

STUDENT SEARCHES AND THEIR PROPERTY

Student Searches

A student is subject to search by school administrators if reasonable grounds exist to suspect that evidence of a violation of law or school rules will be discovered. School safety and the well being of all members of the student body and staff will foster the need to conduct searches.

Persons Authorized to Conduct a Search

Only building administrators or school resource officers (SRO) are authorized to conduct searches of a student's person or a student's belongings. Such individuals may only conduct a search if he/she has reasonable suspicion. **In conducting a search the school district will have two persons present and one shall be of the same sex/gender of the student being searched.**

Reasonable Suspicion

Reasonable suspicion means that a school district employee has reasonable grounds to believe that either the law or school rules have been violated. Reasonable suspicion may be established if a school district employee observes, hears or is informed of behavior or actions that violate either the law or school district rules.

Locker Searches

- A. Lockers desks and storage areas are the property of the school district
- B. Authorized persons may search all lockers desks and 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 law or school rules.

Use of Dogs for Searches

- A. Building principals are authorized to arrange for the use of trained dogs to aid in the search for drugs, alcohol and related paraphernalia in school buildings and on all school facilities, grounds parking lots, and any other district owned property.
- B. Prior to arranging for the use of trained dogs to aid the search, the principal will inform the Superintendent of his/her desire to have such dogs in the school.
- C. All dogs must be accompanied by a qualified and authorized trainer who will be responsible for the dog's action and who can verify the dog's reliability and accuracy in performing the search.
- D. Dogs may not be used for random searches on individual students at any time.

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