

MEDWAY SCHOOL BOARD POLICY

RELATIONS WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES

NEPN/NSBA CODE: KLG

The School Board recognizes that a cooperative relationship with law enforcement authorities is desirable for the protection of students and staff, maintaining a safe school environment, and safeguarding school property.

School administrators and staff shall have the primary responsibility for maintaining proper order in the schools and for disciplining students for violations of Board policies and school rules. However, the Board authorizes the Superintendent/administration to seek the assistance of law enforcement authorities when they believe there is a substantial threat to the welfare and safety of the schools, students and/or staff. The Superintendent/administration shall also inform law enforcement authorities when they have reason to suspect that a student or staff member may have violated a local, state or federal law.

The Board strongly discourages law enforcement authorities from using the schools as a venue to arrest and/or interrogate students for activities not related to or affecting the schools. The Superintendent/administration retain the authority to deny law enforcement access to students for non-school-related investigations.

The Board authorizes the Superintendent and administration to work with local law enforcement authorities to develop administrative procedures to guide interactions between the schools and law enforcement. Such procedures should safeguard the rights of students and parents, be consistent with Board policies, and minimize disruptions to the instructional program. These administrative procedures are subject to the approval of the Board.

The Superintendent shall include law enforcement authorities in the development and implementation of the school unit's crisis response plan. The Board also encourages the Superintendent/administration to include law enforcement authorities in the development and/or implementation of instructional programs/activities related to student safety.

Adopted: December 13, 1999

RELATIONS WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE

NEPN/NSBA CODE: KLG-R

The following procedures are intended to guide the involvement of law enforcement authorities in the schools:

- A. Law enforcement officials may enter school premises:
 - 1. In the event of an emergency endangering student or staff safety;
 - 2. At the request of school administrators;
 - 3. When there is a warrant to arrest a student which cannot be executed outside of school hours. School administrators are not obligated to make students or school facilities available to law enforcement for non-school-related investigations/arrests;
 - 4. In exigent circumstances as authorized by law.

- B. School administrators shall attempt to contact the student's parents/guardians prior to allowing law enforcement authorities to interrogate, search or arrest a student at school, except when there are reasonable grounds to believe that a health or safety emergency requires the interrogation, search or arrest to take place without prior notice.

- C. Law enforcement authorities are responsible for ensuring that a student is informed of his/her rights prior to an interrogation, search or arrest conducted by law enforcement authorities.

- D. A student may be removed from school by law enforcement authorities when there is a court order, an arrest warrant or when a warrantless arrest is authorized by law. School administrators shall attempt to notify the student's parents/guardians as soon as possible of the student's removal from school.

- E. School administrators shall release student information to law enforcement authorities only as allowed by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.