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MEMORANDUM

TO: District School Superintendents

FROM: Dr. Frances Haithcock

DATE: March 4, 2011

SUBJECT: Child Abuse Prevention Source Book for Florida School Personnel: A Tool for Reporting Abuse and Supporting the Child

Contact Information:

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

The Department of Education worked in collaboration with the Department of Children and Families, the Florida Department of Health, local school district and law enforcement representatives to update the 2004 Child Abuse Prevention Source Book. The revised document entitled *The Child Abuse Prevention Source Book for Florida School Personnel: A Tool for Reporting Abuse and Supporting the Child*, is available at <http://www.fldoe.org/ese/pdf/chiabuse.pdf>. This document is intended to assist and support school district primary prevention training programs. Please duplicate (with appropriate citation) and distribute this resource to staff responsible for communication, implementation, and training efforts related to the prevention of child abuse.

For additional information or assistance regarding the content of this Source book, please contact Gria Davison, School Social Work Consultant, (850) 245-7851 or gdavison@usf.edu.

FH/gd

DR. FRANCES HAITHCOCK
CHANCELLOR OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS