



**GWINNETT  
COUNTY  
PUBLIC  
SCHOOLS**

## **Gwinnett County Board of Education**

Level: Policy L-Interorganizational Relations	Accompanying Procedure:	Descriptor Code: <b>LDAJA</b>	Rescinds August 9, 2001
Descriptor Term: <b>Police Interrogations and Investigations</b>		Effective Date: <b>May 13, 2004</b>	Last Reviewed Date: <b>October 26, 2023</b>

In the interest of the larger welfare of all citizens, the Board encourages cooperation between school officials and law enforcement agencies. Schools also have a responsibility to parents for the welfare of the students while they are in the care of the school and should observe the following:

1. A student in school may not be interrogated by any authority without the knowledge of the school official. School officials should request official identification.
2. Any interview should be done in private and a school official may be present unless the student requests the official's attendance be waived. If a school official is present, they may be subject to subpoena to give evidence concerning the interview. Every effort should be made to limit the number of persons in the interview to an absolute minimum. The school official sits in the interview as a passive observer and is not to ask questions or make comments.
3. A student may not be released to the custody of persons other than parent or legal guardian, unless placed under custody of legal authority or DFACS.
4. If a student is interviewed at school or taken into custody by a legal authority, school officials have the right to notify the parents. However, before notifying the parents, school officials should check with the involved agency official, whether law enforcement or DFACS, to determine whether notification is advised or not advised under the circumstances and who will do the notifying.
5. The following officials have access to students in the schools under the provisions as outlined in paragraphs 1-5.
  - Law Enforcement Officers
  - DFACS Case Workers
  - Officers of the Court (Guardian Ad Litem and probation officers)
6. Private Attorneys and investigators do not have access to students without subpoena.
7. When the local school is not sure what to do, contact any of the following: the Chief of Staff in the Office of the Superintendent; the Office of Safety and Security; or the Office of Student Services and Interventions.

