

STUDENTS

Procedures for Search of Students

Student searches must be authorized and conducted by principals and/or their designees or by police liaison officers at the express request of the principal or their designee in their presence. One additional staff member must be present during a search of a student.

Prior to initiating a search of a student, the principal or their designee must have a reasonable suspicion that items that may be harmful to the student or others or that items that are prohibited from being on school grounds may be found. Such reasonable suspicion may be based upon:

1. The prevalence and seriousness of the problem in the school to which the search is directed;
2. The exigency requiring the search;
3. The probative value and reliability of the information used as a justification of the search;
4. Prior experiences with the student;
5. Prior knowledge of the student's behavior.

Searches of students may consist of requesting a student to empty the contents of pockets, purses and other accessories, and a pat-down of the exterior clothing. Strip searches of students is expressly prohibited. Use of dogs to sniff search groups of students is expressly prohibited as are blanket searches of groups of students in the absence of reasonable suspicion that a group of students may be in possession of items that are harmful to themselves or others or items that are prohibited from being on school grounds.

School officials are prohibited from searching students when the request to search originates with law enforcement officials in the absence of a search warrant unless the principal or their designee has formed an independent reasonable suspicion that items that may be harmful to the student or to others or items that are prohibited from being on school premises may be found.

Regulation
adopted: 6/12/84
revised: 9/13/94
9/25/95

By Superintendent
Minneapolis, Minnesota