

## **POLICE INTERVIEW OF STUDENTS**

### **Policy**

No student shall be interviewed or interrogated on school premises by police officers without a parent or guardian present, except in the following circumstances:

- a) In cases where child abuse is suspected, the police and/or social worker may interview the student under the legislative mandate for the protection of children; and,
- b) When required by police under Criminal Code (129b), which states that police have the right to require others to assist them when arresting a person or preserving the peace. Should this occasion arise, the administrator should request the interview be delayed until such time as the school can obtain the presence of the parent or guardian.

Other than in emergencies, police should be advised that school authorities would prefer that interviews be conducted outside of school hours and, if possible, at the student's residence.

### **School-Related Investigations**

- In facilitating police access to student witnesses, victims and suspects in a school-related investigation, the administrator is exercising his/her authority for school purposes.
- The police are expected to advise a student between the ages of 12 – 17, of his/her right to consult with a lawyer, a parent, or other appropriate adult selected by the student.
- The administration is required to contact the parents, even if the student indicates he does not intend to consult with them. If the student objects to parents being notified, the student is to make arrangements with the police to be interviewed at another location.
- Administration and staff members should not accept the role of “appropriate” adult in the investigation of a school-related incident.
- Students who wish to obtain legal advice can do so by calling the “Brydges” line staffed through the Legal Service Society (1-888-978-0050)