

## Interrogation by Outside Agencies/ Searches

AP 50-19

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1. It is acknowledged that other agencies have the need to interview students from time to time. The Division encourages these agencies to interview students in places other than schools, but if it is essential to interview the students in the school, it shall be subject to the approval of the School Principal or designate.
  - 1.1. School Principals shall cooperate with outside agencies where necessary.
  - 1.2. Adult presence:
    - 1.2.1. When possible, the parents/guardians of the student should be notified of the outside agency's intent to search or interrogate a student.
    - 1.2.2. The School Principal or a teacher shall be present (in the absence of a parent/guardian) during RCMP interrogation on school property.
    - 1.2.3. An exception may be made in Child Abuse cases (see [AP 50-17 Student Health and Safety](#)).
    - 1.2.4. The school staff member would also not act in place of the parent if the staff member has been the victim of the student's behavior or has been instrumental in having the RCMP investigate the student.
  - 1.3. At all times, the best interest of the student is foremost.
    - 1.3.1. If school staff is present due to the absence of the student's parents, they should advise and monitor the process as would a reasonable parent.
    - 1.3.2. This would include reminding students of their right to seek legal counsel.
2. Searches: Student / Lockers
  - 2.1. If suspected of wrongdoing, a student may be directed to empty pockets, knapsack, purse, etc.; however, physical searches (pat-downs) of students are not to be undertaken by school personnel.
    - 2.1.1. If, in the opinion of the School Principal, a physical search (pat-down) should be conducted, the RCMP shall be contacted.
  - 2.2. Lockers are the property of the Division.
    - 2.2.1. School lockers will be rented or available on the condition that the school reserves the right to search and repossess the locker at any time without notice.
    - 2.2.2. The School Principal will publish the locker policy, including the provision that lockers are subject to searches without notice under the direction of the School Principal.
    - 2.2.3. A locker search may be undertaken by the School Principal if there is good and sufficient reason to suspect that unauthorized/illegal/stolen substances/items may be found in a locker.
    - 2.2.4. In the event that a search of a locker or student's property is deemed necessary, School Principals must comply with the Criminal Code and the Youth Criminal Justice Act.
    - 2.2.5. It is desirable that students be present when their lockers are searched.

### Reference

Criminal Code of Canada, [Youth Criminal Justice Act](#)  
[AP 50-12 Unauthorized/Illegal/Stolen Substances/Items](#)  
[AP 50-17 Student Health and Safety](#)

[Form 5-19-A School Locker Agreement](#)