

ABUSED OR NEGLECTED CHILDREN

In adopting the following policy, the School District of New Berlin adheres to Wisconsin Statute 48.981.

Any certified staff of the School District of New Berlin, who in the course of their official duties, has reasonable cause to suspect that a student has been abused or neglected or has been threatened with abuse or neglect, shall immediately inform, by telephone or personally, the county department, sheriff, or the New Berlin Police Department, of the facts and circumstances contributing to a suspicion of child abuse or neglect or to a belief that abuse or neglect may occur. In addition, classified staff shall report the abuse or neglect to their building administrator who will immediately inform the appropriate agency.

"Abuse" means any of the following:

1. Physical injury inflicted by other than accidental means.
2. Sexual intercourse or sexual contact.
3. Sexual exploitation for purposes of pornography.
4. Permitting, allowing or encouraging a child to engage in prostitution.
5. Forced viewing of sexual activity.
6. Emotional damage. ("Emotional damage" means harm to a child's psychological or intellectual functioning which is exhibited by severe anxiety, depression, withdrawal or outward aggressive behavior, or a combination of those behaviors, which is caused by the child's parent, guardian, legal custodian or other person exercising temporary or permanent control over the child and for which the child's parent, guardian or legal custodian has failed to obtain the treatment necessary to remedy the harm. "Emotional damage" may be demonstrated by a substantial and observable change in behavior, emotional response or cognition that is not within the normal range for the child's age and stage of development.)

"Neglect" means failure, refusal or inability on the part of a parent, guardian, legal custodian or other person exercising temporary or permanent control over a child, for reasons other than poverty, to provide necessary care, food, clothing, medical or dental care or shelter, as to seriously endanger the physical health of the child.

No person making a report under this policy may be discharged from employment for doing so, nor may the investigating agency disclose any information that would identify the person who made the report. Furthermore, the person making such a report will have immunity from any liability, civil or criminal, that results by reason of the action.

Adopted: 6-91

Revised: 12/18/09