

Trout Lake School Parent/Family Communication:

Wendy and I want to share information that we received from our legal counsel and the state about immigration. We hope this will answer questions and concerns you may have.

“The District has received inquiries from families concerned that federal immigration officials may attempt to detain students or parents at or near school or school grounds based on their immigration status. The District’s practice regarding these matters is:

1. Under current federal law, federal immigration agents are prohibited from accessing public schools to question, detain, arrest, remove or detain students or adults at our school based on a students or parents’ immigration status. Accordingly, the District will not provide access to schools or school grounds to federal authorities for any enforcement activities.
2. The District does not maintain records regarding student or parents’ immigration status and thus cannot provide such information to federal officials.
3. If a federal agent presents a subpoena, arrest warrant or other legal documents demanding access to or information regarding a student or family, the District will contact its legal counsel to make sure the document is valid before complying with it.
4. The work of immigration agents does not overlap with the work or duties of the district. This is because the district’s legal obligation to educate the children residing within its borders is not diminished by the children or parents’ immigration status. The district supports the current federal immigration enforcement policy that directs immigration agents to avoid questioning and arrests at sensitive locations, including schools. Therefore, District staff shall not grant information or access to immigration agents unless/until the district Superintendent and/or General Counsel determine a judicial warrant complies with *Plyler v. Doe*, the United States Supreme Court decision holding all students, regardless of immigration status, have a right to public education in state schools.
5. If any changes in current law occur that require changes in this practice, the District will update this communication. If there are any questions, please contact the district office.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Jerry Lewis, Superintendent  
Wendy Beldin, Building Principal

**Policy: 3226**  
**Section: 3000 - Students**

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**Interviews and Interrogations of Students on School Premises**

Although the district values its relationships with law enforcement, the Department of Children, Youth, and Families (DCYF,) and the county health department, to minimize interruption of the instructional program, the district discourages interviews and interrogations of students on school premises. As a general rule, interviews and interrogations by any agency, including law enforcement, DSHS, and the county health department(s) should take place at the agency or the student's home, rather than school premises.

However, there are limited circumstances when an interview of students at school is warranted, for example school-initiated investigations, child abuse investigations, and /or serious crime investigations. When an onsite interview or interrogation is warranted by the circumstances, the district will utilize the procedures and protocols associated with this policy, which were developed in cooperation with these agencies and ensure that students and parent(s)/guardian(s) are afforded all rights under law. The interviews of students as witnesses, victims, and suspects are treated differently.

In contrast to the limited circumstances noted above, the work of immigration agents does not overlap with the work or duties of the district. This is because the district's obligation to educate the children residing within its borders is not diminished by the children or parents' immigration status. The district supports the federal immigration enforcement policy that directs immigration agents to avoid questioning and arrests at sensitive locations, including schools. Therefore, staff shall not grant information or access to immigration agents unless/until the district Superintendent and/or General Counsel determine the request complies with *Plyler v. Doe* and other applicable laws according to the criteria in the associated procedure.

Cross References:                    4310 - District Relationships with Law Enforcement and other Government Agencies  
   3414 - Infectious Diseases  
   3231 - Student Records  
   3432 - Emergencies  
   3124 - Removal-Release of Student During School Hours

Legal References:                    RCW 28A.635.020 Willfully disobeying school administrative personnel or refusing to leave public property, violations, when — Penalty.  
   RCW 26.44.115 Child taken into custody under court order — Information to parents.  
   RCW 26.44.110 Information about rights — Custody without court order — Written statement required — Contents.  
   RCW 26.44.050 Abuse or neglect of child — Duty of law enforcement agency or department of social and health services — Taking child into custody without court order, when.  
   RCW 26.44.030 Reports — Duty and authority to make — Duty of receiving agency — Duty to notify — Case planning and consultation — Penalty for unauthorized exchange of information — Filing dependency petitions — Investigations — Interviews of children — Records — Risk assessment process.

Management Resources: 2018 - December 2018 - December Policy Issue  
2013 - July Issue  
Policy News, April 2001, Compliance Office Provides FERPA  
Update  
Policy News, February 1998, FERPA limits student records  
access

Date Adopted: **02.25**  
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