STUDENTS 5145.12

SEARCH AND SEIZURE

The Board of Trustees recognizes that incidents may occur which jeopardize the health, safety and welfare of students and staff and which necessitate the search and seizure of students, their property, or their lockers by school officials.

School officials may search individual students and their property when there is a reasonable suspicion that the search will uncover evidence that the student is violating the law or the rules of the district or the school. The Board urges that discretion, good judgment and common sense be exercised in all cases of search and seizure.

STUDENT LOCKERS

Because lockers are under the joint control of the student and the district, school officials shall have the right and ability to open and inspect any school locker without student permission when they have reasonable suspicion that the search will disclose evidence of illegal possessions or activity or when odors, smoke, fire and/or other threats to student health, welfare or safety emanate from the locker.

USE OF TRAINED DOGS

In an effort to keep the school free of illegal substances, the district may use specially trained non-aggressive dogs to sniff out and alert staff to the presence of substances prohibited by law or district policy.

The Superintendent shall develop an administrative regulations to implement the Board policy.

LEGAL REFERENCE

CALIFORNIA EDUCATION CODE

35160 Authority of governing boards 35160.1 Broad authority of school districts

35294-35294.5 School safety plans

49050-49051 Searches by school employees

49330-49334 Injurious objects

PENAL CODE

626.9 Firearms

626.10 Dirks, daggers, knives or razor; bringing into possession of upon or within public school

ground; exception

75 Ops.Cal.Atty.Gen. 155 (1992)

New Jersey v. T.L.O. (1985) 469 U.S. 325

Zamora v. Pomeroy (10th Cir. 1981) 639 F.2d 662

Horton v. Goose Creek Independent School District (5th Cir. 1982) 690 F.2nd 470

O'Connor v. Ortega (1987) 107 S.Ct. 1492