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MEMORANDUM

TO: District School Superintendents
Principals of Florida Public Schools
Exceptional Student Education Directors
Student Services Directors
School Social Work Supervisors

FROM: Jim Warford

DATE: March 7, 2005

SUBJECT: Child Abuse Source Book for Florida School Personnel: A Prevention and Intervention Tool

Contact Information:

Michele Polland

Gria Davison

(850) 922-3727

michele.polland@fldoe.org

gdavison@tempest.coedu.usf.edu

K12: 2005-17

In support of the Department of Education's goal to improve student rates of learning, we are pleased to provide you with the *Child Abuse Source Book for Florida School Personnel: A Prevention and Intervention Tool*. This publication is designed to assist local school district child abuse prevention and intervention training programs. The source book, which was revised by the Department of Education with support from the Department of Children and Families (DCF), the Florida Children's Justice Act Task Force, and the Florida Department of Health, also includes a Fact Sheet related to the legal requirement to report suspected child abuse or neglect.

Section 39.201, Florida Statutes (Mandatory reports of child abuse, abandonment or neglect.--), requires that all persons, including school teachers or other school officials or personnel, who have reason to suspect child abuse, neglect, or abandonment report such suspicions to the DCF central abuse hotline. The names of such reporters are entered into the record of the report and are held confidential as required.

JIM WARFORD
K-12 CHANCELLOR

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Enclosed for your information is a copy of the source book. This publication is available on-line at the following website: <http://myfloridaeducation.com/commhome/pub-home.htm>. Please feel free to duplicate and distribute this resource to staff responsible for supervision and implementation of services and programs related to child abuse prevention training.

Please direct questions regarding this memorandum to Gria Davison at (850) 922-3727 or via email at gdavison@tempest.coedu.usf.edu.

JW/mpk

Enclosure

cc: Assistant Superintendents for Instruction
Guidance Supervisors
Health Services Supervisors
Parent Liaisons
Safe Schools Contacts
Safe and Drug-Free Schools Coordinators
School Board Attorneys
School Psychology Supervisors