

VENTURA COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

BOARD POLICY NO. 5141.4

ADOPTED: 11/8/02

CLASSIFICATION: Students

REVISED:

SUBJECT: Child Abuse Reporting Procedures

The Governing Board and Superintendent recognize that the County Office has a responsibility to facilitate the prompt reporting of incidents of child abuse and neglect. The Superintendent or designee shall ensure that parent/guardians of VCOE students have access to procedures whereby they can report suspected child abuse at a school site to appropriate child protective agencies.

The Superintendent or designee shall establish regulations for use by employees in identifying and reporting child abuse.

County Office employees shall report known or suspected incidences of child abuse in accordance with County Office regulations and state law. Employees shall fully cooperate with the child protective agencies responsible for reporting, investigating and prosecuting cases of child abuse.

The Superintendent or designee shall provide training in child abuse identification and reporting for all certificated personnel when they are employed by VCOE.

The Superintendent or designee shall also provide training in the duties of child abuse identification and reporting to instructional and teacher aides, teacher assistants and other classified employees. (Penal Code 11165.7)

As part of their training in child abuse identification and reporting, employees shall receive written notice of state child abuse reporting requirements and employees' confidentiality rights. (Penal Code 11165.7)

VCOE employees who work with dependent adults shall be notified of legal responsibilities and reporting procedures pursuant to Welfare and Institutions Code 15630-15637.

In order to reduce or eliminate unfounded child abuse accusations directed at school employees, child abuse in-service training shall include guidance in disciplining students and maintaining ethical relationships with them.

(cf. 3514 – Environmental Safety)

(cf. 5142 – Safety)

(cf. 5145.7 Sexual Harassment)

Legal References:

EDUCATION CODE

32280-32288	Comprehensive school safety plans
33308.1	Guidelines on procedure for filing child abuse complaints
44690-44691	Staff development in the detection of child abuse and neglect
48906	Notification when student released to peace officer
44807	Duty concerning conduct of students
48987	Dissemination of reporting guidelines to parents
49001	Prohibition of corporal punishment
51220.5	Parenting skills education

PENAL CODE

152.3	Duty to report murder, rape, or lewd or lascivious act
273a	Willful cruelty or unjustifiable punishment of child; endangering life or health
288	Definition of lewd or lascivious act requiring reporting
11164-11174.3	Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting Act, especially:
11165-11165.15	Definitions relating to child abuse
11166-11170	Reporting known or suspected cases of child abuse
11172	Immunity from liability
11174.3	Interviewing victim at school

WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE

600-601.2	Referral to school attendance review board; minors habitually disobedient or truant
15630-15637	Dependent adult abuse reporting

STATUTES OTHER THAN CODE

Chapter 1102, Statutes of 1991, Section 6

CDE LEGAL ADVISORIES

0514.93	Guidelines for parents to report suspected child abuse by school district employees or other persons against a pupil at school site
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CODE OF REGULATIONS, TITLE 5

4650	Filing complaints with CDE, special education students
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