

KN. COOPERATION WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

School officials have a dual responsibility. They must safeguard the rights of students and even represent students in certain situations. They also must cooperate with law enforcement officers in the legitimate pursuit of their duties.

Investigation by Law Enforcement Officers

Law enforcement officers investigating a case involving an illegal act in which a student may be involved or about which the student may have information, shall contact the administrator or designee before any effort is made to question a student at school during school hours.

Contacting Parents/Guardians

Investigations Related to Illegal Acts that Occur Off Campus and are not School Related:

Prior parent/guardian contact is not required for a law enforcement officer to interview a student who may be a witness to an illegal act.

If a law enforcement officer intends to question or arrest a student related to alleged involvement in illegal acts that occur off campus and are not school related, the administrator or designee will make every reasonable effort to contact the parent/guardian, unless notification would hinder the investigation (such as child abuse cases). If the administrator or designee is unable to reach the parent/guardian, the officer shall not be delayed while additional attempts at notification take place.

Investigations Related to Violations of School Policies and Rules:

The administrator or designee may involve a law enforcement officer in investigating violations of school policies and rules, including student interviews, without first contacting the parent/guardian. However, if during the investigation, a student becomes a focal suspect to an illegal act, then it is the responsibility of the administrator or designee to make every reasonable effort to contact the parent/guardian as soon as possible.

Questioning of Students

The law enforcement officer will observe all the procedural safeguards prescribed by law and by the officer's employer when questioning a student. An administrator or designee will always be present when a student is being questioned as a suspect in a crime, unless their presence would hinder the investigation (such as child abuse cases).

Taking a Student from the School

A law enforcement officer or DHS official may, with proper legal authority, remove a student from campus. The school administrator will immediately make an attempt to contact the parent/guardian unless the investigating authority declares that notification will hinder the investigation (such as child abuse cases).