



# Michigan Online School

## Search and Seizure Policy

The Board recognizes that the privacy of students or his/her belongings may not be violated by unreasonable search and seizure and directs that no student be searched without reasonable suspicion or in an unreasonable manner. The extent of the search will be governed by the seriousness of the alleged infraction, the student's age and the student's disciplinary history.

This authorization to search shall also apply to all situations in which the student is under the jurisdiction of the Board.

Reasonable suspicion that a communication device has been used to violate District policies or administrative guidelines may result in the communication device being confiscated for search which may lead to disciplinary action of the student.

Administrators are authorized to arrange for a breath-test instrument, according to the Superintendent's guidelines, for the purpose of determining if a student has consumed an alcoholic beverage.

Except as provided below, a request for the search of a student or a student's possessions will be directed to the Principal. S/He shall attempt to obtain the freely-offered consent of the student to the inspection; however, provided there is reasonable suspicion, s/he may conduct the search without such consent. Whenever possible, a search will be conducted by the Principal in the presence of the student and a District employee other than the Principal. A search prompted by the reasonable belief that health and safety are immediately threatened will be conducted with as much speed and dispatch as may be required to protect persons and property.

Search of a student's person or intimate personal belongings shall be conducted by a person of the student's gender, in the presence of a District employee of the same gender and only in exceptional circumstances when the health or safety of the student or of others is immediately threatened.

The Principal shall be responsible for the prompt recording in writing of each student search, including the reasons for the search; information received that established the need for the search and the name of informant, if any; the persons present when the search was conducted; any substances or objects found and the disposition made of

them; and any subsequent action taken. The Principal shall be responsible for the custody, control and disposition of any illegal or dangerous substance or object taken from a student.

Any illegal or unauthorized items found during a 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
- Poisons
- 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 student.

A copy of this policy shall be provided annually to each pupil and parent(s)/guardian(s) of the pupil.