

## Relations with Law Enforcement Agencies

The schools must safeguard the rights of students while cooperating with law enforcement officers in the legitimate pursuit of their duties.

Police officers investigating a case involving an illegal act in which a student may be in some way involved, or about which the student may have information, shall contact the building principal or designee before any effort is made to question a student during school hours.

All procedural safeguards prescribed by law must be strictly observed. When the interrogation takes place in school, as elsewhere, students are entitled to be advised of their rights, which include the right to counsel and the right to remain silent.

The designated school authority shall make an effort to contact the parent or guardian at the time an officer comes to question or arrest a student unless there is reason to believe that such notification would unduly interfere with the investigation (example: suspected child abuse). If the school authority is unable to reach the parent or guardian, the officer should not be delayed further; however, a school official should contact the parent or guardian as soon as possible.

When a student is questioned at school by a law enforcement officer, the school administrator or designee will be present during the questioning unless the parties agree to the contrary because of the circumstance. At no time, except in child abuse cases, will an administrator release a student to an officer without one of the following:

1. A warrant;
2. A court order;
3. Custody or arrest;
4. Permission of custodial parent or guardian.

The building principal or designee is authorized to provide information regarding a student to a law enforcement agency over the phone. Information will be provided only after verifying the caller's identity (e.g., call party back at the verified phone number).

Each year the administration will meet with law enforcement officials to discuss:

1. Whom the school/law enforcement official should call for suspected violations of the law occurring on district property or other common needs;

2. How school representatives should handle evidence of a suspected crime/contraband, etc.;
3. Board policy and procedures related to law enforcement officials' requests for access to and questioning of students on district property and district parent notification requirements;
4. Applicable provisions of district emergency plans and security procedures;
5. Special event needs.

END OF POLICY

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**Legal Reference(s):**

[ORS 329.150](#)

[ORS 419B.015](#)

Letter Opinion, Office of the Attorney General (August 18, 1986).