

Reporting Child Abuse (Policy #403.0)

In compliance with state law and to provide protection to victims of child abuse, incidents of alleged child abuse should be reported to the proper authorities. All district employees are encouraged, and employees who constitute mandatory reporters pursuant to state law are required, to report alleged incidents of child abuse that they become aware of within the scope of their professional duties.

When an employee who is a mandatory reporter suspects that a student is the victim of abuse, the employee shall notify the Iowa Department of Human Services, orally or in writing. If the employee believes the child is in immediate danger, the local law enforcement agency shall also be notified. Within forty-eight (48) hours of an oral report, the employee shall file a written report with the Iowa Department of Human Services.

The district shall arrange for employees who are mandatory reporters to complete a two-hour training course relating to the identification and reporting of child abuse within six months of initial employment, unless the employee submits evidence that he/she has completed the required course within the previous five years. This course must be retaken at least every five years.

It is also the policy of the district that all employees are required to report to the level one investigator any suspected cases of physical or sexual abuse of students by district personnel.