

**Procedures for Conducting Student Interview
Interrogations by Law Enforcement Officials on
School Premises**

Policy 445.1

Types of Student/Law Enforcement Interviews

1. A student suspect interview is an interview with a student who is suspected of some violation of the law or some other offense.
2. A student witness interview is an interview with a student who is thought to have some information that would be helpful to law enforcement officials in investigating some crime or other offense.
3. A student victim interview is an interview with a student who is the victim of a crime. Interviews with students who are victims of abuse or neglect shall be governed by the Board's child abuse and neglect report procedures. The Board's student interview policy and these procedures shall govern interviews with students who are victims of crimes other than abuse or neglect.

General Requirements Regarding Student/Law Enforcement Interviews on School Premises

Except as otherwise specifically provided, all student interviews with law enforcement officers on school premises shall be governed by the following guidelines.

1. Law enforcement officers should make every reasonable attempt to interview students outside of the school setting except in cases where the school has requested law enforcement assistance, emergencies or as specifically required by law.
2. All student interviews with law enforcement officers on school premises shall be conducted in such a way to minimize school disruptions.
 - a. Interviews should be coordinated with student's schedule if at all possible.
 - b. Interviews should not be allowed during an exam, except in an emergency
 - c. The principal, or his/her designee, should summon the student from his/her class rather than the law enforcement officer, unless the police department and school administration feel the situation warrants personal contact by the officer.
 - d. Interviews should be conducted in a closed setting as to promote confidentiality.
3. For student victim or witness interviews, parent notification will be attempted when law enforcement officers are involved.
4. If a student or his/her parent/guardian declines a student interview with a law enforcement officer on school premises, the student may be dismissed from school or removed from school premises for the interview. When a student is released from school property at the request of and by a law enforcement officer a District staff member will be required to complete a Student Release Form.
5. If the student is asked to leave the building and accompany the officer to the police station, the police 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 of the appropriate police department.

Special Requirements Regarding Student Suspect Interviews

1. School officials shall attempt to notify a student's parent/guardian prior to allowing a student suspect interview with law enforcement officers on school premises. A student suspect interview may be conducted without such prior parent notification if an emergency exists as determined by the building principal or designee and the police department. Some instances that might constitute an emergency are

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as follows: a delay may result in a flight of a suspect, destruction of evidence, opportunity to cover the crime or an unacceptable threat to the community.

2. A student's parent/guardian will be given an opportunity to be present during a student suspect interview when possible.
3. A school official shall be present, whenever possible, during any student suspect interview with law enforcement officers on school premises unless the student and his/her parent/guardian request otherwise. School officials present during a student suspect interview with law enforcement officers can participate in the questioning with law enforcement officer approval.

Cross Reference:

- 445 Student Interview Interrogations
- 445.2 Student Release Form