

	<b>ABERDEEN SCHOOL DISTRICT</b>	<b>NEPN Code: JIH</b>
	<b>POLICIES AND REGULATIONS</b>	

## **STUDENT INTERROGATIONS, SEARCHES, AND ARRESTS**

School administrators are authorized to make searches of persons, personal effects, lockers and automobiles under the conditions outlined below.

### **Personal Searches**

A student's person and/or personal effects (e.g. purse, back pack, book bag, etc.) may be searched when a school administrator has reasonable suspicion to believe that the student is in possession of illegal, unauthorized, or contraband items. If a pat down search or a search of a student's garments (such as jackets, socks, pockets, etc.) is conducted, it will be conducted in private by a school administrator of the same gender with another adult of the same gender present as witness.

A more intrusive search of the student's person is permissible in emergency situations when the health and safety of the students, employees or visitors on the school premises are threatened. Such a search may only be conducted in private by a school administrator of the same gender, with an adult of the same gender present, unless the health or safety of students will be endangered by the delay caused by following these procedures.

If a personal search has been conducted, the administration will inform the parent by the end of the day. If circumstances do not allow that, a certified letter will be sent.

### **Locker Searches**

Although school lockers are temporarily assigned to individual students, they remain the property of the District at all times. However, students are expected to assume full responsibility for the security of their lockers. Students are not to share lockers unless thus assigned by the administration, nor should they share their locker combinations with other students.

### **Maintenance Locker Searches**

The District has a reasonable and valid interest in ensuring that the lockers are properly maintained. For this reason, periodic inspection of lockers is permissible to check for cleanliness and vandalism. General maintenance inspections may be conducted by school staff if so instructed by the principal at any time without notice, without the student's consent and without a search warrant.

Any contraband discovered during such searches will be confiscated by the administration. The administration may refer a student to outside agencies for assistance depending upon the severity of the situation.

### **Non-Maintenance Locker Searches**

A student's locker and its contents may be searched when a school administrator has a reasonable suspicion that the locker contains illegal, unauthorized, or contraband items. Such searches should be conducted in the present of another adult witness. Emergency situations may necessitate a search with or without the student's knowledge or consent. Two adults should be present in all cases. Whenever possible the student should be aware of and be involved in a search of such property.

**Vehicle Searches**

Students are permitted to park on school premises as a matter of privilege, not a right. The school retains authority to conduct routine patrols of the student parking lots and inspections of the exterior of vehicles. The interior of a student's vehicle on the school premises may be searched by a school administrator if the administration has reasonable suspicion to believe that illegal, unauthorized or contraband items are contained inside. Such searches must always involve two adults. Whenever possible the student should be aware of and be involved in a search of the vehicle.

**Law Enforcement Involvement**

Any search and/or seizure by law enforcement officials will occur only when law enforcement officials properly advise school personnel that they have lawful authority to conduct the search and/or seizure.

**Informing Students and Parents**

Schools shall inform students and parents of this policy regarding searches and provide written copies on request.

**FORMERLY:** Policy 5131.2

**ADOPTED:** January 11, 1999

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