



Rationale

The school has a responsibility to maintain a safe and harmonious environment and as such may from time to time search student property.

Policy

Student property may be subject to unannounced searches from time to time, as may be considered appropriate.

Regulation

1. A student locker search may be undertaken if there are reasonable grounds to believe that a school rule has been or is being violated and that evidence of the violation will be found in the student's locker.
2. School officials shall attempt at all times to protect the student's right to privacy.
3. The following criteria must be considered by a school administrator in the determination that reasonable grounds exist to conduct a search:
 - information received from one or more students that is considered to be credible;
 - credible information from an outside source;
 - a teacher's or principal's own observation;;
 - any combination of these pieces of information which the relevant authorities consider to be credible.
4. School officials may search a student locker in those instances where there exists reasonable grounds to do so and without prior notice in order to ensure compliance with the conditions of use and other school policies and rules. Every effort will be made to ensure that the student and an additional staff member will be present when a locker is searched, except in an emergency situation.
5. All requests or questions regarding student locker searches will be referred to the school administrator or designate.
6. The administrator or designate may invite the police to assist in a search where there is reasonable cause to believe illegal or dangerous materials or weapons may be in a student locker.
7. The parents or guardians of the student shall be informed of the search, and the reason for it.



8. The grounds for conducting a search shall be recorded in writing by the principal and kept on file.
9. Students and their parents shall be informed at the beginning of each school year, regarding this policy, stating that "student property is subject to periodic searches of a general administrative nature for contraband and rule violation.

Reference:	Approved
	Date Approved:
Cross-reference: Suspensions and Expulsions Policy 506	Date(s) Revised: