

**Petition to City of Worcester to Adopt a Policy of Not Arresting Kids at School.**

**We the undersigned petition the Worcester City Council and Worcester School Committee to adopt the following policy regarding the arrest of children by the City of Worcester and Worcester Police Department.**

Whereas arresting children has been shown to have a negative impact on the emotional development of children;

Whereas arresting children at school by the police is potentially harmful and has nothing to do with the education of children;

Whereas the children, their parents, and addresses are known to the administration of a school;

We request the Worcester City Council to adopt the policy that the City of Worcester should not arrest children at school unless there is clear and immediate danger.

Decisions on whether a child should be placed in the criminal justice system should be made after suspension and/or a meeting with parents.

Should there be a need for the intervention of the criminal justice system it should be the policy of the City of Worcester that the child and parent are summoned to court.

Name

City or Town Residency

*Robert D. Davis*

*Worcester, MA*

*508 757 5873*

Mass. Human Rights  
416 Lake Ave.  
Worcester MA 01604  
November 29, 2015

Helen Friel, Ed. D.  
Clerk of the Worcester School Committee  
20 Irving St.  
Worcester MA 01609

Re: Petitions to Worcester School Committee

Dear Dr. Friel:

Our group, Mass. Human Rights, seek to petition the Worcester School Committee on the following issues:

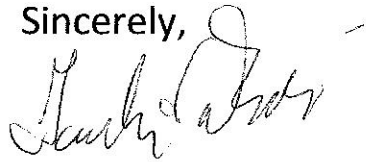
1. A copy of the current Memorandum of Understanding between the School Department and the Police Department regarding police officers in the schools, a.k.a. School Resources Officers.
2. The procedures for parent, students, teachers, principals, and advocates to have input into the MOU now being revised by Mr. Pezella, Public Safety Liaison. A copy of the new MOU.
3. The School Committee adoption of a policy of no children arrested at school unless there is a clear and objective emergency.

I am enclosing one page of the petition for item 3 above that was presented to the Worcester City Council on the same subject, although we have many more signatures.

It is my understanding that we will be allowed to speak on the subjects at the December 17, 2015 meeting of the Worcester School Committee, 7 PM, City Hall. Please inform me should I need to contact a school committee member to suspend the rules.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Gordon T. Davis", written in a cursive style.

Gordon T. Davis

Organizer

508 757 5873