

Community Relations

Law Enforcement Officials

Schools are responsible for students during school hours which includes protecting each student's constitutional rights, assuring due process in questioning and arrest, and protecting students from any form of illegal coercion.

When police are investigating possible criminal acts which occurred, or may have occurred, on school property, or while under the jurisdiction of the school district, they may question students at school when the following procedures are observed:

1. Students will be questioned as confidentially and inconspicuously as possible. Police will make every attempt to minimize distractions or disruption of school routines during the performance of their duties.
2. An attempt will be made to notify the student's parents so that they may be present during the questioning. The school Principal, or his/her designee, will be present. A student who is suspect in a crime and under the age of sixteen must have a parent present during questioning.
3. Preferably, the officer doing the questioning will wear civilian clothes.

Because of the many support services which local law enforcement agencies provide to the schools, staff, and students, the Board of Education supports the best possible relationship with those agencies consistent with district responsibilities to protect legal rights of staff and students.

The Superintendent of Schools is directed to establish lines of communication with local law enforcement agencies to effect necessary cooperation toward ensuring the security of the school facilities, the safety of students and staff, and for better student education about law enforcement agencies.

Notification of a Student's Arrest

Pursuant to the requirements of C.G.S. [10-233h](#), as amended by Public Act 94-221, Public Act [95-304](#) and Public Act 97-149, whenever the Superintendent receives oral, followed by written notification from the local police department or state police that a student was arrested for a Class A misdemeanor, a felony, or for selling, carrying, or brandishing a facsimile firearm, he/she shall maintain the written report in a secure location and the information in the report shall be maintained as confidential in accordance with section [46b-124](#). The Superintendent may disclose such information, when reported during the school year, only to the Principal of the school in which the student is enrolled or the supervisory agent of any other school in which the student is enrolled.

The Principal or supervisory agent may disclose such information only to special service staff or a consultant, such as a psychiatrist, psychologist or social worker, for the purposes of assessing the risk of danger posed by the person, other student school employees or property and effectuating an appropriate modification of such person's educational plan or placement for disciplinary purposes. Such information with respect to a child under sixteen years of age shall be confidential in accordance with [46b-124](#) and shall only be disclosed as provided in this section and shall not be further disclosed.

(cf. [5145.12](#) Search and Seizure)

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes

[10-221](#) Boards of education to prescribe rules.

[10-233a](#) through [10-233s](#) re student suspension, expulsion.

[10-233g\(b\)](#) Boards to report school violence.

[10-233h](#) Arrested students. Reports by police to the superintendent, disclosure, confidentiality.

[17a-101](#) Protection of children from abuse.

[17a-102](#) Report of danger of abuse.

[46b-124](#) Confidentiality of records of juvenile matters. Exception

[53-206c](#) Sale, carrying and brandishing of facsimile firearms prohibited. Class B misdemeanor.

[53a-185](#) Loitering in or about school grounds: Class C Misdemeanor.

Reports of principals to police authority.

New Jersey v T.L.O., 53 U.S.L.W. 4083 (1988), 469 U.S. 325; 105 S.Ct 733.

[54-76j](#) Disposition upon adjudication as youthful offender.

Policy adopted: November 1, 1999