

STUDENT RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES  
INTERROGATIONS AND SEARCHES

FNF  
(LOCAL)

The Board is committed to providing students and employees with schools and work places that are free of drugs and weapons. To that end, the Board prohibits the presence of drugs, controlled substances, weapons of any type, explosive devices, alcohol, or any other intoxicant (as those terms are defined by state or federal law or District policy) on District property or at any District-sponsored event. This prohibition applies to students, patrons, visitors, and any other person. [See FNCF and FNCG(LEGAL) and (LOCAL)]

**Interrogations**

By School Officials

Administrators, teachers, and other professional personnel may question a student regarding the student's own conduct or the conduct of other students. In the context of school discipline, students have no claim to the right not to incriminate themselves.

By Police or Other  
Authorities

For provisions pertaining to student questioning by law enforcement officials or other lawful authorities, see GRA(LOCAL).

**Searches in General**

School officials may conduct searches of students, their belongings, and their vehicles in accordance with federal and state law and District policy. School officials may initiate a search based on reasonable suspicion, voluntary consent, as part of security screening at Special Programs campuses, and pursuant to District policy providing for random, suspicion-less searches for weapons using metal detectors (magnetometers).

A student who fails to comply with instructions or directives by a school official conducting a search shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

**Lockers, Vehicles,  
and Desks**

All persons are responsible for the security of any vehicle, locker, desk, bag, or other item they own, possess, or bring onto District property or to a District-sponsored event. No person shall own, possess, place, keep, or maintain any article or material that is prohibited by law or District policy in items, lockers, vehicles, desks, or bags assigned to them or under their control while on District property or at a District-sponsored event.

If a vehicle subject to search is locked, the student shall be asked to unlock the vehicle. If the student refuses, the District shall contact the student's parents. If the parents also refuse to permit the vehicle to be searched, the District may contact local law enforcement officials and turn the matter over to them.

**Use of Trained Dogs**

In an effort to keep the work place and schools free of drugs and weapons, the District shall use specially trained dogs to detect the presence of substances prohibited by law or District policy. These inspections shall be unannounced and will be made at the discretion of the District.

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The dog shall not sniff the person of a student, employee, patron, visitor, or anyone else while on District property or at any District event, including demonstrations. [See also DH(LOCAL) and GKA (LOCAL)]

The dog's official handler or designee shall determine what constitutes a detection or alert by the dog.

If a detection or an alert is made by the dog, the person having ownership of, possession of, or control over that property or location will be requested to witness the search. All searches shall be made in compliance with District policy and applicable law. [See FNF preceding]

In the event the dog detects or alerts on a locked vehicle or other item, the owner or person bringing it onto District property shall be asked to open it for inspection. Refusal to open the vehicle or other item for inspection may result in referring the matter to law enforcement officials; disciplinary action including, but not limited to, suspension or expulsion for students; and loss of parking privileges on District property. Visitors or patrons may be banned from District property.

Discovery of a prohibited substance may result in referral to law enforcement or disciplinary action in keeping with District policy for students. [See FNCF(LEGAL)]

**Security Screening  
Procedures at  
Special Programs  
Campuses**

In accordance with state and federal law, each student attending a special programs campus shall be screened by school staff upon arrival at school each day. [See FNF(LEGAL)]

For students in grade 6 and above, screening may include the use of a walkthrough and/or handheld metal detector, and/or inspection of bags and personal items, and may include restrictions on types of personal property that may be brought into the school.

A student who fails to comply with instructions or directives, or who activates the metal detector after being asked to remove any metal object from his or her person, shall be escorted to a private area for an additional search as provided by law. [See FNF(LEGAL)] If any prohibited items are found, or if the student refuses to comply with reasonable requests from District administration, the student shall be subject to additional disciplinary consequences under the Student Code of Conduct and/or under state and federal law.

Parents and students shall be informed of the specific security screening requirements and procedures prior to or on the student's first day at a special programs campus.

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Any search conducted with a walkthrough and/or handheld metal detector shall be conducted uniformly and equitably, minimizing interference with the educational process and avoiding the appearance that a particular student or group of students is either being favored or targeted by the metal detector search.

**Use of Metal  
Detectors  
(Magnetometers)**

Both walk-through and handheld metal detectors may be used to conduct searches as permitted by District policy.

**Random Metal  
Detector Searches**

In order to prevent and deter students from bringing weapons to school, students at all secondary campuses shall be subject to random, suspicion-less, administrative searches for weapons. Such random searches shall be for weapons that violate the Student Code of Conduct and/or state and federal law. District officials shall not select a particular student to search except as authorized in FNF(LEGAL).

Random searches of students conducted under this policy shall be limited to the use of metal detectors and inspection of bags/personal items capable of concealing a weapon. A student who fails to comply with instructions or directives, or who activates the metal detector after being asked to remove any metal object from his or her person shall be escorted to a private area for additional search as provided by law. [See FNF(LEGAL)]

School resource officers (SROs) or other peace officers shall not directly participate in random, suspicion-less searches of students unless permitted or required by law or as otherwise deemed appropriate.

To ensure that random metal detector searches are conducted uniformly and equitably, school administrators shall:

1. Minimize inconvenience to students and interference with the educational process;
2. Maximize detection and deterrent value by regularly searching significant numbers of students;
3. Ensure that patterns are not established that would allow students to avoid searches by predicting the time and location of a search; and
4. Avoid the appearance that a particular student or group of students is either being favored or targeted by adopting processes in advance of the search that leaves the operator of the metal detector(s) a minimum of discretion.

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**Notice**

Students shall be informed of the District's policy on searches at the beginning of the school year and shall be specifically notified that:

1. Lockers may be sniffed by trained dogs at any time.
2. Vehicles parked on school property may be sniffed by trained dogs at any time.
3. Students may be asked to leave a classroom or common area, leaving property in their possession at the time in the classroom or common area. Trained dogs may then sniff the classroom or common area and any student property remaining in the classroom or common area.
4. Classrooms and other common areas may be sniffed by trained dogs at any time students are not present.
5. If drugs, controlled substances, weapons of any type, explosive devices, alcohol, or any other intoxicant (as those terms are defined by state or federal law or District policy) are found, the student shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.
6. Students assigned to special programs campuses may be subject to additional screening and/or metal detector searches.
7. Students attending secondary campuses are subject to metal detector searches on a random basis in accordance with District policy.
8. Students who refuse to comply with instructions or directives by a school official conducting a search shall be subject to appropriate disciplinary action in accordance with the Student Code of Conduct.

**Parent Notification**

The student's parent or guardian shall be notified if any prohibited articles or materials are found in a student's locker, in a student's vehicle parked on school property, or on the student's person, as a result of a search conducted in accordance with this policy.