

CHILD ABUSE INVESTIGATION AND ASSUMPTIONS OF CUSTODY

When the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services or a law enforcement agency desires to interview a student who is believed to be a victim of child abuse or neglect, during school hours and without prior notification to the student's parents, the District will permit the interview to take place only under the following conditions:

1. The agency certifies in writing that a person responsible for the child's welfare is a suspect in the investigation, that an interview at school is necessary to the investigation, and that the interview is in the best interest of the child.
2. The principal or superintendent will be present at the beginning of the interview to verify that the social worker has explained to the student that s/he does not have to participate in the interview and that the student has consented to be interviewed.
3. The child's parents shall be advised of the interview by the Alaska Department of Health and Social Services within twenty-four hours.

When the Department desires to take a student into protective custody during school hours, the Department's representative shall complete the "OCS Custody Form" prior to the representative's assumption of custody.

Exceptions to this policy may be made only by the Superintendent.

Added 1/98

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