STUDENTS

Student Privacy and Searches of Students and Personal Property

Personal privacy is a fundamental aspect of individual liberty. All students possess the constitutional right to be secure in their persons, papers, and effects against unreasonable searches and seizures. Staff will take particular care to respect students' privacy. However, no right or expectation of privacy exists for any student as to the use of any district parking lot or of any locker issued or assigned to a student by the school district. The locker will be subject to search in accordance with board policy.

The Board of Directors is committed to protecting the health and welfare of all students, maintaining the security of the schools, and promoting the effective operation of the schools.

School officials have authority to maintain order and discipline in the schools and to protect students from exposure to illegal drugs, weapons, and contraband.

The Superintendent, the principal, and other staff designated by the Superintendent will have the authority to conduct reasonable searches on school property as provided by board policy.

At certain ages, students attain the right to decide for themselves what records will remain confidential, even from their parents, and what activities the student will participate in. At age 18 students become legal adults and must approve any disclosure of information about themselves from school records, except directory information if a request for confidentiality has not been filed. Students at age 18 may also sign releases, authorizations or permission slips to participate in school activities, and may sign themselves out of school and authorize their own absences. Students between 16 and 18 who have been granted legal emancipation from their parents or guardians have the same rights as 18-year-old students. Students over 14 years of age have the right to keep private from everyone any district records indicating that they have been tested or treated for a sexually transmitted disease. Students 13 years and older have confidentiality rights in records regarding drug, alcohol or mental health treatment. All students have confidentiality rights in family planning or abortion records.

Cross References: Policy 3414 – Infectious Diseases

Policy 3245 – Students and Telecommunication Devices

Policy 3231 - Student Records

Legal References: RCW 13.64.060 Power and capacity of emancipated minor

RCW 28A.320.040 Bylaws for Board and school government RCW 28A.600.020 Exclusion of student from classroom – Written

Disciplinary procedures – Long-term suspension or

expulsion

RCW 28A.600.210-240 School locker searches – Findings

RCW WAC 392-400-215 Student Rights

Adoption Date: June 24, 1992 Revised: October 25, 1995 Revised: March 8, 2017

Revised: November 28, 2018