

Students

Administrative Procedure - Use of Metal Detectors for Student Safety

1. Metal detectors may be used when the administration in any school has reasonable suspicion that weapons or dangerous objects are in the possession of unidentified students; when there is a pattern of weapons or dangerous objects found at school, on school property, at a school function, or in the vicinity of a school; or when violence involving weapons has occurred at a school or on school property, at school functions, or in a school's vicinity. The Building Principal shall obtain the Superintendent's permission before using a metal detector. The reasons supporting the use of a metal detector shall be documented.
2. Before a metal detector is used in a particular school, the students shall be notified via the intercom, at an assembly, or by similar means of its use. On the day of its use, signs will be posted to inform students that they will be required to submit to a screening for metal as a condition of entering or continuing attendance at school. The screening will be conducted by District staff who may be assisted by law enforcement officials.
3. When a metal detector is being used, students will be allowed to use only the entries designated. If a metal detector activates on a student, the student will be asked to remove metal objects from his or her person and walk through or be scanned again. If, after the removal of other metal objects, a third activation of the metal detector occurs, the student will be taken to a room out of view from the other students and subjected to a "pat-down" search.
4. A "pat-down" search conducted by school personnel shall be a limited feeling of the student's outer clothing for the purpose of discovering only items which may have activated the metal detecting device.
5. If the school personnel conducting a "pat-down" search feels an object which may have activated the metal detecting device or be other prohibited contraband, the student will be asked to remove it. If the student declines to remove the object, it may then be removed by school personnel.
6. If the object removed from the student could have activated the metal detector, the school personnel must cease performing the "pat-down" search. In such event, the student will again pass through the metal detector and the "pat-down" search will be continued only if the device again yields a positive reading.
7. Under all circumstances, the "pat-down" search will be conducted by school personnel of the same sex as that of the student.
8. School personnel may inspect the contents of any briefcase, knapsack, purse, or parcel which activates the metal detector for the limited purpose of determining whether a weapon is concealed therein.
9. All property removed from the student as a result of the above procedures which may be legitimately brought onto school premises will be returned to the student.
10. Property removed from the student, possession of which is violation of District policy, shall be confiscated and the student disciplined in accordance with the District policy.
11. Students who fail to cooperate with school personnel performing their duties under these procedures may be subject to discipline for insubordination.
12. Nothing in these procedures shall limit the authority of school officials to search a student in accordance with District policy on search and seizure.

Adopted: May 18, 2005