

Relations with Law Enforcement and Child Protective Agencies

The District shall strive to develop and maintain cooperative working relationships with the law enforcement and child protective agencies. The superintendent or designee shall meet with law enforcement and child protective authorities and establish agreed upon procedures for cooperation between law enforcement, child protective services, and school authorities. Such procedures should address the handling of child abuse and neglect, the handling of bomb threats, arrests or custody by law enforcement officers on school premises, the availability of law enforcement personnel for crowd control purposes, the shared responsibility for investigating possible criminal activity by students in and around schools and other matters that affect school and law enforcement cooperation. Such procedures shall be made available to affected staff and periodically revised.

Criminal Issue

The primary responsibility for maintaining proper order and conduct in the schools is that of staff. Staff shall be responsible for holding students accountable for infractions of school rules occurring during school hours or at school activities. Where there is substantial threat to the health and safety of students or others such as in the case of bomb threats, report or a weapon on or near campus, mass demonstrations with threat of violence, individual threats of substantial bodily harm, or trafficking in prohibited drugs, the law enforcement agency shall be called upon for assistance. Information regarding such violations of the law shall be communicated to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

Abuse or Neglect Issue

School officials are to cooperate with law enforcement and child protective services. Excepting contacts on school grounds related to investigation of child abuse or neglect, parents or guardians shall be fully informed of law enforcement contacts and, when feasible, shall be notified prior to such contacts being made on school grounds.

Law enforcement and/or child protective services will conduct investigations into reports of child abuse or neglect. With regard to these contacts, parental notification shall occur at the earliest possible point in the investigation that will not jeopardize the safety/protection of the child or the course of the investigation. Such notification shall be the responsibility of the law enforcement or child protective agency conducting the investigation.

Legal Reference:	RCW 26.44.030	Duty to make reports
	26.44.050	Taking child into custody without court order
	26.44.110	Written statement required
	26.44.115	Notice Required

RSD #400 (Old Policy #1411)

Adopted: 9/22/87

Revised: 5/27/08