

ARTICLE 5 STUDENT CONDUCT (Series 5000)

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BOARD DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY

1. Board Delegation

1. The Board delegates authority to principals and assistant principals to suspend for up to 10 school days.
2. The Board delegates authority to the Superintendent, the Student Services Director and the Student Services Coordinators to suspend for up to one (1) school year.
3. The board can expel a student as long as the Board receives at least annual reports about that student.

2. Expulsion and Suspension Defined

1. **Expulsion** is a disciplinary removal from school by the School Board for more than 10 days without an offer of alternative educational service.
2. **Suspension** is any other disciplinary removal from school.

STUDENT DISCIPLINE POLICY 5200
(INCLUDING SAFE SCHOOL POLICY)

I. Purpose

The purpose of the policy is to foster a safe, positive environment for learning by teaching the practice of self-discipline, citizenship skills, and social skills.

II. Prohibited Conduct and Related Discipline

Prohibited conduct is forbidden at school, on school property, including school vehicles, and at any school activity. A serious violation that threatens or harms a school, school property, a person connected with school, or property associated with a person connected with school is forbidden regardless of where it occurs.

A. A student **WILL** be removed from school **for at least 1 year** for a serious violation involving the following:

1. A real weapon or
2. Explosive or flammable material or
3. Actual or threatened use of a look alike weapon with intent to intimidate or cause disruption.

Exceptions may be made on a case by case basis through the Superintendent's office.

B. A student **WILL** be removed from school for the following:

1. Possession, control, actual or threatened use of a real weapon, explosive, noxious, or flammable material;
2. Actual or threatened use of a look alike weapon with intent to intimidate or cause disruption;
3. The sale, control or distribution of a drug, controlled substance, imitation controlled substance, or drug paraphernalia;
4. Using or threatening to use serious force;
5. The commission of an act involving the use of force or the threatened use of force which if committed by an adult would be a felony or class A misdemeanor; or
6. A serious violation of Section II C affecting a student or staff member.

C. A student **MAY** be removed from school for the following:

1. Willful disobedience or violating a school or district rule;
2. Defying authority;
3. Disruptive behavior;
4. Foul, profane, vulgar, or abusive language;
5. Defacing or destroying school property;
6. Truancy;
7. Theft;
8. Posing a significant threat to the welfare, safety or morals of a student, school personnel, or the operation of the school;

9. Fighting;
10. Bullying,* defined as intentionally or knowingly committing an act that is done for the purpose of placing a school employee or student in fear of physical harm to the school employee or student or harm to property of the school employee or student.
11. Hazing,* defined as intentionally or knowingly committing an act that is done for the purpose of initiation or admission into, affiliation with, holding office in, or as a condition for, membership or acceptance, or continued membership or acceptance, in any school or school sponsored team, organization, program, or event.

Acts of bullying or hazing may include:

- (a) endangerment to the physical health or safety of a school employee or student;
- (b) any brutality of a physical nature such as whipping, beating, branding, calisthenics, bruising, electric shocking, placing of a harmful substance on the body, or exposure to the elements to a school employee or student;
- (c) forced or unwilling consumption of any food, liquor, drug, or other substance by a school employee or student;
- (d) any forced or coerced act or activity of a sexual nature or with sexual connotations such as asking a student to remove articles of clothing or expose or touch private areas of the body;
- (e) other physical activity that endangers the physical health and safety of a school employee or student; or
- (f) physically obstructing a school employee's or student's freedom to move.

* Regardless of whether the person against whom the conduct is committed directed, consented to, or acquiesced in the conduct.

