

STUDENT INTERROGATIONS, SEARCHES, & ARRESTS

JIH-R

Procedures

1. Police investigations involving the interrogation or questioning (for investigative purposes) of students will not be permitted on school premises unless in connection with a crime committed on the school premises. However, the police may conduct an investigation of acts not committed on school premises if delay would compromise the success of that investigation or endanger the lives or safety of students or other persons.
2. Whenever possible, police officers are to be attired in plain clothes when working on investigations that necessitate a visit to the school during school hours.
3. Prior to a planned visit, the police officer is to telephone the school officials to inform them of the intended visit.
4. Upon arrival at the school administrative office, the police officer will request permission to question, interrogate, or present a warrant to arrest a student. If the police officer is not known to the school authorities, a request is to be made for identification from the officer.
5. When a student is to be arrested, questioned, or interrogated by police, a school administrator will summon and accompany the respective student(s) to the office. Police, office aides, or other staff are not to go to the classroom for students.
6. An administrator must be present during any and all questioning, interrogating, or arrest sessions.
7. Before commencing questioning, interrogating, or arrest procedures, the administrator will complete the "Law Enforcement Contact Form" (JIH-E). This includes making several attempts to contact parents/guardians.
8. Students will be released to the custody of police authorities whenever a warrant for such action is presented to school authorities. An administrator will summon the student to the office before relinquishing the student to police custody. Unless absolutely essential, the police officer is not to appear in the classroom to take custody of a student.
9. On occasions when the school needs the help of local or state police, the police will be contacted, the case explained, and a procedure agreed upon prior to the police arrival. In all cases, it will be the school policy to act in the best interest of the student, consistent with the facts in the case.
10. In situations where an offense is committed in school in the presence of the police, the police will not be hindered from taking direct and immediate action while engaged in the emergency situation.
11. School administrators are to contact police officials to conduct a search of a student's locker whenever there is reason to believe that dangerous drugs, weapons, etc. are present.

EFFECTIVE: 9/1/83