

Policy 5149: Pupil Interviews

Cozad Community Schools' personnel shall not authorize the interview of students at school except by law enforcement officers which shall include police officers, fire officials and child protective service workers.

1. Any Police officer or fire officer or fire official desiring to interview a student while the student is attending school shall inform the Principal of the school the student attends, stating the nature of the inquiry or investigation.
2. A law enforcement officer shall not be permitted to interview a student during the school hours concerning any activity of the student's mother, father or legal guardian except as provided in #3.
3. In connection with other inquiries, the interview shall be permitted and the Principal shall determine whether, under the particular circumstances of the case, the parent or guardian of the student should be notified prior to the interview.
4. In cases of suspected child abuse, the Principal may allow the child to be interviewed without permission of the parents or guardian. A student may be released to social service or child protection personnel.
5. If the Principal concludes that time is not vital to the investigation, and that it would be in the best interests of the student to have a parent or guardian consent, it shall be the duty of the Principal to delay the interview and to make an effort to notify the student's father, mother, legal guardian, or person standing in relation of parent/guardian to the student, in order that one of such persons can be present if she or he desires. The interview shall not be delayed unduly for any cause.
6. In all cases in which parent, legal guardian or other persons standing in relation of parent/guardian, is not present at an interview, the Principal, or a certificated employee appointed by an administrator, shall attend such interview, and shall be expected to take such action during the course of the interview as a reasonable parent/guardian would take under the circumstances.
7. A principal shall release custody of a student only by court order, warrant for arrest if permission is received permission from the parents or guardian of the student.
8. The Principal shall determine when the necessity exists that law enforcement officers be contacted to conduct an investigation of alleged criminal behavior.

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