12. Cyberbullying, defined as the use of e-mail, instant messaging, chat rooms, pagers, cell phones, or other forms of information technology to deliberately harass, threaten, or intimidate someone for the purpose of placing a school employee or student in fear of physical harm to the school employee or student; or harm to property of the school employee or student.
13. Possessing, using, controlling, or being under the influence of alcohol, a drug, an imitation drug, drug paraphernalia, or misusing any substance;
14. Possessing or using tobacco;
15. Inappropriate exposure of body parts;
16. Taking or sharing of obscene, pornographic, lewd, illegal, or otherwise inappropriate images or photographs. Violations will be referred to law enforcement.
17. Sexual or other harassment (including, but not limited to, behavior intended to cause harm or distress in a relationship, especially if repeated over time);
18. Gang-related attire or activity;
19. Retaliation against a school employee or student for the reporting or investigations of any behavior outlined in Sections II A, B, and C above; or
20. Making false allegations against a school employee or student.

The decision to remove or to discipline in some other way is made by the site administrator based on all the circumstances.

- D. The type and length of discipline is based on factors such as previous violations, severity of conduct, and other relevant educational concerns.
- E. When appropriate, students will be placed on remedial discipline plans.
- F. School personnel may use reasonable physical restraint, if necessary, to protect a person or property from physical injury or to remove a violent or disruptive student.
- G. If damage or loss of school property occurs, official report cards, diploma, and transcripts may be withheld until payment for the damage is received or the lost property is recovered.
- H. Parent Notification Related to Student Safety
 - 1. A parent/guardian will be notified by school personnel if the school is aware that a parent's/guardian's student has threatened to commit suicide.
 - 2. A parent/guardian will be notified by school personnel for each incident of bullying, cyber-bullying, harassment, hazing, or retaliation involving their student during school hours, on school property, or at school sponsored activities.
 - 3. A record of parent notification will be kept at the school on a confidential form separate from the My Student Tracker. This record will include the name of the student, the name of the parent/guardian contacted, date, and type of incident, and whether the student was the victim or perpetrator of the incident.
 - 4. This record will be kept private under GRAMA. The LEA will not use notification information for any other purpose.

III. Habitual Disruptive Behavior

A. Definitions

Qualifying minor means a school-age minor who is at least 9 years old or turns 9 years old at any time during the school year.

Disruptive behavior means behavior outlined in Sections II A, B, and C above.

B. Notice of Disruptive Student Behavior

- 1. A Notice of Disruptive Student Behavior may only be issued to a qualifying minor.
- 2. A Notice of Disruptive Student Behavior may only be issued by a school administrator or a designee.
- 3. A Notice of Disruptive Student Behavior shall be issued when the student has:
 - (a) engaged in disruptive behavior (that does not result in suspension or expulsion) 3 times during the school year; or

- (b) engaged in disruptive behavior that results in suspension or expulsion once during the school year.
- 4. A Notice of Disruptive Behavior requires that the student and parent meet with school authorities to discuss the disruptive behavior.
- 5. The student and/or parent may contest a Notice of Disruptive Student Behavior in the following manner:
 - (a) If the notice is written by an assistant administrator or other designee, the appeal is made to the principal;
 - (b) If the notice is written by the principal, the appeal is made to the district coordinator assigned to that school.
- 6. A school representative shall provide to the student's parent a list of resources available to assist the parent in resolving the student's disruptive behavior problem.
- 7. The school shall establish procedures for a school counselor or other designated school representative to work with a student in order to attempt to resolve the student's behavior problem before the student becomes subject to the jurisdiction of the Juvenile Court.

C. Habitual Disruptive Student Behavior Citation

- 1. The Habitual Disruptive Student Behavior Citation may only be issued to a student who has received a Notice of Disruptive Student Behavior and:
 - (a) engages in disruptive behavior (that does not result in suspension or expulsion) at least 6 times during the school year;
 - (b) engages in disruptive behavior that does not result in suspension or expulsion at least 3 times during the school year and engages in disruptive behavior that results in suspension or expulsion, at least once during the school year; or
 - (c) engages in disruptive behavior that results in suspension or expulsion, at least twice during the school year.
- 2. A Habitual Disruptive Student Behavior Citation may only be issued by a District Coordinator.
- 3. The citation shall be mailed by certified mail to, or served on, the parent of the student.
- 4. A student to whom a Habitual Disruptive Student Behavior Citation is issued shall be referred to the Juvenile Court.
- 5. Within five days after the citation is issued, a representative of the school district shall provide documentation to the parent and the court of the efforts made by a school counselor or representative.
- 6. The District Coordinator will cooperate with the Juvenile Court in providing other information as needed, including but not limited to attendance, grades, and behavioral reports.

