

### **STUDENT SEARCHES**

**Searches:** As allowed by law, the Superintendent, any principal, teacher, or security personnel who has reasonable suspicion shall have the authority to detain and search, or authorize the search of, any student or property of a student for dangerous weapons, controlled dangerous substances, alcoholic beverages, or for missing or stolen property if the property is reasonably suspected to have been taken from a student, a school employee or the school during school activities. In addition, any police officer in possession of a valid warrant or with probable cause may search a student or a student's locker or vehicle.

Any search of a student to be conducted by District employees shall be conducted by a person of the same sex as the student being searched and shall be witnessed by at least one other person. The extent of any search shall be reasonably related to the objective of the search and shall not be excessively intrusive in light of the age and sex of the student and the nature of the infraction. No strip searches shall be conducted by school personnel, and no student's clothing, except cold weather outerwear, shoes, and hand and head coverings, except for religious head coverings, shall be removed prior to or during any warrantless search.

Students are personally responsible for any items found in their lockers, desks, vehicles, book bags, back packs, or other personal items. Students shall not have any reasonable expectation of privacy in the contents of school lockers, desks, or other District property. District personnel shall have access to lockers, desks, and other District property and shall not be required to have any reasonable suspicion to search lockers, desks, and other District property. In addition, all student vehicles in any District parking lot shall be subject to search at any time.

If a student is searched and found to be in possession of any dangerous weapons, controlled dangerous substances, alcoholic beverages, or missing or stolen property, such items may be taken from the student and preserved, and the student in possession of such items may be disciplined according to applicable law, District Policy, and Administrative Regulation.

In conducting any search authorized by this policy, the District may utilize trained dogs to detect prohibited items. If a dog alerts to a student's locker or vehicle or to a classroom or common area, the area may be searched. If a dog alerts to a locked student vehicle, the student shall be requested to unlock the vehicle's doors and trunk. If the student is under 18 years of age and the student refuses, the student's parent or guardian shall be notified and requested to unlock the vehicle. If the student or the student's parent or guardian refuses to unlock the vehicle, the District may contact appropriate law enforcement personnel to respond to the issue.

**Reporting:** Any employee who has reasonable suspicion that a student may be under the influence of or has in his or her possession alcoholic beverages or a controlled dangerous substance shall immediately notify the principal of such suspicions. The principal shall immediately notify the Superintendent and, if possible, a parent or legal guardian of the student.

Adopted: April 14, 2022  
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