

## Interrogations of Students by Outside Agencies

A student may not be interviewed unless a NWBOCES staff member (Administrative Director, Residential Supervisor, Supervisor, Teacher) is present.

If police officers or other officials request an interview for any reason other than child abuse, child neglect or child endangerment involving the parents/guardian, an attempt will be made to contact the student's parents or legal guardian and to have one of them present (in person/FaceTime) during the interview.

If the topic of the interview is child abuse and the investigator determines that the child should be interviewed independent of his/her parents/guardian and NWBOCES is the most appropriate agency for the interview, NWBOCES officials will allow the interview to proceed without contacting the parents/guardian. It will be the responsibility of the investigator in abuse cases to determine if a representative will be present during the interview. NWBOCES may insist that a representative from NWBOCES be present.

No student may be taken from NWBOCES without the consent of a NWBOCES supervisory staff person, and generally if this is requested by law enforcement authorities for purposes of a criminal investigation, a warrant will be required, although it will not be essential if the supervisory staff person determines it to be in the best interest of the school and the child. Generally the NWBOCES supervisory staff person should request that the officer make his/her arrest elsewhere, at a time and not on NWBOCES grounds. Regardless of whether the officer has a legal process document in his possession when the student is taken into custody, the NWBOCES supervisory staff person will make every effort to

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inform the student's parents/guardian before the arrest is soon thereafter if the student's parents/guardian were unavailable at the time of the arrest. Similarly, in all cases where police desire to conduct searches of students or student property, police may request that such searches be conducted in a lawful manner without a proper warrant.

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