



Maryland State Law and HCPSS Policy 1030

- Requires employee or service providers of the Howard County Public School System to report any suspicion of child abuse or neglect to the Howard County Department of Social Services
- Provides immunity from civil liability or criminal penalty for a report made in good faith
- Failure to report may result in suspension or termination of services
- Also requires service providers/volunteers to make a report if there is a reason to believe that abuse or neglect possibly occurred. Reports should be made without attempts to do any further investigation.
- If needed, service providers/volunteers may consult with the school's Child Abuse Liaison. Liaisons cannot make the report to the Department of Social Services on your behalf



Role of Child Abuse Liaison

- **Coordinates support for students suspected of being abused or neglected**
- **Acts as resource for information relating to child abuse and neglect reporting procedures**
- **Assists with completion of child abuse reporting forms as needed**



Reporting Child Abuse or Neglect

- **Make oral report immediately to Department of Social Services**
- **Follow up with written report within 48 hours.**
- **Tell administrator and Child Abuse Liaison that a report was filed**
- **Do not place a copy of report in student educational record**



Service Providers Code of Ethics

- **Confidentiality:** Any information you have access to in the school or classroom is confidential
- **As a service provider/volunteer, you are required to protect the confidentiality of all student information that you see or hear while volunteering**



Unattended Children

Department of Social Services

- Children must be 8 years old to be left unattended for short periods of time
- When an adult is not present, a child must be 13 years old to be in charge of siblings or other children



**Information about
Howard County Public School System
Board of Education Policy 1030
Child Abuse and Neglect
may be found on our website**