

## COMMUNITY RELATIONS

### Relations with Law Enforcement Child Protective Agencies and the County Health Department

School officials are to cooperate with law enforcement and child protective agencies. Except for contacts on school grounds related to the investigation of child abuse or neglect, parents or guardians shall be informed of law enforcement contacts and, when feasible, notified prior to such contacts being made on school grounds.

With regard to investigations of child abuse or neglect, RCW 26.44 applies. Parental notification shall occur at the earliest possible point in the investigation that will not jeopardize the safety or protection of the child or the course of the investigation and such notification shall be the responsibility of the law enforcement or child protective agency conducting the investigation.

District staff bear the primary responsibility for maintaining proper order and conduct in the schools. Staff will be held responsible for holding students accountable for infractions of school rules, which may include minor violations of the law occurring during school hours or at school activities.

Where there is substantial threat to the health and safety of students or others, such as in the case of bomb threats, mass demonstrations with threat of violence, individual threats of substantial bodily harm, trafficking in prohibited drugs or controlled substances (including marijuana/cannabis) or the scheduling of events where large crowds may be difficult to handle, the law enforcement agency shall be called upon for assistance. Information regarding such violations of the law shall be communicated to the appropriate law enforcement agency.

The district shall strive to develop and maintain cooperative working relationships with law enforcement and child protective agencies. The superintendent or designee shall meet with law enforcement and child protective authorities and health department officials to establish agreed upon procedures. Such procedures should address the handling of child abuse and neglect allegations and cases, the handling of bomb threats, arrests or custody by law enforcement officers on school premises, the availability of law enforcement personnel for crowd control purposes, the processes for investigating possible criminal activity by students, reporting communicable diseases cases and investigations and other matters that affect school and law enforcement cooperation. Such procedures shall be made available to affected staff and periodically revised.

Legal Reference: [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 26.44.110](#)

Written statement required

[RCW 26.44.115](#)

Notice required

[RCW28A.635.020](#)

Willfully disobeying school authorities—or refusing to leave public property,— violations, when — Penalty

[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.

Adopted: June 10, 1992

Revised: July 17, 2013