IV. Searches

- A. School personnel may search students, lockers, personal property, and vehicles parked on school property based on reasonable suspicion.

- C. School personnel may also conduct random searches that might include all lockers and other school property.

V. Suspension and Expulsion Defined

- A. Suspension is disciplinary removal from school with an offer of educational services.
- B. Expulsion is a disciplinary removal from school by the School Board for more than 10 school days without an offer of alternative educational service.

VI. Readmission and Admission

- A. If a student is removed from school under II A, readmission depends upon satisfactory evidence that the student will not be a danger to self, others, or school property.
- B. If a student is removed from school under II B or C, the student may be readmitted after the parent/guardian meets with school officials to make a plan to correct the behavior(s) and after the student completes both the days of suspension and any conditions imposed.
- C. The district may deny admission to a student who has been expelled from any school in the last twelve months.

VII. Due Process

- A. If a student is removed from school or otherwise disciplined under this policy, the student has the right to meet with the site administrator to tell his/her side of the story.
- B. If the site administrator recommends removal for more than 10 school days, a Weber District Student Services Coordinator will hear the case at the school with the student, the parent or guardian, the site administrator, and others as necessary. This hearing will be held within 10 school days of removal from school.
- C. If a student is removed from school for more than 10 school days, an appeal of the decision may be made in writing to Weber District Student Services within 10 school days of the decision. The parent or guardian is responsible to plan and to pay for any educational services not provided by the district during the suspension.

VIII. School Management Procedures

Each school shall establish school management plans in writing which include the following:

- A. School-wide expectations related to student self-discipline, good citizenship, and social skills.
- B. Effective instructional practices for teaching the expectations.

- C. Systematic methods for reinforcement of expected behaviors and uniform methods for correction of student behavior.
- D. Procedures to help and protect victims of behavior outlined in Sections II A, B, or C above, may include parental involvement, referral to counseling, and other available programs and sharing information as permitted under federal and state law.
- E. Procedures for promptly reporting to law enforcement all behaviors as described in Section II A, B, and C above that constitute criminal activity.
- F. Procedures allowing for anonymous reporting. Formal disciplinary action is not permitted that is based solely on an anonymous report of bullying, hazing, or retaliation.
- G. Defining who is responsible for taking, investigating, and responding to reports of behavior violations as described in Section II A, B, or C above.
- H. Making this policy available to the students and parents in registration materials or sent home annually. The policy will also be posted on the Weber School District Web site.

IX. Staff Development and Evaluation

Each school shall develop an annual process of evaluation, including student assessment and ongoing staff development and training related to school classroom management plans and their efficiency and effectiveness as outlined in Section VIII above.

X. Training

Individual schools will provide training and strategies for students and staff in the following:

- Overt aggression. Overt aggression may include physical fighting such as punching, shoving, kicking, and verbal threatening behavior, such as name calling, or both physical and verbal aggression or threatening behavior.
- Relational aggression. Relational aggression may include indirect, covert, or social aggression, including rumor spreading, intimidation, enlisting a friend to assault a child, and social isolation.
- Sexual harassment. Prohibitions against bullying or hazing of a sexual nature or with sexual overtones.
- Cyberbullying. Cyberbullying may include use of email, web pages, text messaging, instant messaging, three-way calling or messaging or any other electronic means for aggression inside or outside of school.
- Intervention skills
- Social skills
- Adult supervision of students
- Bullying, hazing, and retaliation
- Provide for student assessment of the prevalence of bullying in school.

