

LEGAL: SB 119 REVISED KRS 156.095 TO NOW REQUIRE BOARDS TO SELECT A CHILD ABUSE TRAINING PROGRAM FROM A LIST MAINTAINED BY KDE. ALL CURRENT ADMINISTRATORS, CERTIFIED PERSONNEL, OFFICE STAFF, INSTRUCTIONAL ASSISTANTS, COACHES AND EXTRACURRICULAR SPONSORS ARE TO COMPLETE THIS TRAINING BY JANUARY 31, 2017. NEW EMPLOYEES IN THE POSITIONS LISTED ABOVE HIRED AFTER JANUARY 31, 2017, SHALL HAVE 90 DAYS TO COMPLETE THE TRAINING. TRAINING SHALL BE GIVEN EVERY 2 YEARS AFTER JANUARY 31, 2017.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: POSSIBLE INCREASE IN COST OF SUBSTITUTES AND INCREASED RECORDKEEPING

RECOMMENDED: LANGUAGE ADDRESSING THE INTERVIEWING OF ALLEGED VICTIMS OF CHILD ABUSE AT SCHOOL IS REPEATED FROM DISTRICT POLICY 09.4361/POLICE OFFICERS IN THE SCHOOL. THIS SHOULD MAKE IT EASIER FOR USERS TO FIND.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: NONE ANTICIPATED

STUDENTS

09.227

Child Abuse

REPORT REQUIRED

Any teacher, school administrator, or other school personnel who knows or has reasonable cause to believe that a child under age eighteen (18) is dependent, abused or neglected¹ shall immediately make a report to a local law enforcement agency or the Kentucky State Police, the Cabinet for Families and Children or its designated representative, the Commonwealth's Attorney or the County Attorney in accordance with KRS 620.030.²

After making the report, the employee shall notify the Principal of the suspected abuse, who then shall also promptly make a report to the proper authorities for investigation. If the Principal is suspected of child abuse, the employee shall notify the Superintendent/designee who shall also promptly report to the proper authorities for investigation.

Only agencies designated by law are authorized to conduct an investigation of a report of alleged child abuse. Therefore, the District shall not first investigate a claim before an employee makes a report to the proper authorities. However, in certain situations, reports involving claims made under state and federal laws, such as Title IX, shall require the District, after making the required report, to conduct an independent investigation of the allegations in order to determine appropriate personnel action.

WRITTEN REPORT

The person reporting shall, if requested, in addition to the report required above, file with the local law enforcement agency or the Kentucky State Police or the Commonwealth's or County's Attorney or the Cabinet for Families and Children or its designated representative within forty-eight (48) hours of the original report a written report containing specific information regarding the child, the child's parents or guardians, and the person allegedly responsible for the abuse or neglect.

WRITTEN RECORDS

Copies of reports kept by the District that are submitted to authorities in compliance with the child abuse law are educational records and subject to inspection by the parents of the alleged victim of child abuse. Whether the records are considered "internal records", and not maintained with the students' "permanent records", is immaterial if such records are directly related to students and are maintained by the school or school District.

Child Abuse

INTERVIEWS

If the student is an alleged victim of abuse or neglect, school officials shall follow directions provided by the investigating officer or Cabinet for Families and Children representative as to whether to contact a parent.³

REQUIRED TRAINING

All current school administrators, certified personnel, office staff, instructional assistants, coaches, and extracurricular sponsors shall complete Board selected training on child abuse and neglect prevention, recognition, and reporting by January 31, 2017, and every two (2) years thereafter. School administrators, certified personnel, office staff, instructional assistants, coaches, and extracurricular sponsors hired after January 31, 2017, shall complete the training within ninety (90) days of being hired, and every two (2) years thereafter.

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REFERENCES:

¹KRS 600.020 (1)(15)

²KRS 620.030; KRS 620.040

³OAG 85-134; OAG 92-138

KRS 17.160; KRS 17.165; KRS 17.545; KRS 17.580

KRS 156.095; KRS 199.990; KRS 209.020; KRS 620.050

OAG 77-407; OAG 77-506; OAG 80-50; OAG 85-134

34 C.F.R. 106.1-106.71, U.S. Department of Education Office for Civil Rights
Regulations Implementing Title IX

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RELATED POLICIES:

09.42811; 09.4361; 10.5

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