



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

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GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** July 30, 2020

**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 (DESSS)

**SUBJECT:** Mandated Reporter Requirements and Code of Ethics Resources

In accordance with Section 3 of MCL 722.623, known as the [Child Protection Law](#), teachers, school counselors, and school administrators are required to make an immediate report of all suspected child abuse and/or neglect as a "mandated reporter." Michigan Department of Education (MDE) suggests that all local educational agencies incorporate mandated reporter and code of ethics training into annual professional development plans. This memorandum contains links to mandated reporter and code of ethics [training resources](#).

The [Michigan Department of Health and Human Services \(MDHHS\) website](#) states:

*Mandated reporters shall make an immediate report to CI (Centralized Intake) by telephone or through the online reporting system of suspected child abuse or child neglect. Within 72 hours after making an oral report by telephone, the reporting person shall file a written report (DHS-3200). If the immediate report has been made using the online reporting system, no additional written report is required.*

**In accordance with the Child Protection Law, notifying parents/guardians, school administrators, or other individuals of authority is not adequate fulfillment of mandatory reporting requirements.**

More information regarding mandated reporting, requirements, and how to report can be found on the [Michigan Department of Health and Human Services \(MDHHS\) website](#). These resources include, but are not limited to:

- [The Guide to Detailed Reporting](#)
- [The Child Protection Law](#)

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608 WEST ALLEGAN STREET • P.O. BOX 30008 • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909  
[www.michigan.gov/mde](http://www.michigan.gov/mde) • 833-633-5788

Mandated reporter training and other available resources to support the [Michigan Code of Educational Ethics](#) can be found below:

1. In cooperation with the Firecracker Foundation, MDE has released training materials for mandated reporting and appropriately handling disclosure, including [vignettes](#) and an accompanying [presentation](#).
2. The National Education Association has partnered with Digital Promise to create a micro-credential based on the five principles of the Michigan Code of Educational Ethics. This [free resource](#) was created by educators for educators and is open to the public.
3. The National Association of State Directors of Teacher Education and Certification (NASDTEC) has announced the launch of a new blog [Ethics and Educators](#). *Ethics and Educators* is a new national blog designed to explore the tensions of professional practice in today's PK-12 schools.
4. The NASDTEC has also made available a series of [podcasts](#), including:
  1. Focusing on Ethics: Smartphones in the Classroom
  2. Blurred Lines: Protecting Educators from Social Media Mishaps
  3. An Intentional Focus on Mitigating Risks [webinar]

All of these resources are available on the following website: [Michigan Department of Education Code of Educational Ethics](#). For questions about the resources, the Michigan Code of Educational Ethics, or mandated reporting, please contact the educator helpline at 517-241-5000 or [MDE-EducatorHelp@Michigan.gov](mailto:MDE-EducatorHelp@Michigan.gov).

cc: Michigan Education Alliance  
Confederation of Michigan Tribal Education Directors