

Related Entries: (Not identified at this time)

### Student Detention, Search and Seizure

The following procedures shall be used for student detention, search, and seizure:

- (1) Any instructional or administrative staff member shall be authorized to temporarily detain and question a student under circumstances which reasonably indicate that such student has committed, is committing, or is about to commit a violation of Florida Statutes or School Board Rules or may be threatening or about to threaten the safety and well-being of other students or staff.
- (2) If at any time, after the onset of the temporary detention and questioning, a reasonable suspicion arises that the detained student is concealing or has concealed stolen or illegal property or contraband on his/her person, or within his/her locker or other student storage space, an administrative staff member may search the personal property of the temporarily detained student, his/her locker or other storage space for the purpose of disclosing the presence of suspected stolen or illegal property. Stolen or illegal property which is seized during a search of the personal property of a student, his/her locker or other student storage area shall be given to law enforcement authorities, when appropriate.
- (3) An administrative staff member or an instructional staff member designated by an administrator may search a student's person, personal belongings, student locker or other storage space or vehicle parked on the school campus if there is reasonable suspicion to believe the search will result in evidence the student has violated Florida Statute or School Board Rule or if the student consents to such search.
- (4) The search of a student requiring removal of clothing, other than an outer garment such as a jacket or shoes, or exposure of a private area, will be performed only when there is credible information the search will lead to the discovery of evidence of illegal activity, the immediate removal of which is required to ensure the safety of students and staff.
- (5) After coordination with the appropriate District-level administrator, any school principal may request that a law enforcement unit bring canines trained to detect the presence of illegal drugs or other contraband to their school campus.
  - (a) Any search performed by such canines will be designed to limit the disruption caused to instruction during the school day.

- (b) All students must remain out of the hallways and any other areas where the dogs are searching.
- (c) Canines may be used to conduct random or sweep searches of student vehicles or lockers. The principal and/or his/her designee shall have reasonable suspicion to search a student's locker or vehicle if a dog signals that it contains illegal drugs or other contraband.
- (d) Students may be escorted to their locker and/or vehicle by an administrator if either causes a dog to "alert" officers during the search.
- (6) Schools may obtain and use portable hand-held "wand" metal detectors. Such detectors may be used to search students' book bags, purses and other personal belongings in appropriate circumstances. Metal detector activation under this section may constitute reasonable suspicion to justify a more intrusive search pursuant to paragraph (3) of this policy. The following types of screenings are authorized by this policy:
- a) **Unscheduled Random Screenings** – The Superintendent and/or his/her designees may authorize random hand-held detector screenings on randomly chosen days during a specified period of the day, using school personnel to operate the detectors available to their school.
- b) **"As needed" Screenings** – The Superintendent or his/her designees may authorize random hand-held detector screenings on days chosen to address particular safety concerns (such as recent violence in the neighborhood) or on days when special events (such as athletic competitions) are held, using school personnel to operate the detectors.
- c) **Daily Random Screenings** – The Superintendent or his/her designees may authorize daily detector screenings using school personnel to operate the detectors. Daily random searches shall involve searches of a randomly selected segment of the entire student body attending a particular school or schools.
- (7) Cell phone and other electronic devices are subject to search if reasonable suspicion exists to believe that the search will produce evidence that the student has violated or is violating the Code of Conduct for Students or the law through the use of the cell phone or other electronic device.
- (8) Students attending one of the District's alternative schools for disciplinary reasons may be subject to a daily search, including a search of their belongings, prior to the start of each school day.
- (9) The search of a student's person shall only occur with another staff member present.

- (10) Each principal shall place a sign, which is clearly visible to students and in a prominent location(s) within the school. The sign shall contain the following text:

**Notice to Students**

School authorities may upon reasonable suspicion, search a student's locker or other property for prohibited or illegally possessed substances or objects.

Trained canines may be used from time to time to conduct random sweeps of student parking lots and lockers.

**STATUTORY AUTHORITY:** 1001.42, 1001.43, 1006.09(9), F.S.

Adopted: 10/19/10