

## Series 5000 – Students

### 1. Elementary and Secondary

#### D. Welfare

##### (1) School Medical Advisor

##### (j) Child Abuse, Neglect and Sexual Assault

Connecticut General Statute Section 71a-101 as amended by Public Acts 02-138, 11-93, and 15-205 requires all school employees including the Superintendent of Schools, school teachers, substitute teachers, administrators, school counselors, school paraprofessionals, licensed nurses, physicians, psychologists, social workers, licensed behavior analysts, coaches of intramural or interscholastic athletics, or any other person, who in the performance of his/her duties, has regular contact with students and who provides services to District students, who have reasonable cause to suspect or believe that a child has been abused, neglected, placed in imminent risk of serious harm, or sexually assaulted by a school employee to report such abuse, neglect and sexual assault in compliance with applicable state statutes.

An oral report by telephone or in person shall be made as soon as possible but no later than 12 hours to the Commissioner of Children and Families and to the Superintendent of Schools or his/her designee followed within 48 hours by a written report to the Department of Children and Families.

The Board of Education will post the telephone number of the Department of Children and Families' child abuse hotline, Careline, and the Internet web address that provides information about the Careline in each District school in a conspicuous location frequented by students. Such posting shall be in various languages most appropriate for the students enrolled in the school.

Accurate and timely reporting of suspected abuse and/or neglect of children or sexual assault, in addition to the requirements pertaining to staff training, record keeping and dissemination of this policy, shall be in accordance with the procedures established and set forth in the Administrative Regulation 5151.4.

(cf. 4112.6/4212.6 – Personnel Records)

Legal References: Connecticut General Statutes  
 10-220a Inservice training. Professional development committees. Institutes for educators. Cooperating teacher program, regulations (as amended by PA 11-93)  
 10-221d Criminal history records check of school personnel. Fingerprinting. Termination or dismissal (as amended by PA 11-93)  
 10-221s Investigations of child abuse and neglect. Disciplinary action. (as amended by PA 16-188)  
 17a-28 Definitions. Confidentiality of and access to records; exceptions. Procedure for aggrieved persons. Regulations (as amended by PA 11-93 and PA 14-186)  
 17a-101a Protection of children from abuse. Reports required of certain professional persons. When child may be removed from surroundings

without court order. (as amended by PA 96-246, PA 00-220, PA 02-106, PA 03-168, PA 09-242, PA 11-93, PA 15-205, PA 18-15 and PA 18-17)  
17a-101a Report of abuse or neglect by mandated reporters. (as amended by PA 02-106, PA 11-93, PA 15-205, PA 18-15 and PA 18-17  
17a-102 Report of danger of abuse. (as amended by PA 02-106)

Policy adopted:

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SUFFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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January 21, 1997, November 18, 2008  
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Suffield, Connecticut