

Relations with Law Enforcement Agencies

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines for school personnel when faced with a request by an investigator from the Oregon Department of Human Services, Community Human Services or a law enforcement agency (LEA) to interview a student at school during school hours as part of a child abuse investigation.

1. All school personnel shall cooperate with Oregon Department of Human Services, Community Human Services and LEA as they carry out their mandated responsibilities.
2. If the investigation is conducted on public school premises, the school administrator shall first be notified that the investigation is to take place unless the school administrator is a subject of the investigation. The school administrator shall require the Oregon Department of Human Services, Community Human Services or LEA officer to properly identify him/herself before allowing any student to be interviewed.
3. The school administrator or staff member designated by the administrator may, at the investigator's discretion, be present to facilitate the investigation. The administrator or staff member shall make every effort to schedule the interview at a time outside school hours or at a time which will least interrupt the education process but shall not prevent the investigator from conducting an immediate interview.
4. School personnel shall not notify a student's parents that any Oregon Department of Human Services, Community Human Services or LEA officer intends to interview a student or has already interviewed a student.
5. School personnel shall not compel any student to participate in an interview with a Oregon Department of Human Services, Community Human Services or LEA investigator against the student's wishes.
6. The Oregon Department of Human Services, Community Human Services or LEA investigator shall be advised of the student's disabilities, if any, prior to any interview with the affected student.
7. A school administrator or staff member is not authorized to reveal anything that transpires during an investigation in which the administrator or staff member participated nor shall the information become part of the student's education records except that the school administrator or staff member may testify at any subsequent trial resulting from the investigation and may be interviewed by the respective litigants prior to any such trial.
8. No school personnel shall notify the student's parents when a student is taken from school premises by a Oregon Department of Human Services, Community Human Services or LEA investigator. In

the event school personnel are contacted by parents or others about the whereabouts of a student after a student is taken from the school premises by Oregon Department of Human Services, Community Human Services or LEA personnel, the appropriate response should be:

"Personnel from [the Oregon Department of Human Services, Community Human Services or officers from LEA] removed the child from school. I am prohibited by Oregon law from providing any further information."

9. The school administrator or designated staff member shall make a record of all CSD or LEA requests to interview students on district forms.