XI. Secondary Schools Extracurricular Programs (Athletics and Clubs)

- A. Through the district office, each new coach/advisor will participate in a bullying and hazing prevention training, with a refresher course every three (3) years.
- B. Each coach/advisor and student will sign the “Code of Conduct” form each year, which will prohibit bullying/hazing and give notice of consequences.
- C. The district will maintain a curriculum outline, schedule of teaching, and signatures of participants. Copies of this information will be provided to the Utah State Office of Education Law and Legislative Section upon request.
- D. Each school will develop a schedule to teach bullying and hazing prevention including the provisions of this policy to all students that participate in extracurricular activities (including clubs, groups, athletics, student government, cheerleading, and dance groups) with a notice of consequences. This will be taught at the beginning of each year.

XII. Students with Disabilities

If a student has a qualified disability, the site administrator will explain the separate procedures that may apply based on the procedural safeguards under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) or Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act.

TOBACCO POLICY

Weber School District shall be tobacco-free in order to promote the academic, emotional, social, and physical well-being of all students. The policy applies to all school grounds whether or not school is in session. Prohibitions also apply to school functions off school grounds. The policy prohibits possession or use of tobacco by students. The policy prohibits use of tobacco by employees and visitors.

ENFORCEMENT OF TOBACCO POLICY

Student Violations: Buying, attempting to buy or possessing cigars, cigarettes, or tobacco in any form by a person 18 years old or younger on school grounds or property. (UCA 76-10-105)

1. Tobacco products and paraphernalia will be confiscated.
2. Parent(s) or guardian(s) will be contacted by the school administrator.
3. Compliance officers (administrators and resource officers) may write a citation if a student buys, attempts to buy, or is in possession of tobacco on school property. Administrators may not write citations off school property, but may take disciplinary action.
4. Staff members may refer an offender to a school compliance officer, but only compliance officers may issue a citation.
5. The compliance officer will document the witness information and evidence.
6. Citations for students under 18 are written in the "Citations for Possession of Tobacco" booklet.
7. Citations for 18 year old students are written in the "Notice and Referral for Possession of Tobacco (18 Year Old Students Only)" booklet. Both booklets may be obtained from Weber School District Student Services.
8. The compliance officer should be prompt in sending citations to the appropriate court.
 For students under 18 – Second District Juvenile Court (444 – 26th St. Ogden, UT 84404)
 For students 18 years old and older – the appropriate city or county attorney (see inside front cover of booklet)
9. Parent(s) or guardian(s) should receive a copy of the citation.
10. Students in possession of paraphernalia will be dealt with according to the Safe Schools Policy and/or the Substance Abuse Policy.

Visitor Violations Under Age 19: Use of tobacco products on school property is prohibited.

Refer to steps 1 and 3-8 under "Enforcement of Tobacco Policy, Student Violations."

Visitor Violations Age 19 and Over: Use of tobacco products on school property is prohibited.

Any visitor found using tobacco products will be informed of the school's Tobacco Policy and asked by a school official to refrain from using tobacco products while on school property.

Any visitor who does not comply will be asked to leave. If a visitor refuses to leave, the police may be called.

Employee Violations: refer to the Weber School District “Drug Free Workplace Policy.”

ADVERTISING OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS

Advertising tobacco products is prohibited on school property, at school functions, and in school publications. This includes student clothing that advertises tobacco products. Sponsors of school events may not be used to promote tobacco use.

SALE, DELIVERY, TRANSFER OR DISTRIBUTION OF TOBACCO PRODUCTS

Neither tobacco in any form nor tobacco paraphernalia may be sold, delivered, transferred or distributed to anyone under the age of 19 on or in Weber School District property or at any school function off school property.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

The Tobacco Policy will be made available to all students, parents, and employees. Reminders that Weber School District is a tobacco-free zone will be given to the community at large. Teachers will be trained in tobacco prevention techniques. Students in grades K-12 will participate in tobacco prevention programs and activities. Families and community agencies will be invited to participate in tobacco prevention programs and activities. Cessation information will be available to all students, employees, and community members. Evaluation of the policy will take place at appropriate intervals and be conducted in a systematic way.

ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE POLICY

A. Self Referral

1. The district will pay for an assessment and recommendations at Weber Human Services. The parent/guardian may obtain an assessment and recommendations at another substance abuse treatment center at their own expense.
 - a. Parent/guardian and the student will sign a release of information form so that appropriate school officials may receive a copy of the assessment recommendations.
 - b. If appropriate, based on the recommendations, the parent and student will sign a drug and alcohol non-use contract.
 - c. If the parent and student agree to follow the assessment recommendations and District requirements, the student may continue in his/her current placement.

B. Reporting Suspicion of Student Drug and Alcohol Use to Parents/Guardian

1. Utah State Law (53A-11-401 through 404) requires the District to disclose suspected student drug and alcohol use to parents.
 - a. Teachers and other school personnel shall report their good faith suspicion to the administration. The reporting educators are immune from any liability, civil or criminal (Utah Code 53A-11-404), and their names must be kept confidential.
 - b. The administrator will obtain complete "Behavioral Assessment Forms" from the student's teachers. (See attached forms)
 - c. Parents or guardians will be notified of suspicion as soon as possible and a request for a parent conference will be made.
 - d. If teacher feedback on the "Behavioral Assessment Form" indicates a cluster of drug and alcohol use indicators, administrators are encouraged to highly recommend an assessment to the parent.
 - e. Administrators will complete and then have parent(s) sign the "Parental Notification of Suspected Substance Abuse" form (See attached forms) stating that the parents have reviewed the indicators with school officials. Students and parents who opt for an assessment will be considered self referrals.
 - f. The District will not be responsible for any financial action resulting from disclosure, assessment, treatment, or counseling. All payments for services or materials provided by anyone outside the Weber School District will be the responsibility of the parent or guardian.

C. Drug and Alcohol Policy Violations

1. Illegal use, possession, distribution, sale, or being under the influence of controlled substances or intoxicants, including alcohol, on school property or while engaged in or attending a school activity. See Sections 58-37-2, 58-37b-2 and 58-37a-3 of the Utah Code for definitions controlled substances and illegal paraphernalia.
2. Being present where prohibited substances are being openly used or possessed on school grounds or at school activities.

3. Use of any substance including inhalants and over the counter medications which are used for unintended purposes or in excess of recommended amounts.
 4. Use, possession, distribution or sale of an "imitation controlled substance" which by its appearance or by representations made, would lead a reasonable person to believe that the substance is prohibited.
 5. Use, possession, distribution or sale of drug paraphernalia on school property or while attending a school activity.
 6. Selling or distributing prohibited substances off campus so that it causes a serious direct and immediate effect on school functions or activities.
- D. Possession and Use Violations Procedures (Drugs and Alcohol)
1. Refer to law enforcement.
 2. The student is suspended by the school administrator for an appropriate time according to the Discipline Policy. Consult Special Education regarding special education students.
 3. Submit a Safe & Drug-free Schools incident report.
 4. Parent/guardian and student conference with administrator.
 - a. The student is referred to Weber Human Services for an assessment. (Parent/guardian may choose assessment and recommendations at another substance abuse treatment center at their own expense).
 - b. The parent/guardian and student will sign a release of information form so the school officials will receive a copy of the assessment recommendations.
 - c. Parent/guardian and student will sign a drug and alcohol non-use contract.
 - d. If the parent/guardian and student will participate in the assessment and follow the recommendations of the professionals based on an assessment, the student may be reinstated in school.
 5. The Weber School District will pay for participation in the Early Intervention Parent/Teen Alternative Program through Weber Human Services. All other intervention or treatment will be paid for by the parent/guardian.
 6. If the parent/guardian and student do not agree to follow the recommendations from the assessment, the student may be placed in an educational situation that the school principal determines to be best for both the student and the school. This educational placement will remain in force until the student is professionally assessed to be free from any drug/alcohol problems.

