EPHRATA AREA SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS
TITLE: RELATIONS WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES
ADOPTED: April 25, 2005
REVISED: 

1. Purpose
Pol. 204
The Board recognizes that compulsory attendance laws impose on the Board temporary custody over district students while they are present in the schools.

2. Authority
Cooperation with law enforcement agencies is essential for the protection of students and staff, the maintenance of a safe educational environment, and the safeguarding of district property.
The district shall encourage programs and activities designed to develop and promote good citizenship and a respectful attitude toward law enforcement officials.

3. Delegation of Responsibility
SC 1303-A
The Superintendent or designee shall be charged with developing a memorandum of understanding with local law enforcement officials that establishes guidelines for when such officials may be called to school and the actions that will follow.

4. Guidelines
Interrogations
When police request permission to interrogate a student at school, the principal shall inform the Superintendent and request, where possible, that any person conducting such interrogation be in plain clothes; determine why such interrogation could not occur at the student's home; and attempt to inform the student's parents/guardians.
Whenever the Superintendent or designee has determined that the police have a legitimate purpose in interrogating a student within a school building, the principal or a representative shall be present throughout the proceedings.
As a general matter, in-school interrogation of students by police will be permitted only when there are exceptional, emergent circumstances. As a general matter, in-school interrogations shall not be permitted unless there is some compelling reason why the police should have immediate access to the student and there is a legitimate reason why the interview cannot occur at the student’s home.
Arrests

When the police request permission to arrest a student at school, the principal shall inform the Superintendent, determine why such arrest could not be made at the student's home, attempt to inform the student's parents/guardians, and request to inspect the arrest warrant.

No student shall be released to police authorities without probable cause for the police to take the student into custody.