

**BALDWIN UNION FREE SCHOOL DISTRICT
BALDWIN NEW YORK**

Mandated Reporting of Suspected Child Abuse or Neglect

All teachers, nurses, and administrators who work in public schools are considered "mandated reporters," which means they are required by law to report suspected cases of child abuse or neglect to Child Protective Services (CPS). The law was amended in 2007 and considers "school official" to be specifically defined to include "teachers, guidance counselors, psychologists, social workers, school nurses, and any other school personnel required to hold teaching or administrative license or certification." As a result, mandated reporters who have reasonable cause to suspect child abuse or neglect must be the person who directly contacts the New York State Child Abuse and Maltreatment Registry to report the suspected abuse or neglect. After making the report to the New York State Child Abuse and Maltreatment Registry, staff members must then inform the building principal, who is responsible for all subsequent administration necessitated by the report.

The amended mandated reporting law further provides that (1) school districts shall not take any retaliatory personnel action in response to a report being made to the Child Protective Services registry, and (2) school districts shall not impose any conditions, including prior approval or prior notification, upon a staff member who is required to report cases of suspected abuse or neglect.