

## **SEARCHES**

### **LOCKER/DESK/STORAGE AREA SEARCHES**

All lockers and other storage areas provided for student use on school premises remain the property of the school district and are provided for the use of the students. These areas are subject to inspection, access for maintenance, and search pursuant to Policy JIH. No student shall lock or otherwise impede access to any locker or storage area except with a lock provided by or approved by the principal of the school in which the locker or storage area is located. Unapproved locks shall be removed and destroyed.

1. The principal, or a member of the administrative staff, designated in writing by the principal, will search a locker and its contents when the person conducting the search or the principal designating the person to search has reasonable cause for a search of the locker. Where the locker to be searched is assigned to a particular student and that student is on the school premises at the time of the search, and no danger to the student is apparent, the student shall be notified prior to the search and given the option to be present at the search.
2. The principal, a member of the administrative staff, or a teacher may search a desk or any other storage area on the school premises, other than a locker, when the person conducting the search has reasonable cause for a search.

### **PERSONAL SEARCHES**

Except in cases of extreme danger of life or property the parent or guardian of any student searched shall be notified of the search as soon as reasonably possible prior to requesting the police to conduct a search of the person. The principal, or another member of the administrative staff designated in writing by the principal and acting at the direction of the principal, will search the person of a student during a school activity if the principal has reasonable cause for a search of that student. Searches of the person of a student shall be limited to

1. searches of the pockets of the student;

2. any object in the possession of the student such as a purse or briefcase;  
and/or
3. a "pat down" of the exterior of the student's clothing.

Searches of the person of a student shall be conducted in a private room by a person of the same sex as the student being searched and witnessed by one other person of the same sex as the person being searched. Searches of the person of a student which require removal of clothing other than a coat or jacket shall be referred to and conducted by a law enforcement officer in accordance with the sub-section of this regulation entitled, "Involvement of Law Enforcement Officers," and school personnel will not participate in such searches.

### MOTOR VEHICLE SEARCHES

The principal or a member of the administrative staff designated in writing by the principal may request a law enforcement officer to search a motor vehicle on the school premises, subject to the sub-section of this regulation entitled, "Involvement of Law Enforcement Officers."

### CUSTODY OF EVIDENCE

Anything found in the course of a search conducted in accordance with this section which is evidence of a violation of the student conduct standards contained in the "Student Responsibilities and Rights" document may be seized and admitted as evidence in any suspension or expulsion proceeding if it is tagged for identification at the time it is seized and kept in a secure place by the principal or the principal's designee until it is presented at the hearing;

1. returned to the student or guardian of the student from whom it was seized;
2. destroyed if it has no significant value; or
3. turned over to a law enforcement officer in accordance with the sub-section of this regulation entitled, "Involvement of Law Enforcement Officers."

### DISPOSITION OF ITEMS SEIZED

Anything found in the course of a search conducted in accordance with this section which by its presence, presents an immediate danger of physical harm or illness to any person may be seized and:

1. returned to the parent or guardian of the student from whom it was seized;
2. destroyed;
3. become the property of the school district, if so stipulated by policy; or
4. turned over to a law enforcement officer in accordance with the subsection of this regulation entitled, "Involvement of Law Enforcement Officers."

#### INVOLVEMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

Except in cases of extreme danger of life or property, the parent or guardian of any student shall be notified as soon as reasonably possible prior to requesting the police to conduct a search of the person. The principal, or a member of the administrative staff designated in writing by the principal, may request the assistance of a law enforcement officer to:

1. search any area of the school premises, any student, or any motor vehicle on the school premises; or
2. identify or dispose of contraband found in the course of a search conducted in accordance with this section.

Where law enforcement officers respond to such a request, no school employee shall assist or otherwise participate in any search.

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