



# Long Valley Charter School

*Imagine-Achieve-Inspire*

## **Law Enforcement Official on Campus Policy**

Approved by: Board of Directors

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### **LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICIAL ON CAMPUS POLICY**

The Board of Directors of Long Valley Charter School (“LVCS” or “Charter School”) believes that the safety of students and staff is essential to achieving the goal of student learning. LVCS recognizes that the safety of students, staff, and other persons on school grounds and at LVCS related activities or events may require the presence and involvement of law enforcement. LVCS expects its employees to respect and maintain the dignity of every student while in situations that may subject students to questioning and/or apprehension by law enforcement.

#### **Initial Contact with Law Enforcement**

The Executive Director/Superintendent or designee acting with the proper standard of care in releasing a student to a law enforcement officer (“officer”) for an interview or other legitimate law enforcement purpose will incur no liability. The degree of care required of an Executive Director/Superintendent or designee consists of ascertaining:

- a) The identity and official capacity of the officer;
- b) The authority under which the officer acts before interrogating, interviewing, or apprehending the student; and
- c) In the case of the release of the child, the reason for such action.

When an officer requests an interview with a student, the Executive Director/Superintendent or designee shall obtain the officer’s identity and verify that the interview is part of an official investigation. The Executive Director/Superintendent or designee will request to see the officer’s badge, work identification (“ID”), and/or work credentials. The Executive Director/Superintendent shall ask for a business card that the Charter School will keep on file and shall record the officer’s name and badge/license/credential number and contact information. If there is any doubt as to the officer’s identity, the Executive Director/Superintendent shall contact their superior and confirm that the officer is with the agency they claim to be representing.

The Executive Director/Superintendent or designee will confirm why the officer is at the Charter School and what their intended actions are, including whether the officer intends to question the student, investigate a child abuse claim, or arrest the student. Additionally, the Executive Director/Superintendent or designee will ask if the officer has a warrant, court order, or written parental consent for documentation purposes only.

The Executive Director/Superintendent or designee will suggest that the student be questioned or detained off campus during non-school hours.

#### **Interrogation/Interview of LVCS Students by Law Enforcement**

An officer may enter a school site to interview or interrogate students as suspects or witnesses. For non-school related matters, absent extenuating circumstances such as child abuse/neglect or felony

investigations, the officer will be requested to refrain from interrogating/interviewing LVCS students on school grounds or at Charter School related activities or events. The Executive Director/Superintendent or designee has no right to prohibit an officer from interrogating or interviewing students while at school. Resisting, delaying, or obstructing an officer from discharging any official duty is a criminal offense.

The Executive Director/Superintendent or designee shall notify the student's parent/guardian as soon as practicable when an officer requests to interrogate/interview a student on Charter School premises, except in cases of child abuse or neglect. When an officer seeks to interview/interrogate a student who has an individualized education plan ("IEP") or a plan under section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 ("504 Plan"), or is an English Learner ("EL"), the Executive Director/Superintendent or designee will endeavor to provide notice to the student's parent/guardian of the officer's desire to interview the student and request authorization from the parent/guardian to notify the officer that the student has an IEP, a 504 plan, or is an EL.

The Executive Director/Superintendent or designee shall work with the officer to accommodate a requested interview/interrogation in a way that causes the least possible disruption for the student and Charter School and provides the student with appropriate privacy in a private location away from other students and staff, as necessary.

The Executive Director/Superintendent or designee, acting in *loco parentis*, must protect students' constitutionally protected rights, by informing the student(s) of their fundamental, constitutional right of the privilege against self-incrimination, or ensure that the officer informs the student, prior to questioning by the officer. Prior to any interrogation/interview by the officer of a student who is in temporary custody, and before any waiver of Miranda rights is made by a student seventeen (17) years of age or younger, the student shall first consult with legal counsel either in person, by telephone, or by video conference. The student or their parent/guardian may not waive this right to consult with legal counsel prior to a custodial interrogation or prior to a waiver of Miranda rights.

The Executive Director/Superintendent or designee will also inform students of their right to have the Executive Director/Superintendent or designee or parent/guardian present during any questioning of a minor LVCS student and request to be present for any questioning of LVCS students. The officer must include the Executive Director/Superintendent or designee in an interview of a minor if the minor requests the Executive Director/Superintendent or designee be present or the student does not object to the Executive Director/Superintendent or designee's request to be present. If the student requests to see their parent/guardian, the request must be construed as the minor's right to invoke the 5th Amendment.

It is the officer's responsibility to meet any legal requirements from a law enforcement perspective relating to advising a student of constitutional or statutory rights. An officer need not inform a student of their right to have a parent/guardian present and, absent a minor's request for a parent/guardian or other adult, the absence of a parent/guardian will not invalidate a confession. Officers have a statutory obligation to ensure a minor seventeen (17) years of age or younger speaks with an attorney prior to waiving the student's Miranda rights.

