

## **Search and Seizure**

The School recognizes that the privacy of Students may not be violated by unreasonable search and seizure and directs that no student be searched without reason or in an unreasonable manner.

The School acknowledges the need for in-school storage of student possessions and shall provide storage places, including desks and lockers, for that purpose. Where locks are provided for such places, Students may lock them against incursion by other students, but in no such places shall Students have such an expectation of privacy as to prevent examination by a School official. The Board may require the Principal or his/her designee to conduct a regular search at least annually of all such storage places.

Students have no expectation of privacy with respect to the use of the internet, intranet, or email. Routine maintenance and monitoring of the School network system may lead to the discovery that a student has or is violating School policy or the law. Violations of School policy, the Student Code of Conduct or the law may result in severe penalties, up to and including expulsion.

School authorities are charged with the responsibility of safeguarding the safety and well-being of the students in their care. In the discharge of that responsibility, School authorities may search the person or property, including vehicles, of a Student, with or without the Student's consent, whenever they reasonably suspect that the search is required to discover evidence of a violation of law or of School rules. Specifically:

### Search and Seizure of Property:

1. School lockers, desks, and property are on loan to the Students and remain the property of the School. They may be inspected and reclaimed at any time.
2. Students must not keep prohibited items, including drugs, drug paraphernalia, firearms, explosives, and property belonging to others within their lockers, backpacks, or desks.
3. Students must open their lockers at the request of School officials.
4. When on School grounds, Students and their personal property may be searched if a School official has grounds to believe the search may turn up evidence that the Student has violated or is violating the law or School rules.
5. A Student shall have the opportunity to be present during the search of his or her locker, desk, or other property unless the Student is absent from School or the safety or welfare of the School or an individual necessitates a search during the Student's absence.

The search of a student's person or intimate personal belongings shall be conducted by the Principal or his/her designee. This person should be of the student's gender and conduct the search in the presence of another staff member of the same gender. However, no strip searches may be conducted by School personnel.

This authorization to search shall also apply to all situations in which the Student is under the jurisdiction of the School.

Administrators are authorized to arrange for the use of a breath-test instrument for the purpose of determining if a Student has consumed an alcoholic beverage. It is not necessary for the test to determine blood-alcohol level, since the School has established a zero tolerance for alcohol use.

The School also authorizes the use of canines, trained in detecting the presence of drugs, when the Principal or his/her designee has reasonable suspicion that illegal drugs may be present in the School. This means of detection shall be used only to determine the presence of drugs in locker areas and other places on School property where such substances could be concealed. Canine detection must be conducted in collaboration with law enforcement authorities or with organizations certified in canine detection and is not to be used to search individual students unless a warrant has been obtained prior to the search.

The Principal or his/her designee shall be responsible for the prompt recording in writing of each student search, including the reasons for the search; information received that established the need for the search and the name of informant, if any; the persons present when the search was conducted; any substances or objects found; and the disposition made of them. The Principal or his/her designee shall be responsible for the custody, control, and disposition of any illegal or dangerous substance or object taken from a student.

*U.S. Const. Amend. IV, XIV; Oh. Const. Art. I §14.*