



5620

Releasing Students to Police

Policy 5620

Original Adoption: 04/25/1967

Effective Date: 06/27/2012

Revision Dates: 10/12/1971, 08/28/1973, 09/30/1975, 06/12/1984, 09/13/1994, 6/26/2012

I. PURPOSE

Minneapolis Public Schools understands the importance of cooperating with police officers in law enforcement and crime prevention. The schools also must protect their students' interest in receiving an education, which is the primary purpose of the school. Good relations between the schools and the various law enforcement agencies are fostered by understanding the respective roles and responsibilities of the different entities when they interact. The purpose of this policy is to establish the procedures for access to students by police officers during the school day, and to clarify the responsibilities of district staff in responses to requests from law enforcement officers to question students or to release students to them.

II. GENERAL STATEMENT OF POLICY

- A. School Resource Officers are law enforcement officers assigned and trained to work with school administrations. This policy does not apply to School Resource Officers who are subject to contractual agreements with the district.
- B. Generally, students may not be released to law enforcement officers during the school day, except as otherwise provided by law or this policy.
- C. Law enforcement officers may be called to the school if the principal or site administrator, or their designee, has reason to believe that a crime has been committed on school grounds or there is a significant safety concern. Law enforcement officers shall determine whether or not a crime has been committed.
- D. Law enforcement officers who seek entry into a school for official business must first contact the principal, site administrator or their designee for permission to enter the school unless exigent circumstances exist. Requests may also be relayed to the school administration through the designated School Resource Officer for the District or school.
- E. In any contact between a law enforcement officer and a student, officers and staff shall endeavor to avoid any undue embarrassment of the student before students or staff.
- F. In any contact between a law enforcement officer and a student, officers and staff shall endeavor to avoid disrupting the educational program of the student or the school.
- G. Students not under custodial arrest may not be released to law enforcement officers, or interviewed by them at school, without prior parental permission, however if



reasonable attempts to reach a parent or emergency contacts identified by the parent fail, the principal has the discretion to either allow an interview of the student in the principal's presence, or to request that the law enforcement officer attempt an interview of the student at a different time and or place, unless such permission or notice of the request for contact is specifically prohibited by law.

- H. Law enforcement officers may not remove a student from the school premises without signing a District provided release form accepting responsibility for the student.
- I. No student shall be surrendered to a private organization, or to a private investigator or detective, or representative of any attorney.
- J. Custodial arrests made at school shall be made at the discretion of the law enforcement officer or the School Resource Officer, guided by whether the student is a danger or threat to him or herself or others, is likely to flee or to engage in further criminal conduct.
- K. Law enforcement officers making a custodial arrest of a student shall determine the degree of control of the arrested student is necessary to ensure the safety of the student, other students, staff, and the law enforcement officer.
- L. Law enforcement officers other than Minneapolis Police Department officers must coordinate attempts to arrest students at school with the School Resource Officer and/or the Minneapolis Police Department and the school administration. School staff may require the presence of a Minneapolis Police Department officer to allow entry to other agency's officers.

III. RESPONSIBILITIES

- A. The Superintendent is authorized to promulgate regulations to implement this policy.
- B. Principals and site administrators are responsible to implement this policy with fidelity.
- C. District staff that negotiates with law enforcement agencies to provide School Resource Officers to the District are responsible for communicating this policy to those agencies.

Legal References:

Minn. Stat. §13.32 (Educational Data)

Cross References:

MPS Policy 1040 (Data Practices Compliance)

MPS Policy 1480 (Visits to Schools)



MPS Policy 1540 (Complaints Concerning School Personnel)
MPS Policy 1541 (Response to Violence and Disruption)
MPS Policy 5200 (Citywide Discipline)
MPS Policy 5621 (Use of Peace Officers and Crisis Management Teams to Remove Students from School Property)
MPS Policy 5631 (Drug-Free Schools, Chemical Health, Chemical Use and Abuse)
MPS Policy 5635 (Reporting Maltreatment of Minors and Vulnerable Adults)
MPS Policy 5680 (Search of Students/Lockers/Desks/Motor Vehicles)
MPS Policy 6680 (Safety, Security and Emergency Preparedness)