

STUDENTS

Student Privacy and Searches of Students and Personal Property

Non-Personal Searches

Any search of a student's personal belongings and/or the student's locker must be based on reasonable suspicion related to the possible violation of the law or school rules.

Personal Searches

1. Any search of a student's personal belongings and/or the student's locker must be reasonably related to the discovery of contraband or other evidence of a student's violation of the law or school rules.
 - For the purpose of this procedure, "contraband" means items, materials, or substances the possession of which is prohibited by law or District policy, including but not limited to, controlled substances, alcoholic beverages, tobacco products, or any object that can reasonably be considered a firearm or a dangerous weapon.
2. Two (2) adults must be present for all personal searches.
3. Staff will conduct searches in a manner which is not excessively intrusive in light of the age and gender of the student and the nature of the suspected infraction. Prior to conducting a personal search, school officials will ask that the student consent to be searched. A personal search will consist of having the student remove all items from pockets or other personal effects.
4. If the student refuses to consent to the search, and there remains reasonable suspicion, school officials will contact the student's parents and/or police before proceeding with the search.
5. A search is required when there are reasonable grounds to suspect a student has a firearm on school grounds, transportation or at school events.
6. No student will be subject to a strip search or body cavity search by school staff.

If evidence of criminal activity is likely to be seized, school officials may consult with local law enforcement officials regarding the advisability of a search on school premises by a law enforcement officer.

Locker Searches

Lockers, desks, and storage areas are the property of the school district. When assigned a locker, desk, or storage area, a student will be responsible for its proper care. A student may be subject to a fine for any willful damage to school property. Students are encouraged to keep their assigned lockers closed and locked.

1. Students may be assigned lockers for storing and securing their books, school supplies, and personal effects. Lockers, desks, and storage areas are the property of the school district. No right or expectation of privacy exists for any student as to the use of any space issued or assigned to a student by the school. Lockers and other spaces are subject to search in accordance with District policy.
2. No student may use a locker, desk, or storage area to store any substance or object which is prohibited by law or school rules or which poses a threat to the health, safety or welfare of the occupants of the school building or the building itself.
3. A student's locker, desk, or storage area may be searched by District staff if reasonable grounds exist to suspect that evidence of a violation of the law or school rules will be uncovered. School staff will report a student's suspicious activity to the principal prior to initiating a search, except in emergency situations when the risk of harm to students or staff demands immediate action.
4. Principals may search all lockers, desks, or storage areas without prior notice given to students and without reasonable suspicion that the search will yield evidence of any particular student's violation of the law or school rules. If the principal conducting such a search develops a reasonable suspicion that any container inside the locker, including but not limited to a purse, backpack, gym bag, or an article of clothing, contains evidence of a student's violation of the law or school rules, the container, purse, backpack, gym bag, or article of clothing may be searched according to board policy.
5. Administrative inspection, or health and welfare inspections, may be conducted at any time for the purpose of locating misplaced library books, textbooks, or other school property or to ensure that all lockers, desks, or storage areas are being kept clean and free from potential health or safety hazards. Periodic inspections of lockers will reinforce the District's ownership of lockers and the minimal expectation of privacy students have in the contents of their lockers.

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