

# WILKINSBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT

TITLE: RELATIONS WITH LAW  
ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

ADOPTED: May 25, 2004

REVISED:

<p>1. Purpose Pol. 204</p> <p>2. Authority</p> <p>3. Delegation of Responsibility SC 1303-A</p> <p>4. Guidelines</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">225. RELATIONS WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES</p> <p>The Board recognizes that compulsory attendance laws impose on the Board the custodianship of district students while they are present in the schools.</p> <p>It shall be the policy of the Board that cooperation with law enforcement agencies is considered essential for the protection of students and staff, maintaining a safe environment in schools, and safeguarding district property.</p> <p>The district shall encourage programs and activities designed to enrich district curriculum and to develop and promote good citizenship and a respectful attitude toward law enforcement officials.</p> <p>The Superintendent or designee shall be responsible to develop a memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement officials that establishes guidelines for when law officials will be called to school and the actions that will follow.</p> <p><u>Interview and Apprehension of Students during School Hours</u></p> <p>On rare occasions, it may be necessary for police officers to interview students during school hours or to take them into custody. In order to safeguard the life and interests of students in attendance, to assist police in the performance of their duties, and to acquaint school personnel with their responsibilities in matters of cooperation with police officers, the following policies and procedures shall be established:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Whenever possible, the police officer should first contact the main office of the school by telephone to inform the principal of a planned visit. The principal will inform the Superintendent and attempt to contact the parents/guardians. If unsuccessful, the principal or designee will follow up to make certain that the parents/guardians have been made fully aware of the problem.</li> <li>2. In emergency situations, where the commission of a criminal offense has been witnessed by the police, the police shall not be hindered or prevented from taking direct action in schools in such situations where they are engaged in hot pursuit.</li> </ol>
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3. Upon arrival at the school, the police officer shall first call upon the principal or the person designated to act for the principal in his/her absence to request permission to interview a student or, in rare occasions, to take a student into custody during school hours.

The principal shall request identification, and the officer shall explain the purpose of his/her visit. The parents/guardians of the student to be interviewed shall be notified as soon as possible so that they may be present, if they desire. The principal or the person designated to act for the principal in his/her absence shall be present during the interviews.

4. In the event it becomes necessary to make apprehension during school hours, the police officer shall contact the principal to have the student summoned to the principal's office before being released from school into the custody of the police. All steps should be taken to avoid embarrassment of any student by the appearance of an officer in the classroom. The school shall record the name and organization of the officer, the time of departure, the juvenile court quarters, the name of the juvenile court judge, and the nature of the offense for which the apprehension is made. Parents/Guardians shall be notified immediately.

No student shall be released to police authorities without proper warrant and appropriate evidence or written parental permission, except in the event of emergency or for the protection of life or property, as determined by the principal.

The police will be summoned by the building administrator when the following violations are committed:

1. Assaults on teachers, staff and students.
2. Violent fights within the school.
3. Terroristic threats to teachers and staff.
4. Defiant trespass.
5. All other incidents identified in other applicable Board policies.
6. Any other violation of law.