QUESTIONING AND SEARCHES OF STUDENTS AND SCHOOL PROPERTY

The School Board seeks to maintain a safe and orderly environment in the schools. Principals are authorized to question and/or search students in accordance with this policy and accompanying administrative procedures.

Students may not bring, possess or store at school any items or substances which are prohibited by law, Board policies and/or school rules, or which interfere with the operations, discipline or general welfare of the school.

Student use of all school storage facilities, including but not limited to lockers, desks, and parking lots, is a privilege granted by the school. All storage facilities are school property and remain under the control, custody and supervision of the school. Students have no expectation of privacy in school storage facilities or for any items placed in such storage facilities and/or school property. Principals (designee) have the authority to inspect and search storage facilities and their contents on a random basis, with or without reasonable suspicion, and without notice or consent. Principals/designee have the authority to search students and/or personal property in the student's immediate possession when, in their judgment, that a reasonable suspicion that a violation exists.

If a search produces evidence that a student has violated or is violating the law, Board policies and/or school rules, such evidence may be seized and impounded by principals and appropriate disciplinary action may be taken. Evidence may be forwarded to law enforcement authorities as required by law or as deemed appropriate by the principal/designee.

School staff, students and parents shall be informed of this policy on an annual basis through handbooks and/or other means selected by the principal/designee.

The Superintendent is authorized to develop and implement, with input from legal counsel, administrators, staff and others as appropriate, any administrative procedures necessary to carry out this policy. Such administrative procedures shall be subject to Board approval.

Cross Reference: JIH-R – Questioning and Searches of Students - Administrative

Procedure

JICIA – Weapons, Violence and School Safety

JK – Student Discipline

KLG - Relations with Law Enforcement Authorities

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