### **Apprehension of LVCS Students by Law Enforcement**

In an effort to minimize disruption to the learning environment, the Executive Director/Superintendent or designee should discuss with the officer the reasonableness of making an arrest when students are actively participating in classroom instruction. When considering whether it is reasonable to arrest a student on campus, the Executive Director/Superintendent or designee should recommend the officer consider the

following:

- The seriousness of the offense
- Whether the arrest can be affected by other means
- Whether there is an imminent threat to public safety.

Because the Charter School official stands in *loco parentis*, parental permission is not necessary before a minor can be questioned and/or arrested at the Charter School.

A minor may be taken into custody without a warrant if there is reasonable cause that the minor is:

1. A minor between twelve (12) years of age and seventeen (17) years of age, inclusive, who persistently or habitually refuses to obey the reasonable and proper orders or directions of the minor's parents, guardian, or custodian, or who is beyond the control of that person, or who is a minor between twelve (12) years of age and seventeen (17) years of age, inclusive, when the minor violated any ordinance of any California city or county establishing a curfew based solely on age is within the jurisdiction of the juvenile court which may adjudge the minor to be a ward of the court.
2. A person with four (4) or more trancies within one (1) school year as defined in Education Code section 48260;
3. A ward of the court;
4. A person under the age of eighteen (18) when the student violates any law of California, city, county, and/or of the United States and is therefore under the jurisdiction of the juvenile court; or
5. Any person alleged, when they are twelve (12) years or older, to have committed specified crimes under California Welfare and Institutions Code section 602, subdivision (b).

### **Request for Student Information by Law Enforcement**

Pursuant to student confidentiality under the Family Educational Rights Privacy Act ("FERPA"), written parent/guardian consent is required prior to disclosing a student's personally identifiable information ("PII") and education records. Should an officer request a student's PII or student records, the requested information may be protected by FERPA. With few exceptions, the Charter School must obtain written parent/guardian consent to release PII or student records unless the officer has provided LVCS with a lawfully issued subpoena. If LVCS receives a lawfully issued subpoena, LVCS shall comply with the subpoena after providing the parent/guardian with reasonable notice of its intent to comply.

Under FERPA, LVCS is permitted to disclose FERPA-protected information to an officer in connection with an emergency, which must be an actual, impending or imminent emergency. The health or safety emergency provision under FERPA permits such disclosures of PII or a student's educational records when the disclosure is necessary to protect the health or safety of the student or other individuals. This exception to FERPA's general consent requirement is limited to the period of the emergency and generally does not allow for a blanket release of PII from a student's educational records. Rather, these disclosures must be related to an actual, impending, or imminent emergency, such as a natural disaster, a terrorist attack, a campus shooting, or the outbreak of an epidemic disease.

The Charter School may disclose "directory information" of a student, which includes, but is not limited to, information such as the student's name, address, telephone listing, date and place of birth, participation in officially recognized activities and sports, and dates of attendance, to law enforcement officials, without the parent/guardian or eligible student's written consent, if the Charter School has given public notice to parents and eligible students of (1) the types of PII that it has designated as "directory information," (2)

the right of the parent or eligible student to restrict the disclosure of such information, and (3) the period of time within which a parent or eligible student has to notify the educational agency or institution in writing that he or she does not want any or all of those types of information designated as “directory information.”

### **Records of Student Interviews and Removals by Law Enforcement**

The Executive Director/Superintendent or designee shall maintain a record of an officer’s interview(s) or interrogation(s) of LVCS students at the Charter School site and the removal of a LVCS student by an officer from the school site.

Although subpoenas may legally be served at the Charter School on students aged twelve (12) or older, the LVCS believes that serving officials should be strongly urged to serve subpoenas at the home of the student or other non-school location whenever possible. When served at the Charter School, the Executive Director/Superintendent or designee shall take reasonable steps to minimize the student’s embarrassment and protect the student’s privacy and loss of class time.

If an officer takes custody of a student (removes the student from school), the Executive Director/Superintendent or designee must immediately inform the student’s parent(s)/guardian(s) or responsible relative. The only time the student’s parent(s)/guardian(s) should not be informed by the Executive Director/Superintendent or designee is in the case of a student being taken into custody because they have suffered child abuse. In those cases, the Charter School must provide the officer information as to how the student’s parent(s)/guardian(s) can be contacted.

Under no circumstances should the Executive Director/Superintendent or designees release confidential information such as details about the student’s apprehension to other students or parent(s)/guardian(s) of other students unless those persons have a right to such information.

Parent/guardian permission for the Executive Director/Superintendent to release the child to the authorities is not required. Parent(s)/guardian(s) must be notified immediately in case of emergency or if the release of a student to an officer is necessary, e.g., removal of the student from campus in order to aid law enforcement in an investigation. An emergency exists if the immediate assistance of the child is required by the officer in the detection or apprehension of a criminal.