



Policy: 6.21

SUBJECT: **GENERAL STUDENT SECURITY SEARCH GUIDELINES**
(POLICY ON DISCIPLINE AND STUDENT RIGHTS)

Supersedes: JFC-R(f)
Effective: September 8, 2008
Page: 1 of 3
Approved by: Detroit Board of Education

1.0 Policy

All students entering a Detroit public school building are subject to being searched. If a student decides not to enter a school building or, upon entering, refuses to be searched and leaves, said student will be subject to disciplinary action as stated in the Policy on Discipline and Student Rights.

Student searches are conducted under the supervision of the school principal and are implemented by Detroit Public Safety, school administrative staff and teachers.

In conducting the security search, all students are to be treated with respect and dignity consistent with their constitutional rights.

Whenever there is an indication that a more thorough search of a particular student is in order (e.g., as in the instance of a student triggering a metal detect alarm), male students will be searched by male school security officers and female students will be searched by female school security officers. At no time will students be disrobed in the search other than their being asked to remove an outer garment, such as an overcoat or jacket. The search will not require contact by hand from the security officer.

Anyone found to have a gun or other dangerous weapon, as defined in the Student Code, will be subject to disciplinary action. Also, students found to have possession of a gun or other dangerous weapon will be turned over to a Detroit police officer, as in all other instances where students are involved in criminal conduct.

School Principal and Administrative Staff will:

- Provide parents with a copy of the Security Search Guidelines and conduct an orientation for parents and community persons during the school year.
- Provide an orientation for students and staff relative to the Detroit Public Schools Student Discipline and Security Search Policies and Guidelines.

- Supervise, coordinate and monitor students, school staff, and school security staff during the Security Search.
- Develop and maintain a Security Search plan which contains the physical layout of the Security Search, key staff member responsibilities and assignments, and the Security Search communication system.
- Coordinate with the Detroit police officers and Detroit Public Schools security prior to the Security Search to confirm plans and procedures.
- Supervise and coordinate the notification via telephone/letters of parents of students in violation of the Detroit Board of Education Student Discipline and Attendance Policies.
- Conduct parent conferences to determine disciplinary action as required for student violations of the Detroit Board of Education Student Discipline and Attendance Policies.
- Write summary reports and recommendations relative to the Security searches.
- Provide supervision and monitoring of the student detention room.

Teachers will:

- Conduct regular classroom activities (i.e., teaching lesson, taking attendance, etc.)
- Provide support for students who may be experiencing anxiety as a result of the student search procedures.

2.0 Summary of a School Security Search

All students enter the building through one designated door. Females and males are separated in single lines to pass through the metal detector(s). Detroit Public Schools security officers operated the equipment and determine if the student is free from guns and other dangerous weapons. Students found without guns or other dangerous weapons continue directly to their classrooms.

Any student who is unable to pass successfully through the metal detector must proceed to an adjacent classroom where Detroit Public Safety will search the student and his/her property for guns and other illegal weapons. Students found to be in possession of a gun or other dangerous weapons are escorted to a room adjacent to the property search room where a Detroit Public Safety officer will initiate the necessary procedures for the arrest of that student. School administrators monitor the activities in these rooms and process all students within the guidelines and established by the Detroit Board of Education Student Discipline and Attendance Policies.

Attachments to Policy 6.21: None

See also: None

Legal References: MCLA § 380.1308

Labor Contract References: None