

# STUDENT INTERVIEWS WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIALS

Policy 445

Waunakee Community School District

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The District recognizes that cooperation with law enforcement agencies is necessary for the protection of students, for maintaining a safe environment in the District schools, and for safeguarding all school property. At the same time, the District recognizes its responsibility to protect the educational process and to provide for the concerns of parents and guardians regarding the welfare of their children.

Law enforcement officials shall be called to the school when laws may have been violated and in situations that threaten the safety of students, employees and/or the public. In these situations, law enforcement officials may interview students in accordance with Board policy and established procedures. Law enforcement-initiated student interviews that are not school related shall not be conducted on school premises during the school day, except in emergencies or as specifically required by law.

Reasonable and appropriate attempts shall be made to notify the parent(s) or guardian of any student who is interviewed by a law enforcement official on school premises during the school day, with advance notice encouraged but not strictly required.

All student interviews with law enforcement officials conducted on school premises during the school day shall receive prior approval of the building principal or designee. If a request for a student interview is denied, the building principal or designee shall state the reason for such denial. Law enforcement officials may appeal decisions made by the building principal or designee to the District Administrator.

This policy is not applicable to situations related to allegations of child abuse and neglect.

## Legal References:

### Wisconsin Statutes

[Section 48.981 \(3\)\(c\)](#) [child abuse/neglect investigations; authority to interview child without parent permission]

[Section 118.125\(2\)](#) [confidentiality of student records; allows record sharing with law enforcement and other agency officials under certain circumstances, including student health and safety]

[Section 118.257\(2\)](#) [liability exemption for student referral to law enforcement officials for alcohol and other controlled substances]

[Section 165.68](#) [address confidentiality program]

[Section 946.40](#) [refusing to aid officer]

[Section 946.41](#) [resisting or obstructing officer]

## Cross References:

WASB PRG 445 Sample Policy 2  
347 Student Records

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