

**School District #62 (Sooke)**

<b>POLICE REQUESTS FOR STUDENT INTERVIEWS</b>	No.: C-317
	Effective: Jan. 25/22 Revised: Reviewed: Dec. 7/21; Dec. 14/21; Jan. 25/22

**SCHOOL BOARD POLICY**

The District acknowledges that police officials may find it necessary to visit school or District property in order to interview a student or students. School personnel must co-operate with law enforcement personnel, in accordance with this Policy and existing statutes. Schools have an obligation to ensure both students' and parents'/guardians' rights are respected and that they are informed about the situation.

The duty of an educator to act "in loco parentis" on behalf of a student remains paramount in dealing with any police involvement in the school. It is essential that parents or guardians be informed and offered an opportunity to attend when their child may be interviewed by police. Certain exceptions, granted by law (e.g. suspected child abuse), may apply. When parents/guardians are unable to attend, school staff are expected to act "in loco parentis" and in the best interest of the student. Consideration should be given to support that may be available through other district experts such as counsellors or inclusion support teachers or Indigenous supports.

The District recognizes the importance of co-operating with agencies that have legally prescribed responsibilities which relate to students. There must exist a respectful and co-operative relationship between school personnel and police departments. However, this relationship must respect the lawful right(s) of all parties. This includes ensuring that the rights, dignity and compassion of the individuals must be respected at all times.