

To maintain order and discipline in the schools and to protect the safety and welfare of students and school personnel, school authorities may search a student, student lockers, student automobiles, or school computers under the circumstances outlined below and may seize any illegal, unauthorized, or contraband materials discovered in the search. The use of hand-held or walk-through metal detectors to check a student's person or personal effects is permitted.

As used in this policy, the term "unauthorized" means any item dangerous to the health or safety of students or school personnel, or disruptive of any lawful function, mission, or process of the school, or any item described as unauthorized in school rules available beforehand to the student.

A student's failure to permit searches and seizures as provided in this policy will be considered grounds for disciplinary action.

- A.** Personal Searches - A student's person and/or personal effects (e.g. purse, book bag, etc.) may be searched whenever a school authority has reasonable suspicion to believe that the student is in possession of illegal or unauthorized materials.

If a pat down search of a student's person is conducted, it will be conducted in private by a school official of the same sex and with an adult witness present, when feasible.

If the school official has reasonable suspicion to believe that the student has on his or her person an item imminently dangerous to the student or to others, a more intrusive search of the student's person may be conducted. Such a search may only be conducted in private by a school official of the same sex, with an adult witness of the same sex present, and only upon the prior approval of the ~~assistant superintendent for student services~~ Senior Director of Security, his or her designee, or one of his/her supervisors, unless the health or safety of students will be endangered by the delay which might be caused by the following these procedures.

- B.** Locker Searches - Student lockers are school property and remain at all times under the control of the school; however, students are expected to assume full responsibility for the security of their lockers. Periodic general inspections of lockers may be conducted by school authorities for any reason at any time without notice, without student consent, and without a search warrant.
- C.** Automobile Searches - Students are permitted to park on school premises as a matter of privilege, not of right. The school retains authority to conduct routine patrols of student parking lots and inspections of the exteriors of student automobiles on school property. The interiors of student vehicles may be inspected whenever a school authority has reasonable suspicion to believe that illegal or unauthorized materials are contained inside. Such patrols and inspections may be conducted without notice, without student consent, and without a search warrant.

- D. School Computers - School computers and any data they contain remain under control of the school and are subject to inspection at any time.
- E. Metal Detectors - School officials or law enforcement officers may conduct metal detector checks of groups of individuals if the checks are done in a minimally-intrusive, nondiscriminatory manner (e.g., on all students in a randomly selected class; on every third individual entering an athletic event). Metal detector checks of groups of individuals may not be used to single out a particular individual or category of individuals.

If a school official or a law enforcement officer has reasonable suspicion to believe that a particular student is in possession of an illegal or unauthorized metal-containing object or weapon, he or she may conduct a metal detector check of the student's person and personal effects.

- F. Seizure of Illegal Materials - If a properly conducted search yields illegal or contraband materials, such findings shall be turned over to proper legal authorities for ultimate disposition.

Legal Reference: G.S. 115C-36; US Const. Amen. IV, G.S. 115C-288(e), G.S. 115C-307(a), State v. F.W.E., 360 So. 2d 148 (Fla. App. 1978), Zamora v Pomeroy, 639 F.2d 662 (10th Cir. 1981), State v. D.T.W., 425 So 2d 1383 (Fla App. 1983), and New Jersey v. T.L.O, 469 US 325 (1985)

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