

COUNCIL ROCK SCHOOL DISTRICT

SECTION: PUPILS

TITLE: INSPECTION AND/OR SEARCHES

ADOPTED: February 21, 2002

REVISED: November 16, 2006

218.12. INSPECTION AND/OR SEARCHES	
1. Purpose	<p>The Council Rock School District strives to maintain schools free of drugs, alcohol and weapons, including explosive devices. The Board acknowledges the need for safe in-school storage of school materials and personal property and may provide lockers for such storage. The Board further recognizes that the storage of weapons, drugs, alcohol, or other illegal or unsanitary materials in lockers constitutes a health, safety, and welfare concern to the school community. The Board directs, therefore, that students be placed on notice that their lockers may be searched by officers, agents, and employees of the district and illegal, dangerous, or unsanitary materials shall be seized and may be used as evidence against the student in disciplinary and other proceedings. All students are responsible for the security of any vehicle, locker, desk, bag, or other item they possess or bring onto district property or to any district-sponsored event.</p>
2. Definitions	<p>District property includes all buildings, fields, facilities, fixtures, parking lots, lockers, and vehicles owned or leased by the district. District-sponsored events include any event sponsored by the district even when that event is not held on district property.</p> <p>Contraband includes drugs, alcohol, weapons, or other materials, sold, used, distributed and/or possessed by a student in violation of federal or state law or school policy.</p>
3. Authority	<p>It is the policy of this Board that no student shall possess, control or have under his/her dominion any article, item, or material that is prohibited by law or Board policy in, on, or at district property or at district-sponsored events. Students must keep assigned lockers closed and locked against incursion by other students.</p> <p>All contraband found during searches by school officials will be seized and used as evidence against the student in disciplinary proceedings. In addition, illegal material confiscated will be turned over immediately to the appropriate law enforcement agency for further investigation and for the institution of possible juvenile or criminal proceedings.</p>

<p>Title 22 Sec. 12.14</p> <p>4. Guidelines</p>	<p>Students shall be notified through student handbooks, assemblies, postings on the school and district web site, at least annually or more often if deemed appropriate by administration, concerning the contents of this policy.</p> <p>Administrators have the right to search a student's locker at any time, upon reasonable suspicion, for the purpose of determining whether the locker is being improperly used for the storage of contraband, a substance or object the possession of which is illegal or in violation of Board policy, or any material that poses a hazard to the safety and good order of the schools.</p> <p>Prior to a locker search, the student shall be notified and given an opportunity to be present. However, where administrators have a reasonable suspicion that the locker contains materials that pose a threat to the health, safety or welfare of students in the school, a school locker may be searched without prior warning.</p> <p>The Board further authorizes the use of canine sniff detection through an independent contractor of the district or other detection devices for lockers and motor vehicles to identify areas that should be opened to be searched.</p> <p>When based on reasonable suspicion, a specifically targeted search of a student or a student's personal possessions, including a vehicle parked on school property, purse, pockets, clothing, or any other personal items, may be conducted.</p> <p>Consistent with the random sniff detection authorized above, a dog's alert, as determined by the dog's handler, constitutes reasonable suspicion. If the dog's alert points to a particular item or place, an attempt will be made to notify the student responsible for that item or place and be given the opportunity to be present, when practical, at the time of the search.</p> <p>In the event that the dog's alert is pointed to a student's personal possession including a vehicle, the student shall be asked to open the personal possession or the vehicle for a search. Refusal to open any item, including a vehicle, may result in referral of the matter to appropriate law enforcement officials and/or disciplinary action including but not limited to loss of parking privileges on school property, suspension, or expulsion.</p> <p>Students and their parents/guardians shall be advised of this policy at the beginning of each school year through inclusion in all student handbooks, student assemblies and posting on the school and district web site.</p>
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