

REPORTING OF SUSPECTED CHILD ABUSE OR NEGLECT

The School Board is concerned with the physical and mental well-being of all children and will cooperate in the identification and reporting of suspected cases of child abuse and neglect in accordance with law.

If a staff member has reason to believe that a student is the victim of child abuse or neglect, that staff member shall immediately make an oral report to the Department of Child Services (DCS) or local law enforcement. After the report is made, the staff member shall immediately notify the building administrator if the building administrator was not with the staff member when the report to DCS or law enforcement was made. **The building administrator shall document the report and contact DCS to ensure that they have received the report and an investigation has begun.** If appropriate, the building administrator may also immediately report to the Superintendent or designee.

Information concerning alleged child abuse or neglect of a student is confidential information and is not to be shared with anyone other than the administration or the reporting agency. **If the parent or a member of the household is not the subject of the investigation, the Corporation may notify the parents that a report was made.**

A staff member who violates this policy may be subject to disciplinary action.

The Board requires that each Corporation employee who is likely to have direct, ongoing contact with children within the scope of employee's employment attend or participate in training on child abuse and neglect, including training on the duty to report suspected child abuse or neglect under I.C. 31-33-5; and training on recognizing possible signs of child abuse or neglect

Also, the Board requires each Corporation employee who is likely to have direct, ongoing contact with children within the scope of the employee's employment to attend or participate in inservice training on the identification and reporting of human trafficking.

Annually, the Corporation shall provide age-appropriate and research and/or evidence-based instruction on child abuse and child sexual abuse to students in Kindergarten through Grade 12. This instruction may be delivered by a school safety specialist, school counselor, school social worker, school psychologist, or any person with training and expertise in the area of child abuse and child sexual abuse.

I.C. 31-33-5-1 et seq.

I.C. 20-26-5-35.5

West Lafayette Community School Corporation

Adopted: [date]

Revised: [date]