



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING


GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

SHEILA A. ALLES  
INTERIM STATE SUPERINTENDENT

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** July 11, 2019

**TO:** Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents  
Public School Academy Directors

**FROM:** Venessa A. Keesler, Ph.D., Deputy Superintendent   
Division of Educator, Student, and School Supports

**SUBJECT:** Mandated Reporter Requirements

In accordance with section 3(a) of MCL 722.623 – [the Child Protection Law](#) – teachers, school counselors, and school administrators are **required** to report suspected child abuse and/or neglect as mandated reporters. The [Child Protection Law](#) aligns with Michigan’s Top 10 in 10, Goal 4: reduce the impact of high-risk factors, including poverty, and provide equitable resources to meet the needs of all students to ensure that they have access to quality educational opportunities.

The [Mandated Reporters’ Resource Guide](#) states: The Child Protection Law requires mandated reporters who have reasonable cause to suspect child abuse or neglect to make an immediate oral report to the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS) – Centralized Intake at 855-444-3911, followed by a written report within 72 hours. The reporter is not expected to investigate the matter, know the legal definitions of child abuse and neglect, or even know the name of the perpetrator. The Child Protection Law is intended to make reporting simple and places responsibility for determining appropriate action with the Children’s Protective Services (CPS) division of MDHHS.

**Notifying parents is not adequate fulfillment of mandatory reporting requirements.**

More information regarding mandated reporting, requirements, and how to report can be found on the [MDHHS website](#). Other resources that can be found on the MDHHS website and through the following links are:

- [The Mandated Reporters’ Resource Guide](#)
- [The Guide to Detailed Reporting](#)
- [The Child Protection Law](#)

For additional information, please contact Leah Breen at [breen1@michigan.gov](mailto:breen1@michigan.gov).

cc: Michigan Education Alliance

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