

Interrogations and Searches

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Searches by Staff

The rights of inspection of students' school lockers is inherent in the authority granted school boards and administrators. This authority may be exercised as needed in the interest of safeguarding children, their own and school property.

Nevertheless, exercise of that authority by school officials places unusual demands upon their judgment so as to protect each child's constitutional rights to personal privacy and protection from coercion and to act in the best interest of all students and the schools.

Searches by school officials of students' lockers or of the person of the student shall be conducted so as to protect the student's rights consistent with the responsibility of the school district to provide an atmosphere conducive to the educational process.

Interrogations by Police

The school district has legal custody of students during the school day and during hours of approved extracurricular activities. It is the responsibility of the school administration to make an effort to protect each student's rights with respect to interrogations by law enforcement officials.

Therefore:

1. When law enforcement officials find it necessary to question students during the school day or periods of extracurricular activities the school principal or his designee shall be present when possible. An effort shall be made to contact the parent or other adult having custody of the child so that the responsible individual may be notified of the situation.
2. If custody or arrest is involved, the principal shall request that all procedural safeguards, as prescribed by law, will be observed by the law enforcement officials.