

**Section 400 – Personnel
Employees and Outside Relations
Child Abuse Reporting**

File: 403.02

The board of education directs the superintendent of schools or his or her designee to develop administrative procedures to advise all school employees, including coaches and volunteers participating in interstate amateur athletic competitions, of their responsibilities and procedures to be followed as described by statutes relating to child abuse.

Abuse or neglect shall mean knowingly, intentionally, or negligently causing or permitting a minor child or an incompetent or disabled person to be:

1. Placed in a situation that endangers his or her life or physical or mental health;
2. Cruelly confined or cruelly punished;
3. Deprived of necessary food, clothing, shelter or care;
4. Left unattended in a motor vehicle, if such minor child is six or younger;
5. Sexually abused;
6. Sexually exploited by allowing, encouraging, or forcing such person to solicit for or engage in prostitution, public indecency, or obscene or pornographic photography films or depictions.

All school employees shall report immediately any instance where they have reasonable cause to believe or suspect that a child has been subjected to abuse, or instance where they observe a child being subjected to conditions or circumstances which reasonably would result in abuse. Reporting should be made directly to the Child Abuse Hotline (1-800-422-4453) or law enforcement and the building principal or administrator. If suspected abuse or neglect is reported by the building principal, the principal will inform all staff members with knowledge that he or she has made the report. These incidents will be documented and kept on file.

In cases of investigating of child abuse reports, the decisions as to informing parents or guardians lies in the hands of the investigating authorities.

Legal Reference: Neb. Statute 28-711
 34 U.S.C. § 20341

Cross Reference: 403.03 Abuse of Students by School District Employees
 504.17 Questioning of Students by Outside Agencies
 508 Student Health and Well Being