

Section 8000 – Students

8130 Searches of Motorized Vehicles, Lockers, Electronic Devices, and Students 8130

Searches of lockers, motorized vehicles, electronic devices, and students shall be conducted under the appropriate legal standard, to maintain the safety and security of students, teachers, guests, and school property.

Lockers

All lockers assigned to pupils are the property of the school District. At no time does the school district relinquish its exclusive control of its lockers. As such, students have no legitimate expectation of privacy in the lockers. The school Principal shall have custody of all combinations to all lockers and locks. Pupils are prohibited from placing locks on any locker without the prior approval of the Principal.

The school may assign temporary use of lockers to students for their convenience and the lockers may be used only as permitted by the rules developed by the Superintendent. The Board authorizes the Principal to search lockers and locker contents at any time, without notice, and without parent(s)/guardian(s) or pupil consent. Random searches may be conducted pursuant to a method and/or schedule approved by the Superintendent.

The Principal may request the assistance of law enforcement in conducting a locker search pursuant to state statute. If law enforcement is summoned, the Principal or other person in charge at the time shall supervise the search. In conducting a search, the privacy rights of the student regarding any items discovered that are neither illegal nor against school policy and rules, shall be respected.

Any illegal or unauthorized items found during a locker search or items deemed to be a threat to the safety and security of others will be seized. Such items include, but are not limited to:

- Firearms,
- Explosives,
- Dangerous weapons,
- Flammable material,
- Illegal controlled substances or controlled substances analogues or other intoxicants,
- Contraband,

Section 8000 – Students

8130 Searches of Motorized Vehicles, Lockers, Electronic Devices, and Students 8130-2

- Poisons, and/or
- Stolen property.

Law enforcement authorities shall be notified immediately of seizure of such items, or of items that must be reported to law enforcement under the Statewide School Safety Information Policy. The items seized will be turned over to law enforcement. The parent(s)/guardian(s) of a minor student or a student 18 years of age or older, shall be notified by the Principal of items removed from the locker. A copy of this policy and accompanying administrative rules regarding locker searches shall be provided annually to each pupil and parent(s)/guardian(s) of the pupil assigned a school locker.

Motorized Vehicles

Student use of a motorized vehicle on school property is a privilege. Motorized vehicles brought onto school property by students are subject to search by the Principal, without notice or consent, if the Principal reasonably suspects that the contents of the motorized vehicle may present a threat or potential threat to the health, safety, or welfare of other students, staff, or to the school in general.

In the case of a locked motor vehicle, every effort will be made to have the vehicle unlocked by the student before proceeding with the search. Students refusing to cooperate in allowing a search of a vehicle brought by them onto school property shall be subject to disciplinary action up to and including revocation of driving privileges on school property and/or long-term suspension or expulsion.

Students

Upon reasonable suspicion, and in order to protect the health, safety, or welfare of the students under school jurisdiction, the Principal is authorized to search students. All searches shall be carried out in the presence of an adult witness.

Electronic Devices

Student use of electronic devices on school property is a privilege and subject to the policy and procedure set out in the Student Handbook and relevant Board policy.

Students have no legitimate expectation of privacy in any District-owned electronic device or any electronic communication from said device. At no time does the District relinquish its rights in its electronic devices. The Board authorizes the Principal to search District-owned electronic devices and their contents at any time, without notice, and without

Section 8000 – Students

8130 Searches of Motorized Vehicles, Lockers, Electronic Devices, and Students 8130-3 parent(s)/guardian(s) or pupil consent. Random searches may be conducted pursuant to a method and/or schedule approved by the Superintendent.

Electronic devices brought onto school property by students are subject to search by the Principal or his/her designee if the Principal reasonably suspects that the electronic device's contents may present a threat or potential threat to the health, safety, or welfare of students, staff, or to the school in general. Additionally, the Principal may search an electronic device in their possession if they reasonably suspect that the search is required to discover evidence of a violation of school policy or state or federal law.

Pursuant to the Michigan Internet Privacy Protection Act ("IPPA") MCL 37.271 *et seq.*, the District shall not ask for access to or any information regarding a student's or prospective student's personal internet account. The District shall not discipline any student or prospective student in any way for refusing access to or refusing to give any information regarding a personal internet account. This does not apply to District-owned devices or District-provided accounts.

Strip Searches

No strip searches shall be conducted by school authorities. Nothing in this policy will prevent GRPS personnel from requesting students remove hats, coats, gloves, scarves or other outerwear when reasonable.

Law Enforcement Searches

School officials shall cooperate with law enforcement officers who seek to execute a search warrant. Where law enforcement officers desire to search without a warrant, school officials should request that the circumstances be explained, and should normally not assist, unless a clear emergency exists.

Approved: June 29, 2009

Revised: February 21, 2022

LEGAL REF: MCL 380.1306, 380.1308(5), Statewide School Safety Information Policy, *New Jersey v. T.L.O.*, 469 U.S. 325 (1985)