

BETHEL PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: RELATIONS WITH LAW
ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

ADOPTED: NOVEMBER 20, 2007

REVISED: AUGUST 2, 2007

<p>1. Purpose Pol. 204</p> <p>2. Authority 23 Pa.C.S.A. Sections 6311 and 6352</p> <p>3. Delegation of Responsibility SC 1303-A</p> <p>4. Guidelines</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">225. RELATIONS WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES</p> <p>The Board recognizes that compulsory attendance laws impose on the Board the custodianship of district students while they are present in the schools.</p> <p>It shall be the policy of the Board that cooperation with law enforcement agencies such as the local and State Police, District Attorney, Magistrate, probation officers, etc. is essential for protecting students and staff, maintaining a safe environment in schools, and safeguarding district property. It is recognized that school administrators, school teachers, school nurses and school employees are mandatory reporters of suspected child abuse.</p> <p>The district shall encourage programs and activities designed to enrich district curriculum and to develop and promote good citizenship and a respectful attitude toward law enforcement officials.</p> <p>The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible to develop a Memorandum of Understanding with local law enforcement officials that establishes guidelines for when law officials will be called to school and the actions that will follow.</p> <p><u>Interrogations</u></p> <p>When police request permission to interrogate a student at school, the principal shall inform the Superintendent and attempt to inform the student's parents/guardians.</p> <p>Whenever the Superintendent or designee have been requested by the police to interrogate a student within the school building and the police do not have a valid warrant or Court Order to interrogate the student, the interrogation may be conducted if written parental permission has been received. If written parental permission is not provided and the police do not have a valid warrant or Court Order to interrogate the student, the interrogation shall not be permitted.</p> <p>The principal or a representative shall be present throughout the interrogation.</p> <p>At the conclusion of the interrogation, the principal shall complete a confidential incident report which shall be filed in the Superintendent's office within 48 hours.</p>
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<p>23 Pa.C.S.A. Sections 6311, 6314, 6318, 6352, 6353 and 6353.1</p> <p>References: School Code 1303-A</p> <p>Board Policy 204</p>	<p>If a police officer, probation officer or social worker possesses an authorized valid warrant or Court Order to interrogate the student, the Superintendent or designee shall afford them the opportunity to interview said student in school with or without written parental permission. However, every effort shall be made by the school district to notify the parents/guardians prior to the interview session.</p> <p>When a student is a suspected victim of child abuse, school officials, as mandatory reporters, have immunity from civil and criminal liability for making a report, cooperating with an investigation, or testifying in a proceeding regarding such contact. In the event of suspected child abuse, after the report is made to the police and/or appropriate county child welfare agency, the district will follow the direction of the law enforcement agency and/or child welfare agency, in whether to take the student into protective custody, to take photographs of any injuries to the student and to notify the student's parents and/or guardians. Any incident reports filed with respect to any interrogations conducted as a result of a report of suspected child abuse shall maintain the confidentiality of any matters disclosed in the interrogation.</p> <p><u>Arrests</u></p> <p>When the police request permission to arrest a student at school, the principal shall inform the Superintendent, attempt to inform the student's parents/guardians, and request and inspect the arrest warrant.</p> <p>No student shall be released to police authorities without proper warrant and appropriate evidence or written parental permission, except in the event of emergency or for the protection of life or property, as determined by the principal.</p>
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