

FAIRVIEW SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: SEARCHES

ADOPTED: June 20, 1994

REVISED: December 18, 2006

226. SEARCHES	
1. Purpose	The Board acknowledges the need for safe in-school storage of books, clothing, school materials and other personal property and may provide lockers and cabinets for such storage.
2. Authority SC 510	All lockers are and shall remain the property of the school district. As such, students shall have only a limited expectation of privacy in their lockers. Students are encouraged to keep their assigned lockers or cabinets closed and locked against incursion by other students; but no student may use a locker as a depository for a substance or object which is prohibited by law or district regulations or which constitutes a threat to health, safety or welfare of the occupants of the school building or the building itself.
Title 22 Sec. 12.14	School authorities may search a student's locker at any time, based on reasonable suspicion, and seize any illegal materials. The purpose of such a search is to determine whether the locker is being used improperly for the storage of contraband, a substance or object the possession of which is illegal, or any material that poses a threat to the health, welfare or safety of the school population. Such materials, if found, may be used as evidence against the student in disciplinary, juvenile, or criminal proceedings. When a student's locker is being searched, the student shall be notified and given an opportunity to be present. School authorities may search the student's locker without prior warning in seeking contraband, because, standing in loco parentis, school authorities are charged with the safety of all student under their care and supervision. Such a search is not an "illegal" search under the Fourth Amendment to the Federal Constitution, but a reasonable exercise of Board power in the interests of the health, welfare, and safety of all school students.
3. Delegation of Responsibility	The Board authorizes the administration to conduct random general searches of lockers when the district has a compelling interest in protecting and preserving the health, safety or welfare of the school population.

<p>Title 22 Sec. 12.14</p>	<p>Students, parents/guardians and staff shall be notified at least annually, or more often if deemed appropriate by administration, concerning the contents of this policy and district procedures.</p>
<p>AP 226</p>	<p>The Superintendent shall develop procedures to implement this policy.</p>
<p>Pol. 225</p>	<p>The principal or designee shall be present whenever a student locker is inspected based on reasonable suspicion.</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 intelligent and voluntary consent of the student.</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>The principal 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>School officials are authorized to search a student's personal possessions or motor 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>4. Guidelines</p>	<p>Students shall assume responsibility for maintaining the security of their lockers.</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>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, AP 226</p>