



File: ACL - PROTECT Act Policy

Interacting with Law Enforcement Officers Engaged in Civil Law Enforcement

At Greater Lawrence Technical School, we recognize the importance of all students being known and valued, and promote a safe, inclusive, and welcoming learning environment for all students. All of our students have a right to a free public education regardless of race, color, sex, gender identity, religion, national origin, immigration or citizenship status, disability, or sexual orientation.

On August 5, 2026, Governor Maura Healey signed into law the PROTECT Act, St. 2026, c. 163. Section 4 of the Act added G.L. c. 71, § 102. It is now the law in Massachusetts that, except as required by state or federal law or as required for the Commonwealth or its subdivisions to administer a state or federally supported or funded program, arrests for civil law enforcement, including federal civil immigration enforcement, are not permitted on school grounds without a Judicial Warrant or Judicial Order. This prohibition applies whether or not the District has adopted this policy. School grounds are nonpublic during regular school hours, student drop-off and pick-up windows, before- and after-school programming, and school-sponsored events.

The District Committee approves the accompanying Procedures for Interacting with Civil Law Enforcement, which are consistent with the "Guidance for K-12 Schools Related to Interacting with Civil Law Enforcement" issued by the Governor's Office, the Executive Office of Education and the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education on August 21, 2026, and any model policies and procedures issued by the Department. The Superintendent shall implement the Procedures. The Procedures will promote schools that are safe and accessible for students, staff and residents.

The Procedures shall be implemented, wherever applicable, in alignment with the District's Emergency Operations Plan, Medical and Behavioral Health Emergency Response Plans, Student Records and Visitors policies, and any School Resource Officer Memorandum of Understanding.

The Procedures shall apply equally to all law enforcement officers and shall focus on the safety of students and staff. Nothing in this policy prevents appropriate cooperation with police, fire, emergency medical services, child protective authorities, or other public safety officials responding to an emergency, protecting a child from abuse or neglect, or otherwise exercising lawful authority unrelated to civil law enforcement. Nothing in this policy requires or authorizes



Greater Lawrence Technical School

any District employee to physically interfere with a law enforcement officer or to take any action that violates state or federal law.

The procedures shall include:

- I. Procedures for identifying and designating a senior administrator in the Superintendent's office to serve as the individual responsible for having primary contact with law enforcement agents engaged in civil law enforcement for the school system and the central point of contact for schools on interactions with civil law enforcement;
- II. Procedures for identifying and designating a senior administrator to serve as the individual responsible for having primary contact with law enforcement agents engaged in civil law enforcement who arrive on site at the school or request information about students, employees, or other persons affiliated with the school;
- III. Procedures for contacting the District's legal counsel;
- IV. Procedures for contacting the senior administrator at the school and the district Superintendent's office in the event law enforcement agents engaged in civil law enforcement arrive on school grounds or request information about students, employees, or other persons affiliated with the school;
- V. Procedures for documenting all interactions with law enforcement agents engaged in civil law enforcement while on school grounds;
- VI. Procedures for notifying a student's parents or guardian, or the student directly if the student is 18 years or older or emancipated, if a law enforcement agent engaged in civil law enforcement requests access to a student or a student's information for any civil law enforcement purpose, whether in person or by telephone, electronic communication, subpoena or other written request;
- VII. Procedures following the confirmation of law enforcement agents engaged in civil law enforcement on school grounds, including notifying parents and guardians, teachers, administrators, and school personnel, in a manner that protects the confidentiality and privacy of any potentially identifying information;
- VIII. Procedures to confirm and update students' emergency contacts, with allowance for more than one person to be listed, and alternative caregiver plans;
- IX. A plan to share these procedures with students and families, including on the District's website, in English and the other languages most commonly spoken by District families;
- X. Procedures for school transportation, school-sponsored activities that take place away from school grounds, and cooperative education and work-based learning placements;
- XI. Procedures to protect the confidentiality of student and employee information consistent with state and federal law; and
- XII. Training for District employees and contracted personnel who are likely to interact with law enforcement officers.

Approved & Adopted: 9/22/26