

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 67 (OKANAGAN SKAHA)

POLICY

POLICY #323 Police Questioning of Students in Schools

RATIONALE

The Board of Education understands that there may be times when the lawful presence of police in schools is required in the pursuit of justice.

POLICY

The Board supports police presence in schools both in a school liaison role and under emergent circumstances as set out in the regulations to this policy.

ADOPTED: November 8, 1999

Reviewed/Revised:

September 10, 2007

April 23, 2018

Statutory Reference:

SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 67 (OKANAGAN SKAHA)

REGULATIONS AND PROCEDURES

POLICY #323 Police Questioning of Students in Schools

1. Principals should be aware of the provisions and requirements of the Youth Criminal Justice Act, and be prepared to use discretion and good judgement in carrying out this policy.
2. Under usual circumstances, interviews of students suspected of illegal activity should not be held in the school. Prior to interviewing students in the school, the principal or designate will meet with the police officer to determine whether it is imperative to conduct the interview on school premises. If it is an emergent situation, disruption to the school and students is to be kept to a minimum.
3. A parent/guardian should be present if the school must be used. If a parent/guardian cannot be contacted in emergent situations, the principal or his designate may act instead. His or her concern should be the protection of a student's rights. Notes should be taken.
4. The principal or his/her designate shall inform the parent/guardian(s) and the superintendent as soon as possible of any actions taken under regulation 3, or in any case where a student is apprehended or is accused of an alleged offense.
5. A police officer may arrest a student if the officer is in possession of a warrant for such arrest or has other legal authority to make such an arrest.
6. The principal shall inform the parent or guardian of an arrest of a student as soon as practical following the arrest.
7. When in possession of a search warrant, a police officer may conduct a search of the school and/or its storage areas or devices.
8. In facilitating police access to student witnesses, victims and suspects in a school-related investigation, the administrator is exercising his/her authority for school purposes.
9. The RCMP school liaison officer is authorized to discuss police matters with students at the school except when the student(s) is suspected of illegal activity pursuant to regulation 2.

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