

# RED HOOK CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT

POLICY # 5400
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## REPORTING CHILD ABUSE AND MALTREATMENT

The Board recognizes that because of their sustained contact with school-age children, school employees are in an excellent position to identify abuse or maltreated children and refer them for treatment and protection.

Therefore, any school official or employee who has reasonable cause to know or suspect that a child has been subjected to abuse or maltreatment will immediately report this to the principal or a designated agent who will report the case to the New York State Child Abuse and Maltreatment Register, as required by law.

School employees and officials will not contact the child's family or any other person to determine the cause of the suspected abuse or maltreatment.

It is also not the responsibility of the school official or employee to prove that the child has been abused or maltreated.

In accordance with the law, any employee who fails to report an instance of suspected child abuse or maltreatment is guilty of a Class A misdemeanor and can be held liable for the damages caused by the failure to report. The law grants employees and other persons who report instances of child abuse immunity in good faith from any liability that might otherwise be incurred.

The superintendent will prepare and implement such procedures as are necessary to accomplish the intent of this policy.

5400  
Approved by B.O.E. 11/14/90