School/Community/Home Relations

Relations with Social Service Agencies / Investigating Child Abuse

Child Abuse Investigation with Children
Department of Social Services or law enforcement officers are permitted to interview students at school without parent notification in order to investigate suspected child abuse or neglect under the following conditions.

1. Department of Social Services or law enforcement officers shall contact the principal or designee and request that an interview time and place be established.

2. Upon arrival at the school, each Department of Social Services social worker or law enforcement officer shall report to the school office and display proper identification.

3. The principal or designee shall call the student to the place where the interview is to occur.

4. The Department of Social Services social worker or law enforcement officer shall conduct the interview. School personnel are not to be present or participate in any manner in the interview.

5. Parental contact regarding the interview is the responsibility of the Department of Social Services.

Child Abuse Investigation with Staff Members
If the allegation involves an employee of the School District, school personnel may be present during the interview of the employee.

Legal Reference:
SDCL 26-8A through 26-9

RELATED POLICIES:
JLF/STI/JLF-R/STI – Reporting Child Abuse/Child Protection
KLG/STI/KLG-R/STI – Relations with Law Enforcement Authorities

(formerly 1414.1)