

# **MONONA GROVE SCHOOL DISTRICT**

## Board Policy 445

### **QUESTIONING OF STUDENTS BY NON-SCHOOL PERSONNEL**

The Board of Education regards the protection of student rights as an important responsibility of the school. This cannot be separated from the legal and the moral responsibility the school has to parents/guardians. Acknowledging this, the District shall cooperate with law enforcement officers and the Department of Social Services representatives within the limits of the rights of individuals as expressed in state and federal laws.

All student interviews by law enforcement officers or representatives of the Department of Social Services conducted on school premises shall receive prior approval of the Principal or his/her designee. Such interviews shall be conducted at a time and place designated by the Principal or his/her designee and shall be conducted in such a manner as to minimize school disruptions.

Notification of a parent/guardian when minor students are to be interviewed by non-school personnel in the schools shall be governed by the following guidelines:

1. The term “notification” as it is used in this policy means a reasonable effort to contact the parent/guardian.

2. Elementary and middle school students:

For all elementary and middle school students, a parent/guardian will be notified prior to commencing the interview except in the case of child abuse or neglect referrals. The interview may proceed prior to notification of a parent/guardian if the situation is determined to require prompt action; if the situation is determined to be of a serious nature; or, if an attempt to notify the parent/guardian has been unsuccessful.

3. High school students:

Although prior notification of a parent/guardian is strongly encouraged whenever possible and practicable, high school students may be interviewed without such prior notification. If the interviewee is to be arrested, or is considered a suspect, prior notification is strongly encouraged and subsequent contact by the Principal and or his/her designee is required.

When deemed appropriate and necessary, a school staff member shall be present during a student interview with non-school personnel and an attempt shall be made to contact the student's parent/guardian.

The District supports a positive working relationship with law enforcement through resource programs and through the presence of the School-Police Liaison Officer. For purpose of this policy, the Police Liaison Officer shall be able to communicate with students in the same manner as school personnel, under the supervision of the Principal or his/her designee.

CROSS REFERENCE: Board Policy 504.11  
Board Policy 505.5  
LEGAL REFERENCE: Section 118.257(2)  
120.13  
120.44(2)  
48.19  
946.40  
946.41  
BOARD APPROVAL: March 10, 2004