

Kingsport City Board of Education			
Monitoring: Review: Annually, in March	Descriptor Term: Interrogations and Searches	Descriptor Code: 6.303	Issued Date:
		Rescinds:	Issued:

1 INTERROGATIONS BY SCHOOL PERSONNEL

2 Students may be questioned by teachers or principals about any matter pertaining to the operation of a
 3 school and/or the enforcement of its rules. Questioning shall be conducted discreetly and under
 4 circumstances which will avoid unnecessary embarrassment to the student. Any student answering
 5 falsely or evasively or refusing to answer a question may be subject to disciplinary action, including
 6 suspension.

7 If a student is suspected or accused of misconduct or infraction of the student code of conduct, the
 8 principal or designee may interrogate the student without the presence of parent(s)/guardian(s).

9 INTERROGATIONS BY POLICE AT PRINCIPAL'S REQUEST

10 If the principal has requested assistance by law enforcement to investigate a crime involving his/her
 11 school, the police may interrogate a student suspect in school during school hours. The principal shall
 12 first attempt to notify the parent(s)/guardian(s) of the student unless circumstances require otherwise.
 13 However, the interrogation may proceed without attendance of the parent(s)/guardian(s), but the
 14 principal/designee shall be present during the interrogation.¹

15 POLICE-INITIATED INTERROGATIONS

16 If the police deem circumstances of sufficient urgency to interrogate students at school for unrelated
 17 crimes committed outside of school hours, the police department should first contact the principal
 18 regarding the planned interrogation and inform him/her of the probable cause to investigate. The
 19 principal shall make reasonable efforts to notify the parent(s)/guardian(s) of the interrogation unless
 20 circumstances require otherwise. The interrogation may proceed without attendance of the
 21 parent(s)/guardian(s).

22 SEARCHES BY SCHOOL PERSONNEL

23 In order to ensure a safe and secure learning environment, the Superintendent of Schools shall develop
 24 procedures regarding the searching of students, lockers, vehicles, and containers which are consistent
 25 with state law. The Superintendent of Schools shall develop additional procedures to ensure compliance
 26 with all of the provisions of the School Security Act of 1981.^{1,2}