

# BETHEL PARK SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: SEARCHES

ADOPTED: NOVEMBER 20, 2007

REVISED: AUGUST 7, 2007

<p>1. Purpose</p> <p>2. Authority SC 510</p> <p>Title 22 Sec. 12.14</p> <p>3. Delegation of Responsibility</p> <p>Pol. 225</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">226. SEARCHES</p> <p>The Board acknowledges the need for safe storage of books, clothing, school materials and personal property and may provide lockers, desks, cubicles, or any other space for storage of students' personal possessions.</p> <p>It shall be the policy of the Board that all lockers, desks, cubicles, or any other space for storage of students' personal possessions are and shall remain the property of the school district. As such, students shall have only a limited expectation of privacy in these spaces. Any and all property owned by the Bethel Park School District shall be subjected to searches.</p> <p>No student may use a locker , desks, cubicles, or any other space for storage of students' personal possessions as a depository for a substance or object that is prohibited by law, Board policy, district rules, or constitutes a threat to the health, safety or welfare of the occupants of the school building or the building itself.</p> <p>The Board reserves the right to authorize its employees to inspect students' lockers, desks, cubicles, or any other space for storage of students' personal possessions at any time, for the purpose of determining whether the locker is being used improperly for the storage of contraband, a substance or object the possession of which is prohibited, illegal, or any material that poses a hazard to the safety and order of the schools.</p> <p>The Board authorizes the administration to conduct random general searches of lockers.</p> <p>The Superintendent or designee shall develop procedures to implement this policy.</p> <p>The principal or designee shall be present whenever a student locker is inspected.</p> <p>The principal shall open a student's locker for inspection on the request of a law enforcement officer only on presentation of a duly authorized search warrant or on the voluntary consent of the student.</p>
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<p>4. Guidelines</p> <p>Title 22 Sec. 12.14</p>	<p>The principal or designee shall be responsible for the safekeeping and proper disposal of any substance, object or material found in a student's locker in violation of law, Board policy or school rules.</p> <p>The principal shall be responsible for promptly recording in writing each locker inspection; such record shall include the reason(s) for the search, persons present, objects found and their disposition.</p> <p>School officials are authorized to search a student's personal possessions or vehicle parked on school property when there is reasonable suspicion that the student is violating law, Board policy, or school rules, or poses a threat to the health, safety or welfare of the school population.</p> <p>Students shall assume responsibility for maintaining the security of their lockers.</p> <p>Prior to an individual locker search, the student shall be notified and be given an opportunity to be present. However, when school authorities have a reasonable suspicion that a locker contains materials which pose a threat to the health, welfare or safety of the school population, student lockers may be searched without prior warning.</p> <p>Searches conducted by the administration may include but not be limited to utilization of certified drug dogs, metal detection units, or any device used to protect the health, safety and welfare of the school population.</p> <p>There shall be no strip searches performed at any time by school officials.</p> <p>References:</p> <p>School Code – 24 P.S. Sec. 510</p> <p>State Board of Education Regulations – 22 PA Code Sec. 12.14</p> <p>Board Policy – 225</p>
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