



POLICIES -- Students

5540 - THE SCHOOLS AND GOVERNMENTAL AGENCIES

The Wauwatosa School District desires to establish and maintain positive school-police relations. The Wauwatosa School District shall cooperate with appropriate law enforcement agencies regarding the investigation and interview of students in a manner which will respect the constitutional and legal rights of the individual students, the responsibilities and educational mission of the public school district, and the obligations of the law enforcement agency (LEA).

School Resource Officers

The Wauwatosa School District works in partnership with School Resource Officers (SRO). An SRO is a school official who works regularly within the school community to ensure a safe and healthy learning climate.

School Related Investigations

When administration determines it is necessary to conduct an investigation into a potential criminal situation at school, administration will contact the SRO to coordinate the investigation. Building administration and the SRO will work cooperatively to investigate the circumstances and interview students. Parents will be informed when their minor child is interviewed. The principal and the SRO will coordinate timing of notification to avoid jeopardizing the investigation and to maintain a safe school environment.

Non-School Related Investigations

Building administration and the SRO should work collaboratively with police agencies requesting permission to interview a student at school. Parents will be informed when their minor child is interviewed. The principal and SRO will coordinate timing of notification to avoid jeopardizing the investigation and to maintain a safe school environment. Police agencies should exhaust attempts to contact student outside of school prior to attempting contact at school.

Whenever it has been determined that an agency has a legitimate purpose in interviewing a student within the confines of the District, the principal or representative shall be present throughout the proceedings.

When necessary, a law enforcement agency or county agency making an investigation to determine if the child is in need of protection or services under the Child Abuse Law may observe or interview a child at a school location without the permission of the child's parent, guardian or legal custodian.

The Superintendent of Schools shall establish appropriate administrative procedures to meet the intent of this policy and to ensure and maintain positive school-law enforcement agency relationships and to protect the rights of all parties concerned.

118.257, Wis. Stats.

*Approved/Adopted: July 13, 2009
Revised: March 26, 2012*