7. The second violation will require the student's participation in professional treatment at the family's expense. If the parent(s) refuses to involve the student in treatment, the student will be referred to Student Services with a recommendation of alternative educational placement.
8. The third violation will cause the student to be referred to Student Services with a recommendation of alternative placement, even if the student is in treatment.

E. Selling or Distributing Violations

Students selling or distributing prohibited substances on the school grounds or off campus so that it causes a serious direct and immediate effect on school functions or activities, will be suspended and referred to Student Services with a recommendation of alternative placement or expulsion.

STUDENT DRESS and GROOMING STANDARDS

PURPOSE & PHILOSOPHY

Weber District is committed to provide a safe, orderly, and positive environment conducive to teaching and learning.¹ The Board recognizes that dress and grooming affect the behavior of students, and that there are sanitation and safety factors directly related to proper dress and grooming.

DISTRICT:

STUDENT DRESS AND GROOMING MINIMUM STANDARDS

1. Weber District emphasizes the importance of school, parent, and student collaboration in encouraging students to come to school dressed appropriately for school work. School officials are empowered to prohibit the following at school and school activities:²
 - A. Inappropriately short, tight, revealing or otherwise disruptive appearance or attire
 - B. Clothing which displays obscene, vulgar, or lewd words, messages, or pictures; or which is otherwise plainly offensive
 - C. Clothing attachments or accessories which could be considered weapons, or considered otherwise disruptive or unsafe
 - D. Bare or stocking feet.
 - E. Any other grooming or dress that causes actual disruption or which creates a significant safety risk

2. “Safe Schools” refers to the belief that all students in the public schools have an opportunity to learn in an environment which is safe, conducive to the learning process, and free from unnecessary disruption.³ In 1994 the Utah Legislature recognized that the wearing of certain types of clothing identifies students as members of youth gangs and has contributed to disruptive behavior and violence in the public schools.⁴ While recognizing that gang styles and clothing continually evolve and change, school officials are empowered to prohibit the following at school and school activities:
 - A. Apparel or accessories with gang symbols, monikers, insignias, or other gang identifiers
 - B. Any apparel or style of clothing that school officials, in light of the totality of the circumstances, and after consultation with law enforcement authorities, view denoting gang membership or affiliation

¹District Mission Statement

²Tinker v. Des Moines Independent Community School District (1969)

³Weber School District Student Discipline (Safe School Policy)

⁴State Code 53A-15-602, 1994

SCHOOL:

STUDENT DRESS AND GROOMING STANDARDS

Weber District Dress and Grooming Standards Policy shall apply to all schools. This policy is established as a minimum standard with the expectation that school administrators will continue to review and update current school level policies based on collaboration with students, staff, and community. As new school level policies are established, the principal is responsible to review school dress standards policy with the appropriate district director to ensure compliance with federal, state, and local law as well as legal precedence and board policy.

Weber District believes that decisions are best made by those affected by the decision. Involvement of stakeholders (i.e. PTSA, community council, staff, students) in the management of schools can result in expanded thinking, increased ownership, satisfaction, and improved instructional programs.⁵

Students not in compliance with dress standard policy shall be guaranteed due process and shall be dealt with in a manner consistent with procedure outlined in the school and district student discipline and safe school policies

⁵Weber District School Management Policy

UNIFORM DRESS

Local school boards and public schools may adopt school dress codes requiring all students enrolled at a public school to wear a designated uniform during the school day in order to help avoid disruption of the classroom atmosphere and decorum and prevent disturbances.⁶ Weber District policy does not officially encourage or discourage school uniforms. Should a school decide to pursue school uniforms, the principal and the appropriate director and supervisor shall coordinate the school level work with the district superintendency and the school board. The following steps shall be included in the process of adopting a school uniform policy:

