

Reporting Child Abuse/Child Protection

It is the policy of the Board that this BOCES comply with the Child Protection Act.

To that end, any BOCES employee who has reasonable cause to know or suspect that a child has been subjected to abuse or neglect or who has observed the child being subjected to circumstances or conditions which would reasonably result in abuse or neglect, as defined by statute, shall immediately upon receiving such information report or cause a report to be made to the appropriate county department of social services or local law enforcement agency. Failure to report promptly may result in civil and/or criminal liability. A person who reports child abuse or neglect in good faith is immune from civil or criminal liability.

Reports of child abuse or neglect, the name and address of the child, family or informant or any other identifying information in the report shall be confidential and shall not be public information.

BOCES employees shall not contact the child's family or any other persons to determine the cause of the suspected abuse or neglect. It is not the responsibility of the BOCES employee to prove that the child has been abused or neglected.

Adopted: January 12, 2017

LEGAL REFS.: C.R.S. 19-1-103 (1) (*definition of child abuse or neglect*)
C.R.S. 19-3-102 & 103 (*definition of neglected or dependent child*)
C.R.S. 19-3-304 (*persons required to report abuse*)
C.R.S. 19-3-307 (*reporting procedures*)
C.R.S. 19-3-309 (*immunity from liability for persons reporting*)