

QUESTIONING AND APPREHENSION

In order to protect pupils' rights during the time they are under school control, the principal shall interview every person who wishes to question a pupil on school property during the school day. The chief school administrator shall be informed of such incidents.

Law Enforcement Officers

- A. If a law enforcement officer has an arrest warrant, the principal shall ensure that all procedural safeguards as prescribed by law are observed. No pupil shall be taken from the school without the knowledge of the principal or other person in charge of the school. The principal shall make every reasonable effort to notify parents/guardians. The chief school administrator shall be informed whenever such apprehensions take place.
- B. If a law enforcement officer has a juvenile complaint or wants to question a student on school property, the principal shall make every effort to contact the parent prior to the questioning and shall request that the questioning be delayed, if possible, until the parents/guardians can be present. If the principal is convinced that the situation justifies questioning, he/she must attempt to have the parents/guardians informed immediately and shall remain with the student during the questioning.
- C. If the law enforcement officer is an agent of the Division of Youth and Family Services (DYFS), the agent shall determine whether the presence of a parent/guardian is appropriate. If the agent of DYFS requests to question any other student other than the child who is the subject of the investigation, the parent of that other student shall be immediately notified.

Private Persons

No private person shall question any student on school property without the prior knowledge and written consent of the parent.

Weapons and Substance Abuse Questioning by Staff

When questioning any pupil about possible possession, use, or distribution of proscribed substances, drug paraphernalia, alcohol, firearms or other deadly weapons, staff shall follow the procedures adopted by the board in compliance with the safe and drug-free schools code.

Generally

The chief school administrator shall notify the board president when the police have sought to question a pupil in school, and the outcome of the incident. The district shall make every effort to establish close and cordial relationships with local law enforcement and other agencies, while ensuring that the parents/guardians are informed and pupil rights protected.

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Adopted: April 14, 2003

Revised: November 11, 2013

Legal References:

N.J.S.A. 2A:4A-60 et al. Disclosure of juvenile information; penalties for disclosure

N.J.S.A. 2C:35-5 Comprehensive Drug Reform Act of 1986

N.J.S.A. 18A:11-1 General mandatory powers and duties

N.J.S.A. 18A:54-20 Powers of board (county vocational schools)

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-4.1 Adoption of policies and procedures for the intervention of student alcohol and other drug abuse

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-5.1 et seq. School Safety

See particularly:

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-5.7 through -5.8

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-6.1 et seq. Law Enforcement Operations for Substances, Weapons, and Safety

N.J.A.C. 6A:16-6.1, -6.2, -6.3

N.J.A.C. 6A:32-7 et seq. Student records

New Jersey Constitution, Article I, para. 7

U.S. Constitution, Amendment IV, V, XIV

The New Jersey School Search Policy Manual, New Jersey Attorney General (1998)

In re Gault, 387 U.S. 1 (1967)

A Uniform State Memorandum of Agreement Between Education and Law Enforcement Officials