



**POLICY:** JFG INTERROGATIONS & SEARCHES

**REGULATION:**

**EXHIBIT:**

It is the policy of the School Division to co-operate with law enforcement agencies in the interest of the larger welfare of all citizens. At the same time, schools have responsibility to parents for the welfare of the students while they are in the care of the school.

**A) Interrogation of Students on School Premises by Police Officers**

1) The principal of the school must try to avoid interviews by the police of the student in the school but if necessary the principal or designee shall arrange for the questioning to take place in private and shall document the proceedings.

2) Except for the provisions outlined in Section 21, Articles (1) & (2) of the Child and Family Services Act, when a law enforcement officer finds it necessary to question a student on school premises, the principal or designee shall invite the parent or guardian to be present. If the parent or guardian is unable to attend, no interview will be held in the school unless the principal obtains the explicit permission of the parents.

**B) Searches by Police Officers**

Police Officers will require a search warrant to search school premises, including school lockers assigned to students, unless the police officers satisfy the school authorities that in the circumstances it would be unreasonable to obtain such a warrant.

**Locker Searches**

In the interest of the safety and welfare of other students and of protecting school property, the principal may authorize a search and/or inspection of school lockers assigned to students and student property in the school. Teachers are required to “seize or cause to be seized and take possession of any offensive or dangerous weapon that is brought to school by a pupil and hand over any such weapon to the principal who shall notify the parent or guardian warning him that the pupil may be suspended or expelled from school”. (Section 96(f) of the Public Schools Act)

However in order to protect the right to privacy of the student(s), this authority shall be exercised with discretion. The student(s) shall have the right to be present or to be represented when the school locker assigned to the student(s) and/or student property are to be searched and/or inspected.

APPROVED:

REVISED:

SOURCE: Policy 4.8

OTHER REFERENCE: