

<b>Category:</b> 8000 STUDENTS	<b>Policy Number:</b> 8700
<b>Policy Title:</b>  CHILD ABUSE, NEGLECT OR ABANDONMENT REPORTING	<b>Effective Date:</b>  November 15, 2006

The personal safety and welfare of each child is of paramount concern of the Board of Trustees, employees and patrons of the school district. It is of particular importance that employees within the District become knowledgeable and thoroughly educated as to their legal and ethical responsibilities on observation and reporting of suspected child abuse, child abandonment or child neglect. The superintendent shall review with staff the legal requirements concerning suspected child abuse at the commencement of each school year.

Any school employee who has reasonable cause to know or suspect that a child has been subject to abuse, neglect or abandonment or who has observed the child being subjected to conditions or circumstances which would reasonably result in abuse, neglect or abandonment as defined by Idaho statute, has the responsibility to report or cause to be reported such case to local law enforcement or the Department of Health and Welfare within twenty four (24) hours.

The employee shall also immediately notify their supervisor or school administrator of the situation and the action taken. The supervisor or school administrator will make sure that the suspected abuse has been reported (within 24 hours) and will immediately notify the superintendent (or designee) of the situation. The superintendent shall contact Health & Welfare or the local law enforcement agency regarding any complaint (within 24 hours) and follow district policy regarding child abuse investigation procedures. The administrator will keep on file an accurate written record of each complaint. No district employee will assume investigative responsibility of any complaint.

Any person who has reason to believe that a child has been abused, abandoned or neglected and, acting upon that belief, makes a report of abuse, abandonment or neglect as required by Idaho Code 16-1605 is immune from any liability, civil or criminal, that might otherwise be incurred or imposed.

Any person who reports that a child has been abused, abandoned or neglected in bad faith, with malice or knowing the same to be false is not entitled to immunity from any civil or criminal liability that might otherwise be incurred or imposed.

Any district employee who fails to report a suspected case of abuse, abandonment or neglect to the Department of Health and Welfare or local law enforcement, or who prevents another person from doing so, may be civilly liable for the damages proximately caused by such failure or prevention, and is guilty of a misdemeanor. The employee will also be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination.

**Legal Reference:** Idaho Code 16-1605, 16-1606, 16-1607, 16-1602

**REFERENCE:** 8700p, "Child Abuse, Neglect or Abandonment "  
8700F: "Suspected Child Abuse Reporting Form"  
Policy 8703, "Child Protection Investigations Policy"  
Policy 8755, "Relationship Between the School and Law Enforcement Officials"

<b>Category:</b> 8000 STUDENTS	<b>Policy Number:</b> 8700p
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<b>Policy Title:</b> CHILD ABUSE, NEGLECT OR ABANDONMENT DEFINITIONS AND REPORTING PROCEDURE	<b>Effective Date:</b> November 15, 2006
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**DEFINITIONS:**

"Abuse" is defined as any case in which a child has been the victim of conduct or omissions resulting in skin bruising, bleeding, malnutrition, burns, fracture of any bone, subdural hematoma, soft tissue swelling. Abuse is further defined to include sexual conduct including rape, molestation, incest, prostitution, obscene or pornographic photographing, filming or depiction for commercial purposes, or other similar forms of sexual exploitation harming or threatening the child's health or welfare or mental injury to the child abandonment or neglect.

"Abandoned" is defined as the failure of the parent to maintain a normal parental relationship with his/her child including, but not limited to, reasonable support or regular personal contact. Failure to maintain this relationship without just cause for a period of one (1) year is evidence of abandonment.

"Neglected" means a child is without proper parental care and control, or subsistence, education, medical or other care or control necessary for his well-being because of the conduct or omission of his parents, guardian or other custodian or their neglect or refusal to provide them with these items.

**REPORTING PROCEDURE:**

Any school employee who has reasonable cause to know or suspect that a child has been subject to abuse, neglect or abandonment or who has observed the child being subjected to conditions or circumstances which would reasonably result in abuse, neglect or abandonment as defined by Idaho statute, has the responsibility to report or cause to be reported such case to local law enforcement or the Department of Health and Welfare within twenty four (24) hours.

No district employee will assume investigative responsibility of any complaint.

The employee shall also immediately notify their supervisor or school administrator of the situation. The Suspected Child Abuse Reporting Form 8700F shall be completed. The administrator will keep on file an accurate written record of each complaint.

The supervisor or school administrator will make sure that the suspected abuse has been reported (within 24 hours) and will immediately notify the superintendent (or designee) of the situation and provide a copy of the completed Reporting Form 8700 F.

The superintendent shall contact Health & Welfare or the local law enforcement agency regarding any complaint of abuse, neglect or abandonment (within 24 hours) and follow district policy regarding child abuse investigation procedures.

Refer to Policy 8703, "Child Protection Investigations" as a guideline for access and release of information from the student's permanent records and relationship with the investigation officials.

<b>Category:</b> 8000 STUDENTS	<b>Procedure or Form Number:</b> 8700f
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<b>Policy Title:</b> SUSPECTED CHILD ABUSE REPORTING FORM	<b>Effective Date:</b> November 15, 2006
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**SNAKE RIVER SCHOOL DISTRICT #52**  
**Suspected Child Abuse Reporting Form**

**Offense:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date Observed:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Time:** \_\_\_\_\_

**School:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Administrator:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Person Reporting Suspected Abuse:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Other witnesses to incident:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Statement of Incident Leading to the Report on** \_\_\_\_\_ **(Child's Name)**  
**(Include time, date, names and observed circumstances and facts)**

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Date of Written Report to Administrator:** \_\_\_\_\_ , 20 \_\_\_\_\_

**Official Incident Reported To:** \_\_\_\_\_  
**(Health & Welfare, Law Enforcement, State DOE, Other)**

**Originator's Signature** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_ , 20 \_\_\_\_\_  
**(Verification of reported incident)**

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**Date reported:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Reported to:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature of Administrator:** \_\_\_\_\_

(Rev. 11/06)