

STUDENT PERSONNEL

Series 400

Policy Title . . . INTERVIEWS WITH STUDENTS BY LAW ENFORCEMENT/SOCIAL
SERVICE AGENCIES Code No. 445.0

In order to ensure the safety and well-being of students and staff, the School Board recognizes the need for, and is supportive of, law enforcement presence in our schools. The School Board encourages close cooperation with law enforcement agencies. The School Board recognizes that the responsibility to cooperate with law enforcement agencies must be balanced with the District's duty to maintain an appropriate learning environment.

Administrative regulations shall be established to guide the interviews of students by law enforcement or social service agencies.

INTERVIEWS WITH STUDENTS BY LAW ENFORCEMENT/SOCIAL SERVICE AGENCIES

The following guidelines are to be used by administrators when the law enforcement officials interview students in school during regular school hours. These guidelines do not apply to interviews conducted by District professional staff.

1. Whenever practical, the time and place of interviews will be scheduled by the appropriate building administrator after prior notice from the law enforcement officer. Administrators, in consultation with the law enforcement officer, will consider the need for the student interview during regular school hours, and work toward minimizing interviews that disrupt the instructional day.
2. After consultation with law enforcement officers as to reason, the student, building administrator or law enforcement officer may determine that the administrator or appropriate school designee be present during the interview.
3. Notification to parents or guardians when students, who are minors, are to be interviewed by law enforcement officers in the schools are governed by the following guidelines:
 - a. Notification defined: The term "notification" as it is used in this policy means a reasonable effort to contact the parent or guardian.
 - b. Elementary and middle school students: For all elementary and middle school students, parents or guardians will be entitled to notification prior to commencing the interview, except in the case of child abuse/neglect referrals. The interview may proceed prior to notification of the parent or guardian if: (1) the situation is determined to require prompt action; (2) the situation is determined to be of a serious nature; or, (3) the attempt at contact has been unsuccessful. If the interviewee is to be arrested, or is considered a suspect or, in the case of elementary students, is considered a witness, prior notification is strongly encouraged and subsequent contact by a school administrator or the law enforcement department is required.
 - c. High school students: Although prior notification of the parent or guardian is strongly encouraged whenever possible and practicable, high school students may be interviewed without **such prior** notification. If the interviewee is to be arrested, or is considered a suspect, prior notification is strongly encouraged and **subsequent** contact by a school administrator and/or the law enforcement department is required.
4. In cases where the student is asked to leave the building and accompany the officer to the law enforcement station, the law enforcement department is responsible for contacting the student's parent or guardian. If there are any complaints regarding the removal of a student from school, or notification, they should be directed to the district attorney or the appropriate police agency.

In the instance of a non-custodial removal from school (i.e. social services personnel), it is the responsibility of the building administrator to give subsequent notification to the parent or guardian working with the social service personnel.

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Section 120.12 (2)