

1155 POLICE DEPARTMENT RELATIONSHIP

The schools have an obligation to cooperate with police officers in law enforcement and crime prevention. A cooperative climate shall be maintained between School District officials and law enforcement agencies. The schools also have an obligation to protect the legal rights of children who are in their charge. The purpose of this statement of policy is to clarify the responsibility of the principal when police officers want to interrogate a pupil in the course of their investigation of some violation of the law or wish to take a pupil into custody.

1. When a regular Duluth police officer, in the line of duty, makes a demand that a pupil accompany him to police headquarters for questioning, this constitutes technical arrest, and no teacher or principal has a right to interfere. Full responsibility is assumed by the arresting officer. The principal should notify the parents promptly. The arresting officer shall sign a form signifying that he is taking the student into custody.
2. This policy shall apply only to regular officers of the Duluth Police Department. No child shall be surrendered to a "special police officer" serving a private organization. There are circumstances under which a peace officer from some other jurisdiction can make an arrest even without a warrant. If an officer from outside Duluth seeks to arrest a pupil without a warrant, the principal should immediately notify the Duluth Police Department, which will send one of its own officers to make the actual arrest.
3. Agents of the Federal Government, Postal Inspectors, Treasury agents, and agents of the Federal Bureau of Investigation also have the power of arrest. Normally, their contacts with the school will be for the purpose of investigation, and they cooperate with the local police in making arrests. However, on occasion this authority may be exercised directly; and when they feel it necessary to take a student into their custody, they should sign a blank stating this and leave it with the school.
4. A student may be questioned by a police officer at the school in the presence of the principal or some person designated by him. The same opportunity shall be given to members of the Arson Squad, the sheriff or his deputy, and agents of the Federal Government.
5. Occasionally, other kinds of requests may be made by a police officer. Examples are: requesting a child to be a witness, or requesting that a child accompany the officer to the scene of a crime. The parent should be contacted before granting such requests unless it is established that the parent or guardian has given written consent.

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