

Interviews and Interrogations of Students on School Premises

Although the district values its relationships with law enforcement, the Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF,) and the county health department, to minimize interruption of the instructional program, the district discourages interviews and interrogations of students on school premises. As a general rule, interviews and interrogations by any agency, including law enforcement, the Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) and the county health department(s) should take place at the agency or the student's home, rather than off school premises.

However, there are limited circumstances when an interview of students at school is warranted, for example school-initiated investigations, child abuse investigations, and/or serious crime investigations. When an onsite interview or interrogation is warranted by the circumstances the district will utilize the procedures and protocols associated with this policy, which were developed in cooperation with these agencies and ensure that students and parent(s)/guardian(s) are afforded all rights under law. The interview of students as witnesses, victim's, and suspects are treated differently.

In contrast to the limited circumstances noted above, the work of immigration agents does not overlap with the work or duties of the district. This is because the district's obligation to educate the children residing within its borders is not diminished by the children or parents' immigration status. The district supports the federal immigration enforcement policy that directs immigration agents to avoid questioning and arrests at sensitive locations, including schools. Therefore, staff shall not grant information or access to immigration agents unless / until the district Superintendent and /or General Counsel determine the request complies with *Plyler v. Doe* and other applicable laws according to the criteria in the associated procedure.

Cross References:

Policy 3231	Student Records
Policy 3432	Emergencies
Policy 3414	Infectious Diseases
Policy 4310	Working Relationships with Law Enforcement, DSHS and the Health Department
Policy 3124	Removal-Release of Student During School Hours

Legal Reference:

RCW 26.44.030	Interviews of children
RCW 26.44.050	Abuse or neglect of child — Duty of law enforcement agency or department of social and health services — Taking child into custody without court order, when.
RCW 26.44.110	Written statement required
RCW 26.44.115	Notice required
RCW 28A.635.020	Wilfully disobeying school administrative personnel or refusing to leave public property, violations, when — Penalty

Management Resources:

2019 - December Issue <i>Policy and Legal News</i> , July 2013	New interviews/interrogations of students on school premises policy
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Policy News, February 1998
Policy News, April 2001

FERPA limits student records access
Compliance Office Provides FERPA Update

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