

September 2016

Dear District Administrator:

This letter is to provide information and resources to assist school districts in meeting the requirements of the Prevent Violence Against Children Act of 2005. The content of the act is available at: <http://docs.legis.wisconsin.gov/document/acts/2005/165>. The state law was enacted on March 21, 2006 and includes several Shaken Baby Syndrome (SBS) prevention training requirements that impact local school districts.

The first instructional requirement applies to all school districts. According to Wis. Stat. § 121.02(1)(L)6, school boards must provide pupils with the instruction described in Wis. Stat. § 253.15(5) on shaken baby syndrome and impacted babies in one of grades 5 to 8 and in one of grades 10 to 12. Since the inception of the law, training educators in various programs has taken place. Additionally, a school board may arrange with a non-profit organization or a health care provider to provide instruction.

Additional supplemental resources are available for district curriculum and instruction through:

- Department of Public Instruction Web Resources: <http://dpi.wi.gov/sbs>
- Wisconsin Shaken Baby Association: <http://www.shakenbaby.net>

The second SBS prevention training requirement applies to school districts offering the Family and Consumer Sciences course: Assistant Child Care Teacher. Because students will earn certification as child care assistants and work in licensed centers, the law applies to students in this program. Teachers must incorporate the approved curriculum into the Assistant Child Care Teacher course.

The third training requirement applies to those school districts that operate child care programs. Any person who provides care and supervision to children under age five in a child care setting operated by a school district, or licensed as a group child care center, family child care center, or day camp, must receive training in SBS prevention. This includes all providers, employees, substitutes, volunteers, and emergency back-up providers. In order to be in compliance with this portion of the law, new employees may complete an interim training on SBS prevention and then complete the full approved course within six months from the date of hire. A list of agencies offering these courses is available on the Department of Children and Families website at: <http://dcf.wisconsin.gov/childcare/licensed/pdf/AgencyList.pdf>.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding curriculum and training, please contact Diane Ryberg, education consultant, at diane.ryberg@dpi.wi.gov or (608) 267-9088; or Eileen Hare, education consultant, at eileen.hare@dpi.wi.gov or (608) 267-9234.

Sincerely,



Tony Evers, PhD
State Superintendent

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