Investigation of Allegations of Abuse of Students By Agency Employees

It is the policy of Central Rivers AEA that Agency employees not commit acts of physical or sexual abuse, including inappropriate and intentional sexual behavior, toward students. The definition of employees for the purpose of this policy includes not only those who work for pay but also those who are volunteers of the agency under the direction and control of the agency. Any Agency employee who commits such acts is subject to disciplinary sanctions up to and including discharge.

It is the policy of the Central Rivers AEA to respond promptly to allegations of abuse of students by Agency employees by investigating or arranging for full investigation of any allegation, and to do so in a reasonably prudent manner. The processing of a complaint or allegation will be handled confidentially to the maximum extent possible. All employees are required to assist in the investigation when requested to provide information, and to maintain the confidentiality of the reporting and investigating process.

The Agency has appointed level-one investigators and alternates, and has arranged for or contracted with a trained, experienced professional to serve as the level-two investigator. The level-one investigators and alternates will be provided training in the conducting of an investigation.

The Chief Administrator or designee shall prescribe rules in accordance with the rules adopted by the State Board of Education to carry out this policy. (See Administrative Regulations)

> Legal References: Iowa Code Section 280.17 Iowa Administration Code 281–102

> > Adopted: <u>03-13-03</u> Reviewed: <u>11-2-16</u> Reviewed: <u>05-4-22</u>