Professional Standards
4319.21-E PDF(1)	Professional Standards
4319.23	Unauthorized Release Of Confidential/Privileged Information
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4331	Staff Development
5131	Conduct
5131-E PDF(1)	Conduct - Elementary Plan
5131.7	Weapons And Dangerous Instruments
5131.7	Weapons And Dangerous Instruments
5141.5	Mental Health
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