

Section 5: General Personnel

Title Abused and Neglected Child Reporting

Number 5.090

Status Active

Legal 325 ILCS 5/1 et seq.

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5.90 -Abused and Neglected Child Reporting

Any District #129 school personnel or employee who suspects or receives knowledge that a student known to them in their professional or official capacity may be an abused or neglected child shall immediately report such case to the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services' (DCFS) Child Abuse Hotline, 800-25-ABUSE or 217-524-2606. The employee shall also immediately notify his or her administrative supervisor, or the superintendent, that a report has been made. If DCFS directs the employee to also report the matter to the Illinois Department of Human Services, the employee shall notify his or her administrative supervisor or the superintendent of this directive.

All District #129 school personnel or employees shall sign the "Acknowledgement of Mandated Reporter Status" form provided by District #129 prior to the commencement of employment. The superintendent or designee shall ensure that the signed forms are retained.

Any District #129 school personnel or employee who discovers child pornography, as that term is defined by Section 4.5(a) of the Abused and Neglected Child Reporting Act (the "Act"), on electronic and information technology equipment shall immediately report the discovery to the local law enforcement or the Cyber Tip Line at the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, 800-843-5678. The employee shall also immediately notify his or her administrative supervisor, or the superintendent, that a report has been made.

If a report or allegation of child abuse relates to an employee of the District (which is deemed to include, but not be limited to, all employees, coaches, activity sponsors and contracted employees in transportation, food services and technology, as well as volunteers, support personnel, or any other person relative to District #129 who is known to the child through an official or professional capacity) the superintendent or designee shall, in addition to a report to DCFS, immediately notify the appropriate law enforcement agency and the board of education of the allegation or report. The superintendent or designee should also inform the student's parent/guardian of the allegation or report, to the extent that doing so would not harm the student.

The Superintendent shall execute the requirements in the Act whenever another school district requests a reference concerning an applicant who is or was a District employee and was the subject of a report made by a District employee to DCFS.

The Superintendent shall notify the State Superintendent and the Regional Superintendent in writing when he or she has reasonable cause to believe that a certificate holder was dismissed or resigned from the District as a result of an act that made a child an abused or neglected child. The Superintendent must make the report within 30 days of the dismissal or resignation and mail a copy of the notification to the certificate holder.

If an allegation is raised to a District 129 school board member during the course of an open or closed school board meeting that a child who is enrolled in the school district is an abused child as defined by the Act, such member shall direct or cause the board of education to direct the superintendent or designee to comply with the Act's reporting requirements.

The superintendent or designee shall provide staff development opportunities for all employees, including coaches and activities sponsors, in the detection, reporting and prevention of child abuse and neglect. Annually, prior to the first day of school with students, all District #129 school personnel and employees will be notified of their obligations under the Act and this Policy.

Revision Approved: March 18, 2013

[5.90 Acknowledgement of Mandated Reporter Status Interactive.pdf \(468 KB\)](#)