

ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONPROTOCOL IN SUSPECTED CASES OF CHILD ABUSE OR NEGLECTPURPOSES

Purpose of the proposed regulation is to set forth the procedures for the prompt reporting by district employees of suspected child abuse or neglect cases of children enrolled in the Eureka County School District.

RATIONALE

Nevada State Statute 432B.220 requires individuals having knowledge of suspected child abuse or neglect to make immediate reports of information. Persons making such reports in good faith are immune from civil and criminal liability.

REPORTING PROCEDURES

When there is reasonable suspicion that a child has been abused or neglected, the following procedures are to be undertaken:

Step One

Verbally notify the principal/ principal designee of the school where the child is enrolled;

Step Two

The district employee and/ or principal/ principal designee will promptly notify the Division of Child and Family Services, State of Nevada, or the Eureka County Sheriff's Office.

INVESTIGATION

The Eureka County School District and its employees are not empowered to investigate suspected instances of child abuse or neglect.

No district employee is expected or authorized to contact non-school district individuals or agencies in order to investigate or obtain additional information or to verify report information.

The actual investigation of the suspected child abuse or neglect will be conducted either by the Eureka County Sheriff's Office or the Division of Child and Family Services, State of Nevada.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS

Special considerations must be given to a child involved in an abuse or neglect investigative procedure. If the student is more comfortable having the counselor present during the investigation, there is nothing in the law which would prohibit the presence of that counselor while investigative officials question the student. In addition, there nothing within the statute which prevents a counselor or teacher from discussing the student's feelings about the investigation after investigative officials have left. However, discussion should focus on assuaging the student's fears and apprehensions.