

POLICY: ACCESS TO SCHOOLS FOR INVESTIGATIVE PURPOSES BY LAW
ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES

714

SECTION: 700 : School Administration

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APPROVAL/REVISION

EFFECTIVE

REVIEW

DATE: December 10, 2018

DATE: December 11, 2018

DATE: December 10, 2023

CROSS REFERENCE: Policy 703: School Code of Conduct
Policy 710: Student Relations and Discipline
Policy 713: Search and Seizure

A: **POLICY**

1. 1.1 The Thunder Bay Catholic District School Board recognizes the value of and encourages close cooperation between schools and law enforcement and investigative agencies.
- 1.2 Such cooperation must ensure propriety and protection for all parties concerned, consistent with the Education Act and related Regulations and the Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act.

B: **GUIDELINES**

2. The business of law enforcement agencies is to be conducted in the school only in the case of utmost urgency. All parties shall attempt to minimize any disruptions to the school routine.
3. Personnel from these agencies are expected to contact the school Principal prior to arriving at the school, to explain the nature of their business.
4. The Principal, in consultation with the appropriate agency officials, shall determine whether the requested course of action or interaction with students or school personnel should or should not take place on school property. When agency business is conducted on school property, the school should attempt to contact the parent/guardian(s) of the student involved to request their attendance.
5. Whenever possible, law enforcement agents should arrive in an unobtrusive manner.
6. The agent must report to the school office and provide proper identification to the school principal upon entering the school and before conducting any business.
7. If the agent is operating under a warrant or court order, the Principal may request that the agent proceed with the business off of the school property once the person has been taken into custody or the goods seized.
8. Meetings must be conducted in privacy to avoid embarrassment for the individual and to lessen disruption to the school routine.
9. When a student is being interviewed by a law enforcement or investigative agent, the Principal may choose whether or not to be present during the interview. Should a parent/guardian or student request the presence of the principal during the interview, the principal will endeavour to be present.

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- To avoid any further problems and disruption for the school and the person(s) involved, the agency will be advised to conduct any follow-up outside of the school, directly with the individual(s).