

STUDENT PERSONNEL

Series 500

POLICY TITLE SEARCH AND SEIZURE

No. 502.8

School district property is held in public trust by the board. School district authorities may, without a search warrant, search students and/or protected student areas based on reasonable and articulable suspicion that a school district policy, rule, regulation or law has been violated. The search shall be reasonably related to the objectives of the search and reasonable in scope to maintain order and discipline in the schools, promote the educational environment, and protect the safety and welfare of students, employees and visitors to school district facilities. The furnishing of a locker, desk or other facility or space owned by the school and provided as a courtesy to a student, even if the student provides the lock for it, shall not create a protected student area and shall not give rise to an expectation of privacy with respect to the locker, desk, or other facility.

School authorities may seize any illegal, unauthorized or contraband materials discovered in the search. Items of contraband may include, but are not limited to, nonprescription controlled substances, marijuana, cocaine, amphetamines, barbiturates, apparatus used for controlled substances, alcoholic beverages, tobacco/nicotine, vaping devices, weapons, explosives, poisons, pornography and stolen property. Such items are not to be possessed by a student while they are on school district property or on property within the jurisdiction of the school district, while on school owned and/or operated school or chartered buses; while attending or engaged in school activities; and while away from school grounds if misconduct will directly affect the good order, efficient management and welfare of the school district. Possession of such items will be grounds for disciplinary action up to and including suspension or expulsion and may be reported to local law enforcement officials.

The board believes that illegal, unauthorized or contraband materials causes material and substantial disruption to the school environment, presents a threat to the health and safety of students, employees, or visitors on the school district premises, property within the jurisdiction of the school district, school-related activities, and adversely affects the orderly and efficient management and welfare of the District.

It shall be the responsibility of the superintendent/designee, in conjunction with the principals, to develop administrative regulations regarding this policy.

Legal Reference: U.S. Const. amend. IV.
New Jersey v. T.L.O., 469 U.S. 325 (1985).
Cason v. Cook, 810 F.2d 188 (8th Cir. 1987), *cert. den.*, 482 U.S. 930 (1987).
Iowa Code ch. 808A.
281 I.A.C. 12.3(6).

Cross Reference: 502 Student Rights and Responsibilities
503 Student Discipline
905.2 Tobacco/Nicotine-Free Environment

Date Approved: August 28, 1995

Last Date Reviewed: April 25, 2022

Last Date Revised: April 25, 2022