

administrative guidelines

BOARD OF EDUCATION
PORT WASHINGTON-SAUKVILLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

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SEARCH AND SEIZURE

Pursuant to Board of Education Policy 5771, the following guidelines shall be used when school administrators have reason to suspect that an illegal or dangerous substance or object or stolen property may be in the possession of a student:

- A. All requests or suggestions for the search of a student or his/her possessions shall be directed to a building administrator.
- B. Wherever possible, an adult second party shall be present at any search of a student or his/her possessions.
- C. The building administrator may conduct a search upon reasonable suspicion to suspect the presence of an illegal or dangerous substance or object, or anything contraband under school rules.
- D. The building administrator shall be responsible for the custody, control, and disposition of any illegal or dangerous substance or object taken from a student, whether during a student search or otherwise until transferring the substance or object to law enforcement.
- E. The student's parents shall be notified of the search as soon as reasonably possible after the search.

Reasonable Suspicion

As used in this section, "reasonable suspicion for a search" means grounds sufficient to cause an adult of normal intellect to believe that the search of a particular person, place or thing will lead to the discovery of evidence that students have violated or are violating a rule or behavioral norm contained in the student handbook, a particular law, or possesses an item or substance which presents an immediate danger of physical harm or illness to students, staff, or district property.

Lockers and Other Storage Areas Provided for Student Use

All lockers and other storage areas provided for student use remain the property of the district. These lockers and storage areas are subject to inspection, access for maintenance, and search pursuant to these guidelines. A student using the locker or storage area has, by statute, no expectation of privacy in that locker or storage areas or the contents contained therein. No student shall lock or otherwise impede access to any student locker or storage area except with a lock provided by or approved by the building administrator. Unapproved locks will be removed.

The building administrator may, at any time, request assistance of law enforcement.

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District Issued Devices

All District issued Internet enabled devices for student use remain the property of the district. These devices are subject to inspection, access for maintenance, and search pursuant to these guidelines. A student using the device has no expectation of privacy. The District has the ability to remotely deny access to Chromebooks and can command forfeiture of the device for examination.

The building administrator may, at any time, request assistance of law enforcement.

Vehicles

Any vehicle driven by students to school may be searched when the building administrator has reasonable suspicion to justify the search. Whenever possible, the student shall be present.

Student

The personal search of a student may be conducted by the building administrator when he/she has reasonable suspicion for a search of that student. Authorized searches of the student's person are the student's pockets, purses, backpacks, or any other object in the possession of the student, a "pat down" of the exterior of the student's clothing and the removal of any item identified, and removal of an article of external clothing such as a jacket shall be performed by law enforcement. The student's parents shall be notified of the search as soon as reasonably possible.

Strip searches are not to be conducted by any official, employee, or agent of the District.

Use of Breath – Test Instruments

The building administrator may arrange for a breath test for blood alcohol to be conducted on a student whenever he/she has individualized reasonable suspicion to believe the student has consumed an alcoholic beverage.

Use of Dogs

The Board has authorized the use of specially trained dogs to detect the presence of drugs and other illegal devices and contraband on school property under the following conditions:

- A. The presence of the dogs on school property must be authorized in advance, by the superintendent or be pursuant to a court order or warrant.
- B. The dog must be handled by a law enforcement officer or trained personnel so designated by law enforcement.

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- C. The dog is represented by the law enforcement agency providing the service as capable of accurately detecting drugs and/or devices. The dog will be allowed to examine a student's possessions, including vehicles and lockers.
- D. The dog may be allowed to examine school property such as lockers as permitted by the building administrator. The superintendent shall establish any limitation as to areas of school property to be examined. It should be noted that even though the school district may request the use of dogs through law enforcement, the final decision is at the discretion of law enforcement.

Approved: 8/18/04; 11/19/13