1. A school principal shall establish a community council (adopting authority) to assist in developing a school uniform policy.
2. The school adopting authority shall involve school staff and the community during the policy development process. It is the responsibility of the adopting authority to ensure that the school uniform policy is in compliance with state code (copy of current state code attached) and all related district policies.
3. School uniforms shall be of a general nature, which consist of clothing commonly found in a student's home. Adoption of such uniforms shall not result in unreasonable financial burden on families and will not require school officials to purchase uniforms for students under the current state fee waiver policy. Should the school adopting authority choose to adopt a more restrictive dress code the adopting school shall be responsible for all costs incurred.
4. The adopting authority shall hold a public hearing to present the proposed uniform dress policy under consideration and to provide a forum for public input.
5. Prior to conducting a vote, a school shall submit their school uniform dress policy for school board review to insure it complies with all legal requirements and district related policies.
6. A majority, defined as 50% plus 1, of the qualified households casting a ballot must vote in favor of a school uniform dress code in order for a uniform policy to be implemented.
7. Although the adopting authority is responsible to establish the manner and time of the vote, a final vote shall be completed at least four months prior to the date of the proposed school uniform policy implementation. All parents/guardians who will have children in the school the year the school uniform policy may be implemented are eligible to vote. Each household qualified to vote will have one vote.
8. A school that adopts a uniform policy is responsible for communicating to parents/guardians the specific requirements of the school uniform policy. When a school uniform policy is optional, students choosing not to participate shall adhere to established school dress standards.

⁶State Code 53A-15-602, 1994

SCHOOL SEARCH AND SEIZURE

PURPOSE

To maintain order and discipline in the schools and to protect the safety and welfare of students and personnel, school authorities may search a student, student lockers or student automobiles under the circumstances outlined below and may seize illegal, unauthorized, or contraband materials discovered in the search.

APPLICATION OF POLICY

Students are entitled to the guarantees of the Fourth Amendment, and they are subject to reasonable searches and seizures. School officials are empowered to conduct reasonable searches of students and student property when there is reasonable suspicion to believe that students may be in possession of drugs, weapons, stolen items, alcohol and other materials (“contraband”) in violation of school policy or state laws. Students who bring contraband on to school grounds may be searched in order to secure the school environment so learning can take place and to protect other students from any potentially harmful effects stemming from the contraband. School property shall remain under the control of school officials, and shall be subject to random search. The administration may randomly use dogs and metal detectors to conduct searches.

A student’s failure to permit searches and seizures as provided in this policy will be considered grounds for disciplinary action.

PERSONAL SEARCHES

A student’s person and/or personal effects (e.g., purse, book bag, etc.) may be searched whenever a school authority has reasonable suspicion to believe that the student is in possession of illegal or unauthorized materials. School officials may require a student to remove items from pockets and other personal effects. An administrator may ask a student to remove hats, coats, jackets, shoes and socks so those items can be inspected.

If safety requires a pat down of a student, the search will be conducted in a private room by a person of the same gender as the student being searched and witnessed by one other person. Any search more intrusive than a pat down must be conducted by a law enforcement officer.

PROPERTY

Student lockers, desks and other such property are owned by the school. The school exercises exclusive control over school property and students should not expect privacy regarding items placed in school property because school property is subject to search at any time by school officials. Students are responsible for whatever is contained in desks and lockers issued to them by the school. Periodic general inspections of lockers may be conducted by school authorities for any reason at any time without notice and without student consent.

AUTOMOBILE SEARCHES

Students are permitted to park on school premises as a matter of privilege, not of right. The school retains authority to conduct routine patrols of student parking lots and inspections of the exteriors of student automobile on school property. The interiors of student vehicles may be inspected whenever a school authority has reasonable suspicion. Such patrols and inspections may be conducted without notice and without student consent.

PHYSICAL RESTRAINT OR CORPORAL PUNISHMENT OF STUDENTS

A school employee may not inflict or cause the infliction of corporal punishment upon a child who is receiving services from the school. However, school personnel may use reasonable and necessary physical restraint or force if necessary in any of the following five circumstances:

1. for self defense
2. to obtain possession of a weapon or other dangerous object in the possession or under the control of a child;
3. to protect the child or another person from physical injury;
4. to remove from a situation a child who is violent or disruptive; or
5. to protect property from being damaged