

	STUDENTS	IV-B-4
<b>STRAIT REGIONAL SCHOOL BOARD</b> <i>Excellence in Lifelong Learning</i>  <b>POLICIES - GUIDELINES</b>	<b>STUDENT ACTIVITIES AND WELFARE</b> <b>POLICE CONTACT WITH STUDENTS</b>	
	Adopted: February 2, 2006 Revised: Page:	   1 of 2

## Police Contact with Students

### Policy Statement

The Strait Regional School Board recognizes its responsibility to ensure that students and staff are in safe learning and teaching environments. Therefore, the Board expects principals to promote and maintain a safe and respectful school environment.

The Strait Regional School Board recognizes the importance of cooperation between the police service and the school and, as such, schools shall coordinate efforts with police agencies to ensure that the legal rights of students and staff are respected. **Principals and school board staff will, however, remain independent from the police while fulfilling their duties as per the *Education Act*.**

In the enforcement of this policy, the Board must adhere to relevant legislation, including but not limited to, the *Education Act*, the *Youth Criminal Justice Act*, the *Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms*, the *Criminal Code of Canada*, the *Canadian Human Rights Act*, and applicable *Board policies*.

This policy outlines the requirement to respond differently to police interventions with students under the age of 12 years, students 12 to 17 years of age, and students 18 years of age and older.

This policy addresses the differences related to staff-initiated police contact with students and police-initiated contact with students.

### Guidelines

1. In enforcing this policy, school administration must balance individual rights with the paramount duty to provide a safe learning environment.
2. It is the responsibility of school administration to ensure minimum disruption to the school environment.

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	<p>Adopted: <span style="float: right;">February 2, 2006</span>  Revised:  Page: <span style="float: right;">2 of 2</span></p>

3. It is the principal's or adult acting *in loco parentis* responsibility to ensure that the student is aware of his or her rights, for example, the right to remain silent, the right to retain and instruct counsel without delay, the right to have a parent/guardian present and the right to designate another adult *in loco parentis*.
4. In most cases, police interviews with students should be conducted outside the school environment.
5. The Board has established a set of procedures to guide all aspects of this policy.

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