

USE OF SECURITY CAMERAS

The School Committee authorizes the use of security cameras in school district buildings and on its property to ensure the health, welfare and safety of all students, staff and visitors, to deter theft, vandalism and other negative behavior, to safeguard district buildings, grounds and equipment, and to monitor unauthorized individuals in or on school property. Security cameras may be used in locations as deemed appropriate by the Superintendent of Schools in consultation with school officials as well as local law enforcement and emergency response agencies. They may be used in any area, inside or outside of school buildings where there is no reasonable expectation of privacy. The use of security cameras is discretionary, and the District is under no legal obligation to utilize security cameras in school buildings.

The Superintendent shall ensure that proper procedures are in place and are followed regarding use, viewing, disclosure, retention, disposal and security of video recordings or photographs from security cameras in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. A video recording used for security purposes in school district buildings and/or on school property shall be the sole property of the school district. All video recordings will be stored in their original format and secured to avoid tampering and to ensure confidentiality in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. Access to video recordings from security cameras shall be limited to school personnel designated by the Superintendent.

Law enforcement and emergency response officials shall be granted access to video recordings or the security system for the purposes of emergency response readiness, and/or as part of police investigations consistent with the Memorandum of Understanding between the Dracut Public Schools and the Dracut Police Department.

The Superintendent may, from time to time, issue further guidance that is consistent with current laws and this policy.

Adopted by Dracut School Committee November 25, 2019