**Policy Code: 4360 REPORTING CHILD ABUSE**

Any school employee who has reasonable cause to suspect that a student under 18 years of age is being abused or neglected by his or her parents or other persons responsible for his or her care shall report the case to the Director of Social Services for Chowan County and to the school principal.

All employees of Edenton-Chowan Schools will extend their full and complete cooperation to personnel from the Chowan County Department of Social Services and to any state and local law enforcement officers who may be called upon by the Director of Social Services to assist in the investigation and evaluation of any report of abuse or neglect.

In addition to the requirements of this policy, any administrator who knows or has reason to believe that a licensed employee has engaged in conduct which involves physical or sexual abuse of a child shall report that information to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction in accordance with policy 5135, Staff-Student Relations.

LEGAL REFERENCES: Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, 20 U.S.C. 1232g; G.S. 7B-101, -301, -302, -309, -3100; 8-53.4; 14-318.2; 115C-400, -402; 16 N.C.A.C. 6C.0312; State Board of Education Policy LICN-007, NCAC-6C.0312

CROSS REFERENCES: Staff-Student Relations (policy 5135)

ADOPTED: August 2, 2004

**Edenton-Chowan Schools**