

226-AR SEARCHES

I. Student Searches

- A. School officials shall be permitted to conduct a search of a student and/or of items in the student's possession or within the student's control if the school official has reasonable grounds for suspecting the search will produce evidence that the student has violated or is violating laws, established rules, regulations, and district policies while on school premises.
- B. Student searches and/or of items in the student's possession or within the student's control shall be conducted in the presence of the building principal and/or his/her designee and a witness.
- C. Prior to conducting a search of a student and/or of items in the student's possession or within the student's control, the school official conducting the search may provide the student with an opportunity to voluntarily produce any suspected evidence that the student has violated or is violating laws, established rules, regulations, and district policies while on school premises.
- D. If the student refuses to voluntarily produce any suspected evidence that the student has violated or is violating laws, established rules, regulations, and district policies while on school premises, the school official may ask the student to consent to a search prior to conducting an involuntary search of the student and/or of items in the student's possession or within the student's control.
- D. If the student refuses to voluntarily produce any suspected evidence that the student has violated or is violating laws, established rules, regulations, and district policies while on school premises, the school official conducting the search shall order the student to empty his/her pockets, remove his/her outer jacket, coat and/or vest, remove his/her shoes and socks, roll up his/her pant legs to the knee, and/or shirt sleeves to the elbows, remove his/her belt, and turn over to the person conducting the search any and all items in the student's possession or within the student's control.
- F. The refusal of a student to submit to a search of himself/herself and/or items in the student's possession or within the student's control shall be immediately reported to the appropriate law enforcement officers and/or juvenile officers for further investigation. The student shall be detained by the principal until such time as a law enforcement officer or juvenile officer arrives to interview the student.

II. Locker Searches

- A. The Board acknowledges the need for safe storage of books, clothing, school materials, and personal property and may provide lockers for sole purpose of storing school-related items and appropriate clothing.

226-AR SEARCHES

- B. All lockers shall remain the property of the school district. Students shall have no expectation of privacy in their assigned lockers.
- C. Students shall be responsible for maintaining the security of their assigned locker.
- D. To fulfill the obligation to provide a safe educational environment, the school officials have the right to conduct locker searches under the following guidelines:
 - 1. General Locker Search
 - a. The administration may conduct random searches of lockers at any time and without prior warning.
 - b. Random locker searches may include certified drug dog searches.
 - 2. Individual Locker Search
 - a. Prior to a locker search, the student shall be notified and given an opportunity to be present. The school authorities may conduct a search of one or more than one locker to determine if the student(s) is concealing something in the locker(s), possession of which is in violation of laws, established rules, regulations, and district policies while on school premises.
 - b. The administration may conduct searches of individual lockers at any time and without prior warning when there is a reasonable suspicion that there is a threat to the health, welfare, or safety of students in the school.
 - c. The principal shall open a student's locker for inspection on the request of a law enforcement officer only on presentation of a duly authorized search warrant or on the intelligent and voluntary consent of the student.
- E. The principal shall be responsible for the safekeeping and proper disposal of any substance, object, or material found to be improperly stored in a student's locker.
- F. Should any prohibited items be found in a locker(s), appropriate disciplinary action may be taken and criminal proceedings may be instituted against the students in accordance with Policy 218, Student Discipline.
- G. Any illegal or prohibited materials seized during a student search may be used as evidence against the student in a school disciplinary proceeding.

III. Students shall be notified at least annually concerning the contents of Policy 226 and Administrative Regulations 226-AR.