

**LAW ENFORCEMENT – STUDENT CONTACT**

The following procedures will be used by the Waterloo Community School District:

**A. SCHOOL-LAW ENFORCEMENT RELATIONS**

1. Schools will be serviced by the School Resource Officer or other uniformed officer assigned to the ward in which the school exists.
2. Administrators will call appropriate law enforcement officials when requesting assistance.
3. Officers responding to calls for assistance will report to the building administrator or the designee.
4. The law enforcement officers in each ward are encouraged to visit each school building to become acquainted with the facilities, building administrators, and staff.
5. When it is necessary for non-school officers to make contact at a school, every effort will be made to contact and work through the assigned School Resource Officer and the building administrator.
6. Law enforcement officials may be utilized to provide assistance with special programs such as drug abuse, bicycle safety, cautioning students about riding with strangers, etc.
7. Actions of officers, if not satisfactory or if deemed by the building administrator to be inappropriate, shall be reported immediately to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

**B. INTERVIEWS OF STUDENTS WHO ARE NOT SUSPECTED OF A CRIME**

Students may be interviewed by law enforcement without parent contact and permission if the student is not a suspect or has not committed a crime.

**C. INTERVIEWS OF STUDENTS SUSPECTED OF A CRIME**

1. All law enforcement-student contacts will be held within strict compliance with the requirements of Chapter 232, Juvenile Justice Code, and all other applicable portions of the Code of Iowa. (Iowa law states that a parent must be notified if the student is 15 years old or younger and a suspect. Also, a good faith effort to notify must be made on the part of the officer if the student is 16 or 17.) If the student is 18 or older and an interview is going to be conducted, the suspect may waive his/her own rights and no parents will be contacted by the officer. Law enforcement officials or building administrators will attempt to notify parents prior to any interview or the taking of students into custody.

2. Building administrators may be in attendance during interviews unless prohibited by the Juvenile Code of the State of Iowa. Where interviews by law enforcement officers are prohibited by law (student is 15 or younger and suspected of a crime), until the student's parent, guardian, or custodian has been notified and has given consent, no interview shall commence on school property until such time that the above conditions are satisfied.
  - A. If the parent, guardian, or custodian approves of the interview, the law enforcement officer may have the parent confirm the approval with the school personnel.
  - B. If the parent, guardian, or custodian does not approve of the interview, the law enforcement officer will either take the student into custody if that action is appropriate, or terminate the student contact.

#### D. TAKING INTO CUSTODY

In all instances when a student is being taken into custody and/or removed from the school premises, the School Resource Officer and the building principal or designee will make a concentrated effort to contact the parent, guardian, or custodian of the student.

#### E. ARREST

Law enforcement officers are legally empowered to arrest with or without a warrant and without school involvement. However, the District encourages that every effort will be made by law enforcement officials to fully inform the school of any action being taken or anticipated for the discharge of their respective, separate responsibilities within the school setting.

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