

SCHOOL DISTRICT 82 (COAST MOUNTAINS)

Educational Administration

2205: Student Interviews by Outside Agencies

Policy

The Board believes that while students are at school the common law duty of a teacher toward a child is that of a careful parent.

Therefore, except as stated in the attached regulations, students should not be interviewed by police officers on school premises.

School Act Reference Section 85 (2) (c) (ii)/(vii)

Regulations

1. If a police officer requests the right to interview a student on school premises the officer should be requested to schedule the interview for another place and time when the parents or legal guardians can be present.
2. If the police officer insists on interviewing the student on school premises the officer should be requested to delay the interview until the parent or legal guardian can be present.
3. If the request in (2) is refused, and the parents or legal guardian of the student are not present, the principal or teacher should attend but not take part in the interview, and
 - a) ensure that the child is instructed and understands that he or she has the right to remain silent,
 - b) ensure that the child's parents are contacted immediately, and
 - c) inform the Superintendent of Schools or the Secretary Treasurer of any and all actions taken.
4. In an emergency, where there is no question of compromising the child's legal rights and in which immediate information is required for quick action, it is only reasonable that an immediate interview be held. An example of such an emergency situation is where a child is found to be missing and it is necessary to

search for the child with police assistance. In this case it might well be necessary for police officers to interview children who are thought to have knowledge of the lost child's whereabouts.

5. The above regulations apply to all school hours and school associated activities.
6. The aforementioned regulations DO NOT apply in instances of questioning of students with reference to the Family and Child Services Act as pertains to child abuse.