

NNPS Guidelines for Educational Interpreters Outside Agency Involvement at NNPS

The Educational Interpreter role for Newport News Public Schools (NNPS) includes interpretation tasks needed in order for a student who is deaf or hard-of-hearing (D/HH) to access curriculum, school-sponsored extracurricular activities, disciplinary events conducted by the school or school district, and school sponsored activities such as field trips.

There may be situations while attending school or school-sponsored events, or activities when a student who is D/HH will not be provided interpreting services by NNPS. For example, the student may be involved with an outside agency such as local police or law enforcement, an ambulance or a hospital, social or human services, etc. In such circumstances, the NNPS Educational Interpreter will not be required to provide interpreting services. The following guidelines are to be followed:

1. **Interviews and Procedures:** The outside agency requesting or conducting an interview with or a process involving a NNPS D/HH student who requires an interpreter, is required to provide their own qualified interpreters. The job role of the NNPS Educational Interpreter does not include providing services for outside agencies.
2. **Emergency Health Care:** If a student is in need of emergency health care and/or to be placed in an ambulance, the Educational Interpreter will remain with the student until emergency services arrive and will inform the EMT that the student will need an interpreter when the ambulance arrives at the hospital or ER. The Educational Interpreter will provide communication for the medics and student while they are on scene at school grounds. Once the medic leaves school grounds, the Educational Interpreter will contact the HI Supervisor for re-assignment within the district.
3. **Criminal Investigation:** If a NNPS student who is D/HH is suspected of being involved in a legal situation (criminal, domestic, informational witness, etc.), the Educational Interpreter is expected to provide communication services during the school district's disciplinary proceedings and interviews. However, if the sheriff's office or police arrive to interview or arrest the student, the sheriff's office or police are required to provide their own qualified interpreter. The Educational Interpreter is expected to cooperate with and inform the police agency in regards to the student's communication needs.
4. If any of the above situations arise, the interpreter should contact the HI Supervisor so they are aware of the situation.

The above is not intended to address each and every possible situation, but general possible scenarios. Each circumstance should be approached on a case-by-case basis, and as questions arise, the Educational Interpreter can seek advice and direction from the school principal, the supervisor of deaf education and/or the Lead Interpreter.

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